

1 AN ACT relating to elections.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 118.165 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Except as provided in KRS Chapters 116 to 121, candidates for offices to be voted
5 for by the electors of one (1) county or of a district less than one (1) county, except
6 members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their
7 nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first
8 Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the
9 office will appear on the ballot and not later than the first Friday following the first
10 Monday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary.

11 (2) Candidates for offices to be voted for by the electors of more than one (1) county,
12 and for members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their
13 nomination papers with the Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday
14 after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the office will
15 appear on the ballot and not later than the *last Tuesday*~~[first Friday following the~~
16 ~~first Monday]~~ in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary.
17 Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed
18 prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year
19 preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. All nomination
20 papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed
21 on the last date on which the papers may be filed.

22 (3) The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall examine the notification and
23 declaration form of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If
24 there is an error, the proper officer shall notify the candidate by certified mail within
25 twenty-four (24) hours of filing.

26 (4) A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance with
27 KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office

1 during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the
2 number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.

3 ➔Section 2. KRS 118.367 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) An independent, or political organization, or political group candidate required to
5 file nomination papers pursuant to KRS 118.365(5) shall be required to file a
6 statement-of-candidacy form with the same office at which nomination papers are
7 filed. Candidates for federal office and candidates for mayor or legislative body in
8 cities of the home rule class participating in partisan elections shall not be required
9 to file a statement-of-candidacy form. The statement-of-candidacy form shall be
10 filed not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the
11 year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later
12 than April 1~~[the last Tuesday in January]~~ preceding the day fixed by law for holding
13 of regular elections for the offices sought. **If the office in which the statement-of-**
14 **candidacy form is to be filed is closed on April 1, the form may be filed on the**
15 **next business day.** The statement-of-candidacy form shall be filed no later than 4
16 p.m. local time when filed on the last day on which papers are permitted to be filed.
17 No person shall file a statement-of-candidacy form for more than one (1) public
18 office during an election cycle.

19 (2) The statement-of-candidacy form shall be prescribed by the State Board of
20 Elections. The statement-of-candidacy form shall be signed by the candidate upon
21 filing. No charge shall be assessed for the filing of a statement-of-candidacy form.
22 The Secretary of State and county clerks shall examine the statement-of-candidacy
23 form of each candidate who files the form to determine if there is an error. If an
24 error has occurred, the candidate shall be notified by certified mail within twenty-
25 four (24) hours.