

Regular Session, 2012

SENATE BILL NO. 107

BY SENATOR MURRAY

VOTERS/VOTING. Provides for consistency of presentation of political party affiliations on voter identification cards, notices of candidacy, voter registration cards and precinct registers. (1/1/13)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:109, 463(A)(1)(a) and 551(D), relative to the Louisiana
3 Election Code; to provide for consistency of presentation of political party
4 affiliations on voter identification cards, notices of candidacy, voter registration
5 cards and precinct registers; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for
6 related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 18:109, 463(A)(1)(a) and 551(D) are hereby amended and reenacted
9 to read as follows:

10 §109. Notice of registration and change in registration

11 After receiving from the registrar the information concerning a new registrant
12 or the information concerning a change made with respect to the registration of any
13 person, the Department of State promptly shall mail a notice to the appropriate
14 registrar that the person is registered or that his registration has been changed. The
15 registrar shall then mail a notice, postage prepaid, to each new registrant and to each
16 person whose registration was changed in any manner a notice that he is registered
17 or that his registration has been changed. The notice shall show the parish, ward,

1 precinct, and registration address, ~~and party affiliation~~ of the registrant. **The notice**
 2 **shall list an abbreviation of the name of the political party if the registrant is**
 3 **registered as being affiliated with a recognized political party, "other" if the**
 4 **registrant is registered as being affiliated with a political party that is not**
 5 **recognized, or "none" if the registrant is registered with no political party**
 6 **affiliation.** However, the registrar shall not be required to send such a notice to any
 7 voter who has been on the inactive list of voters for at least two years unless the
 8 change in registration involves a change in the voter's address. The secretary of state
 9 shall prescribe the form to be used on the notice; however, the front of the notice
 10 shall contain directions to the postmaster to "deliver only as addressed; otherwise
 11 return to sender; address correction requested", and the return address shall be that
 12 of the registrar. When a notice is returned by the postmaster, the registrar shall
 13 proceed in accordance with the applicable provisions of Part V of this Chapter.

14 * * *

15 §463. Notice of candidacy; financial disclosure; political advertising; penalties

16 A.(1)(a) A notice of candidacy shall be in writing and shall state the
 17 candidate's name, the office he seeks, the address of his domicile, and the parish,
 18 ward, and precinct where he is registered to vote, ~~and the political party, if any, with~~
 19 ~~which he is registered as being affiliated.~~ **The candidate shall list on the notice of**
 20 **candidacy the name of the political party if he is registered as being affiliated**
 21 **with a recognized political party; "other" if he is registered as being affiliated**
 22 **with a political party that is not a recognized political party; or "none" if he is**
 23 **registered with no political party affiliation.** No candidate shall change or add his
 24 political party designation, for purposes of printing on the election ballot as required
 25 by R.S. 18:551(D), after he has qualified for the election.

26 * * *

27 §551. Ballots

28 * * *

29 D. Political party designation. The political party designation of a candidate

1 who is registered as being affiliated with a recognized political party shall be listed
2 on the primary or general election ballot on the same line and immediately after or
3 below the candidate's name. If a candidate is affiliated with a political party, but such
4 party is not a recognized political party, the ~~space~~ **word "other" shall be placed**
5 after his name ~~shall be left blank~~. If a candidate is not affiliated with any political
6 party, the ~~words "no party" or an abbreviation thereof~~ **word "none"** shall be placed
7 after his name. The secretary of state shall promulgate and adopt rules as necessary
8 to effectuate the provisions and purposes of this Subsection.

9 * * *

10 Section 2. This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2013; if vetoed by the
11 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on
12 January 1, 2013, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part
of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Lauren Bailey.

DIGEST

Present law provides for the manner in which political party affiliations are presented on voter identification cards, notices of candidacy, voter registration cards and precinct registers.

Proposed law provides for consistency of presentation of political party affiliations on voter identification cards, notices of candidacy, voter registration cards and precinct registers.

Effective January 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 18:109, 463(A)(1)(a) and 551(D))