

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 last Tuesday in January
10 preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary. Candidates for offices to be
11 voted for by the electors of more than one (1) county, and for members of Congress
12 and members of the General Assembly, shall file their nomination papers with the
13 Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in
14 November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot and not
15 later than the last Tuesday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the
16 primary. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to
17 be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year
18 preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. All nomination
19 papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed
20 on the last date on which the papers may be filed.
- 21 (2) The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall examine the notification and
22 declaration form of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If
23 there is an error, the proper officer shall notify the candidate by certified mail within
24 twenty-four (24) hours of filing.
- 25 (3) A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance with
26 KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office
27 during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the

1 number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.

2 **(4) Any candidate who seeks elected office as a member of the General Assembly,**

3 **and who withdraws his or her candidacy within one (1) week prior to the filing**

4 **deadline of nomination as provided by subsection (1) of this section, is prohibited**

5 **from being appointed to any position of employment within the legislative,**

6 **executive, or the judicial branch of Kentucky. The effective date of this subsection**

7 **shall be retroactive to January 1, 2018.**