

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 855

99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE STACY.

0494H.021

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 115, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to closed primary elections, with a delayed effective date.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 115, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be
2 known as section 115.628, to read as follows:

3 **115.628. 1. Except as provided in subsection 4 of this section, the governing body**
4 **of any established political party shall adopt a closed primary election system which shall**
5 **be enforced by the office of the secretary of state and the requisite local election authority.**
6 **The closed primary election system shall be binding upon all elections for partisan offices**
7 **in this state.**

8 **2. The secretary of state shall maintain voter registration records in accordance**
9 **with the Missouri voter registration system defined in section 115.158. No later than six**
10 **months prior to an election date, the secretary of state shall distribute a list of eligible**
11 **voters for each established political party to all requisite local election authorities. Local**
12 **election authorities shall implement the closed primary system by providing primary**
13 **ballots indicating political party nominees only to those individuals who are registered to**
14 **vote in this state and who appear on the lists provided by the secretary of state.**

15 **3. Any person registered in a party shall remain a member of that party for one**
16 **year after the election before they may change their party registration.**

4. Any political party entitled to ballot access as established in section 115.315 shall
be allowed to exempt itself from a closed primary and conduct a caucus or primary election

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

17 **at its own expense. The party shall be allowed to submit a general election candidate for**
18 **the general election ballot.**

19 **5. The state shall pay the costs of implementing the closed primary system under**
20 **this section, with the exception of any caucus or primary election conducted under**
21 **subsection 4.**

Section B. The enactment of section 115.628 of this act shall become effective on
2 January 1, 2019.

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