

2022 -- S 2151

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LC003258
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS - PRIMARY ELECTIONS

Introduced By: Senator Samuel W. Bell

Date Introduced: January 25, 2022

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-15-8 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-15 entitled "Primary
2 Elections" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-15-8. Listing of candidates on ballots.**

4 The secretary of state shall immediately, upon receipt of the certificates provided for by
5 chapter 14 of this title, cause the proper ballots to be prepared for use in the various voting districts.
6 Names of party candidates for a particular office shall be printed vertically below the names of the
7 office they seek and shall not appear on the ballot more than once for the same office.; provided,
8 ~~the names of candidates having the endorsement of their party committees shall be printed first~~
9 ~~below the title of the offices they seek and shall be marked with an asterisk (*). As to each~~
10 ~~candidate, following the endorsed party candidate, for a national office, a general office within the~~
11 ~~state, or for a general assembly office, the~~ The names shall be listed in an order chosen by lot under
12 the direction of the secretary of state. ~~As to each candidate, following the endorsed party candidate,~~
13 ~~for a city, town, or other local election, the names shall be listed alphabetically after the name of~~
14 ~~the endorsed party candidate.~~ In the event that there are more candidates for a particular office than
15 the voting machine can accommodate in the vertical column, the names shall be continued in the
16 same manner in the next succeeding vertical column. Names of candidates shall be printed upon
17 the ballots as the names appear on the voting list, notwithstanding that the candidate may have
18 signed his or her declaration of candidacy other than as the candidate's name appears on the voting
19 list.

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

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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- 1 This act would require that for all primaries, the candidates' names would be listed on the
- 2 ballot, in an order chosen by lot, under the direction of the secretary of state.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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