

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H3/30/21
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1784

By: Representative Bryant

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING FILING AS AN
INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING FILING AS AN
INDEPENDENT CANDIDATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(a)(1), concerning independent candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1) A person desiring to have his or her name placed upon the ballot as an independent candidate without political party affiliation for any United States office other than President of the United States or Vice President of the United States or state, county, township, or district office in any general election in this state shall file, ~~during the party filing period for~~ by 12:00 noon sixty (60) days following the end of the party filing period of the year in which the election is to be held, a political practices pledge, an affidavit of eligibility, and a notice of candidacy stating the name and title the candidate proposes to appear on the ballot and identifying the elective office sought, including the position number, if any.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(a)(2)(B), concerning independent candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is amended to read as follows:



(B) When a candidate has identified the position sought on the notice of candidacy, the candidate shall not be allowed to change the position but may withdraw a notice of candidacy and file a new notice of candidacy designating a different position before ~~the deadline for filing~~ 12:00 noon sixty (60) days following the end of the party filing period of the year in which the election is to be held.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(b)(3)(A), concerning independent candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is amended to read as follows:

(3)(A) A petition shall ~~be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State that includes without limitation~~ include a designated space for:

- (i) The signature of the qualified elector;
- (ii) The printed name of the qualified elector;
- (iii) The date of the signature of the qualified elector; and
- (iv) The address of the qualified elector.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-7-103(b)(3)(C), concerning independent candidate filings, petitions, and disqualification, is repealed.

~~(C)(i) The person filing for office as an independent candidate shall submit with the petition an affidavit that swears:~~

~~(a) The signatures were not collected for a period over ninety (90) days;~~

~~(b) The beginning and ending dates for collection of signatures on the petition are those as indicated on the affidavit; and~~

~~(c) The signatures were collected and the petition was executed and submitted in compliance with the law.~~

~~(ii) The affidavit under subdivision (b)(3)(C)(i) of this section shall be on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State.~~

/s/Bryant