

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 650

BY REPRESENTATIVE EDWARDS

ELECTED OFFICIALS/STATEW: Provides that a statewide elected official who takes certain actions seeking another office has ipso facto resigned from office

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:654(A) and to enact R.S. 18:652.1 and 654(C), relative to
3 resignations from office; to specify certain actions which constitute resignation from
4 office by a statewide elected official; to provide for the effect of such a resignation;
5 and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 18:654(A) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:652.1 and
8 654(C) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §652.1. Actions which ipso facto constitute resignation; statewide elected officials

10 A. If a statewide elected official takes any of the following actions, such
11 action shall ipso facto constitute resignation from office:

12 (1) Filing a notice of candidacy as provided in R.S. 18:463 for nomination
13 or election to any office other than the following:

14 (a) The same office held by the statewide elected official.

15 (b) An office to be filled by a regular election to be held at the same time as
16 the regular election for the office held by the statewide elected official.

17 (c) Membership on the state central committee or parish executive
18 committee of a political party.

19 (2) Taking action necessary under the laws of another state to qualify himself
20 for nomination or election to any office or position.

Proposed law retains present law and further provides that if a statewide elected official (a) files a notice of candidacy as provided in present law for nomination or election to any office (other than his same office, an office to be filled by a regular election held at the same time as his regular election, or membership on the state central committee or parish executive committee of a political party); (b) takes action necessary under the laws of another state to qualify himself for nomination or election to any office or position; or (c) makes a public announcement that he seeks election or nomination to any office (other than his same office, an office to be filled by a regular election held at the same time as his regular election, or membership on the state central committee or parish executive committee of a political party) or consenting to the making of such a public announcement shall ipso facto constitute resignation from office.

Proposed law provides that such a resignation becomes effective and irrevocable immediately.

Proposed law defines "public announcement" as a communication or broadcast by any means intended to reach 500 or more persons.

(Amends R.S. 18:654(A); Adds R.S. 18:652.1 and 654(C))