

2019 -- S 0704

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Introduced By: Senator Leonidas P. Raptakis

Date Introduced: March 21, 2019

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-9.1-23 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-9.1 entitled
2 "Registration of Voters" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-9.1-23. Party designation.**

4 (a) Whenever any person registers to vote, that person may designate his or her party
5 affiliation, or that person may designate that he or she is not affiliated with any political party.
6 The information shall be recorded on a form prescribed by the state board of elections.

7 (b) Any person who is already registered to vote and wishes to designate his or her party
8 affiliation may do so by voluntarily presenting himself or herself to that person's local board of
9 canvassers and designating his or her party affiliation and certifying to the fact on the form
10 furnished for that purpose.

11 ~~(c) Whenever any person participates in a party primary, that act shall serve as~~
12 ~~identifying the person as being affiliated with the party in whose primary that person has~~
13 ~~participated and the local board shall record the affiliation on the appropriate form. For the~~
14 ~~purposes of this section, "participating in a party primary" does not include the circulation or~~
15 ~~signing of nomination papers.~~

16 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

1 This act would allow non-affiliated party voters to vote in party primaries without
2 becoming an affiliated party voter.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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