

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

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 684

By: Senator T. Garner

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING POLITICAL PARTY FILING FEES; TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM POLITICAL PARTY FILING FEES FOR CERTAIN ELECTED OFFICES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING POLITICAL PARTY FILING FEES; AND TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM POLITICAL PARTY FILING FEES FOR CERTAIN ELECTED OFFICES.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-7-301 is amended to read as follows:

7-7-301. Party pledges, affidavits of eligibility, and party filing fees.

(a) A political party may impose a filing fee for candidates seeking nomination by that party.

(1) The filing fee for county, municipal, and township offices shall be fixed by the county committee, as authorized by the state executive committee.

(2) For all other races, the filing fee shall be established by the state executive committee, except for the office of:

(A) United States Senator, the minimum filing fee shall be twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000);

(B) United States Representative, the minimum filing fee shall be ten thousand dollars (\$10,000);



(C) Governor, the minimum filing fee shall be twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000);

(D) Lieutenant Governor, the minimum filing fee shall be seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500);

(E) Attorney General, the minimum filing fee shall be seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500);

(F) Secretary of State, the minimum filing fee shall be six thousand dollars (\$6,000);

(G) Commissioner of State Lands, the minimum filing fee shall be six thousand dollars (\$6,000);

(H) Treasurer of State, the minimum filing fee shall be six thousand dollars (\$6,000);

(I) Auditor of State, the minimum filing fee shall be six thousand dollars (\$6,000);

(J) Member of the Senate, the minimum filing fee shall be four thousand five hundred dollars (\$4,500); and

(K) Member of the House of Representatives, the minimum filing fee shall be three thousand dollars (\$3,000).

(3) On or before noon of the last day of the political party filing period, all candidates ~~at~~ for primary elections of political parties shall file an affidavit of eligibility and any pledge required by such party and shall pay the party filing fees required by the party, as follows:

~~(1)~~(A) Candidates for United States Senator, for United States Representative, and for all state offices shall file the pledge and the affidavit of eligibility and pay the party filing fees with the secretary of the state committee of the political party or his or her designated agent;

~~(2)~~(B) Candidates for district offices, including, but not limited to, the offices of State Representative and State Senator, shall file the pledge and affidavit of eligibility with the secretary of the state committee of the political party or his or her designated agent and pay the party filing fees with the secretary of the state committee of the political party or his or her designated agent; and

~~(3)~~(C) All candidates for county, municipal, and township offices, candidates for county committee member, and delegates to the county convention shall file the pledge and the affidavit of eligibility and pay the party filing fees with the secretary of the county committee of the political

party.

(b) The county clerk shall not accept for filing the political practices pledge of any candidate for nomination by a political party to any county, township, or partisan municipal office, nor shall the Secretary of State accept for filing the political practices pledge of any candidate for nomination by a political party to any state or district office, unless the candidate first files a party certificate.

(c) Any candidate who shall fail to file the party pledge and affidavit of eligibility and pay the party filing fee at the time and in the manner as provided in this section shall not receive a party certificate and shall not have his or her name printed on the ballot at any primary election.

(d) The names of candidates who file with the state committee as provided in this section shall be certified to the various county committees and the various county boards of election commissioners in the manner and at the time provided in § 7-7-203.