THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL No. 1644 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY ROZZI, AUGUST 29, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, AUGUST 29, 2023

AN ACT

Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled 1 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal, 2 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates, 3 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating 4 and defining membership of county boards of elections; 5 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth, 6 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners; imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying, 7 8 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and 9 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to 10 elections," in dates of elections and primaries and special 11 elections, further providing for affidavits of candidates; 12 and, in nomination of candidates, further providing for 13 affidavits of candidates, nominations by political bodies, 14 limitations on eligibility of candidates and affidavits of 15 candidates. 16 17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

18 hereby enacts as follows:

19 Section 1. Sections 630.1, 910, 951(e), 951.1 and 981.1 of

20 the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the

21 Pennsylvania Election Code, are amended to read:

22 Section 630.1. Affidavits of Candidates.--Each candidate for 23 any State, county, city, borough, incorporated town, township, 24 school district or poor district office, or for the office of 25 United States Senator or Representative in Congress, selected as

provided in section 630 of this act, shall file with the 1 2 nomination certificate an affidavit stating--(a) his residence, 3 with street and number, if any, and his post-office address; (b) his election district, giving city, borough, town or township; 4 (c) the name of the office for which he consents to be a 5 candidate; (d) that he is eligible for such office; (e) that he 6 will not knowingly violate any provision of this act, or of any 7 law regulating and limiting election expenses and prohibiting 8 corrupt practices in connection therewith; (f) unless he is a 9 10 candidate for judge of a court of common pleas, the Philadelphia Municipal Court or for the office of school board in a district 11 where that office is elective or for the office of justice of 12 13 the peace, that he is not a candidate for the same office of any party or political body other than the one designated in such 14 certificate; (f.1) that he is not a candidate for any other 15 16 office, excluding the office of President of the United States and the office of Vice President of the United States; (g) that 17 18 he is aware of the provisions of section 1626 of this act 19 requiring election and post-election reporting of campaign 20 contributions and expenditures; and (h) that he is not a candidate for an office which he already holds, the term of 21 which is not set to expire in the same year as the office 22 23 subject to the affidavit.

Section 910. Affidavits of Candidates.--Each candidate for any State, county, city, borough, incorporated town, township, ward, school district, poor district, election district, party office, party delegate or alternate, or for the office of United States Senator or Representative in Congress, shall file with his nomination petition his affidavit stating--(a) his residence, with street and number, if any, and his post-office

20230HB1644PN1928

- 2 -

address; (b) his election district, giving city, borough, town 1 2 or township; (c) the name of the office for which he consents to 3 be a candidate; (d) that he is eligible for such office; (e) that he will not knowingly violate any provision of this act, or 4 5 of any law regulating and limiting nomination and election expenses and prohibiting corrupt practices in connection 6 7 therewith; (f) unless he is a candidate for judge of a court of 8 common pleas, the Philadelphia Municipal Court or for the office of school director in a district where that office is elective 9 10 or for the office of justice of the peace that he is not a 11 candidate for nomination for the same office of any party other than the one designated in such petition; (f.1) that he is not a 12 13 candidate for any other office, excluding the office of_ 14 President of the United States and the office of Vice President_ of the United States; (q) if he is a candidate for a delegate, 15 16 or alternate delegate, member of State committee, National 17 committee or party officer, that he is a registered and enrolled 18 member of the designated party; (h) if he is a candidate for 19 delegate or alternate delegate the presidential candidate to whom he is committed or the term "uncommitted"; (i) that he is 20 aware of the provisions of section 1626 of this act requiring 21 pre-election and post-election reporting of campaign 22 23 contributions and expenditures; and (j) that he is not a 24 candidate for an office which he already holds, the term of 25 which is not set to expire in the same year as the office 26 subject to the affidavit. In cases of petitions for delegate and alternate delegate to National conventions, the candidate's 27 28 affidavit shall state that his signature to the delegate's 29 statement, as hereinafter set forth, if such statement is signed 30 by said candidate, was affixed to the sheet or sheets of said

20230HB1644PN1928

- 3 -

1 petition prior to the circulation of same. In the case of a 2 candidate for nomination as President of the United States, it 3 shall not be necessary for such candidate to file the affidavit 4 required in this section to be filed by candidates, but the 5 post-office address of such candidate shall be stated in such 6 nomination petition.

7 Section 951. Nominations by Political Bodies.--* * * 8 There shall be appended to each nomination paper offered (e) for filing an affidavit of each candidate nominated therein, 9 10 stating--(1) the election district in which he resides; (2) the name of the office for which he consents to be a candidate; (3) 11 that he is eligible for such office; (4) that he will not 12 13 knowingly violate any provision of this act, or of any law 14 regulating and limiting election expenses, and prohibiting 15 corrupt practices in connection therewith; (5) that his name has 16 not been presented as a candidate by nomination petitions for any public office to be voted for at the ensuing primary 17 18 election, nor has he been nominated by any other nomination 19 papers filed for any such office; (6) that in the case where he 20 is a candidate for election at a general or municipal election, he was not a registered and enrolled member of a party thirty 21 (30) days before the primary held prior to the general or 22 23 municipal election in that same year; (7) that, in the case 24 where he is a candidate for election at a special election, he 25 is not a registered and enrolled member of a party; [and] (8) 26 that he is not a candidate for an office which he already holds, the term of which is not set to expire in the same year as the 27 28 office subject to the affidavit[.]; and (9) that he is not a 29 candidate for any other office, excluding the office of President of the United States and the office of Vice President 30

20230HB1644PN1928

- 4 -

1 of the United States.

2 Section 951.1. Limitations on Eligibility of Candidates .--3 (a) Any person who is a registered and enrolled member of a party during any period of time beginning with thirty (30) days 4 5 before the primary and extending through the general or municipal election of that same year shall be ineligible to be 6 7 the candidate of a political body in a general or municipal 8 election held in that same year nor shall any person who is a 9 registered and enrolled member of a party be eligible to be the 10 candidate of a political body for a special election.

11 (b) Subject to subsection (a), a candidate may not seek

12 nomination or appear on a ballot for more than one public office

13 in an election, unless the additional public office the

14 candidate seeks nomination or election for is the office of

15 <u>President of the United States or the office of Vice President</u>

16 of the United States.

17 Section 981.1. Affidavits of Candidates.--Each candidate for any State, county, city, borough, incorporated town, township, 18 19 ward, school district, poor district or election district office, or for the office of United States Senator or 20 Representative in Congress, selected as provided in sections 979 21 and 980 of this act, shall file with the substituted nomination 22 23 certificate an affidavit stating--(a) his residence, with street 24 and number, if any, and his post-office address; (b) his 25 election district, giving city, borough, town or township; (c) 26 the name of the office for which he consents to be a candidate; 27 (d) that he is eligible for such office; (e) that he will not 28 knowingly violate any provision of this act, or of any law 29 regulating and limiting election expenses and prohibiting 30 corrupt practices in connection therewith; (f) unless he is a

20230HB1644PN1928

- 5 -

candidate for judge of a court of common pleas, the Philadelphia 1 Municipal Court or for the office of school board in a district 2 where that office is elective or for the office of justice of 3 the peace, that he is not a candidate for the same office of any 4 party or political body other than the one designated in such 5 certificate; (f.1) that he is not a candidate for any other 6 office, excluding the office of President of the United States 7 and the office of Vice President of the United States; (q) that 8 he is aware of the provisions of section 1626 of this act 9 10 requiring election and post-election reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures; and (h) that he is not a 11 12 candidate for an office which he already holds, the term of 13 which is not set to expire in the same year as the office 14 subject to the affidavit.

Section 2. This act shall apply to elections held at least 0 days after the effective date of this section.

17 Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

- 6 -