

Regular Session, 2014

SENATE BILL NO. 60

BY SENATOR GALLOT

VOTERS/VOTING. Changes the designation of a candidate on an election ballot who is not a member of a recognized party. (8/1/14)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:463(A)(1)(a) and 551(D) and to repeal R.S. 18:441(B)(4),
3 relative to the Louisiana Election Code; to provide for the designation of political
4 party affiliation of candidates on the notice of candidacy and ballot; to provide for
5 recognition of certain political parties; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

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

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

10 A.(1)(a) A notice of candidacy shall be in writing and shall state the
11 candidate's name, the office he seeks, the address of his domicile, and the parish,
12 ward, and precinct where he is registered to vote. The candidate shall list on the
13 notice of candidacy the name of the political party if he is registered as being
14 affiliated with a recognized political party, "other" if he is registered as being
15 affiliated with a political party that is not a recognized political party, or ~~"no party"~~
16 **"independent"** or an abbreviation thereof if he is registered with no political party
17 affiliation. No candidate shall change or add his political party designation, for

1 purposes of printing on the election ballot as required by R.S. 18:551(D), after he has
2 qualified for the election.

3 * * *

4 §551. Ballots

5 * * *

6 D. Political party designation. The political party designation of a candidate
7 who is registered as being affiliated with a recognized political party shall be listed
8 on the primary or general election ballot on the same line and immediately after or
9 below the candidate's name. If a candidate is affiliated with a political party, but such
10 party is not a recognized political party, the word "other" shall be placed after his
11 name. If a candidate is not affiliated with any political party, the ~~words "no party"~~
12 **word "independent"** or an abbreviation thereof shall be placed after his name. The
13 secretary of state shall promulgate and adopt rules as necessary to effectuate the
14 provisions and purposes of this Subsection.

15 * * *

16 Section 2. R.S. 18:441(B)(4) is hereby repealed in its entirety.

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

DIGEST

Gallot (SB 60)

Present law provides that a political candidate not registered with a political party will list "no party" on the notice of candidacy and primary or general election ballot.

Proposed law allows a political candidate not registered with a political party to list "independent" on the notice of candidacy and primary or general election ballot.

Present law prohibits a political party which declares its name solely to be "Independent" or "the Independent Party" from being recognized.

Proposed law allows for the recognition of a political party that declares its name solely to be "Independent" or "the Independent Party".

Effective August 1, 2014.

(Amends R.S. 18:463(A)(1)(a) and 551(D); repeals R.S. 18:441(B)(4))