

1 HB259  
2 197552-1  
3 By Representative Fincher  
4 RFD: Constitution, Campaigns and Elections  
5 First Read: 21-MAR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, a candidate is required  
9 to file a statement of economic interests with the  
10 State Ethics Commission at the same time the  
11 candidate qualifies to run for office.

12 This bill would provide that a candidate may  
13 file a statement of economic interests not more  
14 than five days after the candidate qualifies to run  
15 for office.

16  
17 A BILL  
18 TO BE ENTITLED  
19 AN ACT

20  
21 Relating to ethics; to amend Section 36-25-15, Code  
22 of Alabama 1975; to increase the time during which a candidate  
23 must file a statement of economic interests with the State  
24 Ethics Commission to not more than five days after the  
25 candidate qualifies to run for office.

26 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

1           Section 1. Section 36-25-15, Code of Alabama 1975,  
2 is amended to read as follows:

3           "§36-25-15.

4           "(a) Candidates at every level of government shall  
5 file a completed statement of economic interests for the  
6 previous calendar year with the State Ethics Commission  
7 ~~simultaneously with the date such~~ not more than five days  
8 after the candidate files his or her qualifying papers with  
9 the appropriate election official or in the case of an  
10 independent candidate, not more than five days after the date  
11 the person complies with the requirements of Section 17-9-3.  
12 Nothing in this section shall be deemed to require a second  
13 filing of the person's statement of economic interests if a  
14 current statement of economic interests is on file with the  
15 commission.

16           "(b) Each election official who receives a  
17 declaration of candidacy or petition to appear on the ballot  
18 for election from a candidate shall, within five days of the  
19 receipt, notify the commission of the name of the candidate,  
20 as defined in this chapter, and the date on which the person  
21 became a candidate. The commission shall, within five business  
22 days of receipt of such notification, notify the election  
23 official whether the candidate has complied with the  
24 provisions of this section.

25           "(c) Other provisions of the law notwithstanding, if  
26 a candidate does not submit a statement of economic interests  
27 or when applicable, an amended statement of economic interests

1 in accordance with the requirements of this chapter, the name  
2 of the person shall not appear on the ballot and the candidate  
3 shall be deemed not qualified as a candidate in that election.  
4 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the commission may, for good  
5 cause shown, allow the candidate an additional five days to  
6 file such statement of economic interests. If a candidate is  
7 deemed not qualified, the appropriate election official shall  
8 remove the name of the candidate from the ballot."

9 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
10 first day of the third month following its passage and  
11 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.