

SENATE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 631

AN ACT

To repeal section 36.155, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the political activity of certain state employees, with an emergency clause.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI,
AS FOLLOWS:

Section A. Section 36.155, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 36.155, to read as follows:

36.155. 1. An employee may take part in the activities of political parties and political campaigns.

2. An employee may not:

(1) Use the employee's official authority or influence for the purpose of interfering with the results of an election;

(2) Knowingly solicit, accept or receive a political contribution from any person who is a subordinate employee of the employee;

(3) Run for the nomination, or as a candidate for election, to a partisan political office; or

(4) Knowingly solicit or discourage the participation in any political activity of any person who has an application for any compensation, grant, contract, ruling, license, permit or certificate pending before the employing department of such employee or is the subject of, or a participant in, an ongoing

audit, investigation or enforcement action being carried out by the employing department of such employee.

3. An employee retains the right to vote as the employee chooses and to express the employee's opinion on political subjects and candidates.

4. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection 2 of this section to the contrary, any employee that is not subject to the provisions of subsection 1 of section 36.030 or section 36.031 may run for the nomination, or as a candidate for election, to a partisan political office.

Section B. Because of the need to provide certainty for state employees who wish to participate as candidates in the 2020 election cycle, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, peace and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and effect upon its passage and approval.