



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 925

HOUSE BILL NO. 1125

By Representatives Farmer, Ragan

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 1375

By Senator Bell

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 2; Title 3; Title 4; Title 16; Title 17; Title 27 and Title 29, relative to elections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-5-101(g), is amended by deleting the subsection in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(1) If a candidate in a primary election or nonpartisan general election, after the qualifying deadline but on or before sixty (60) days before the primary or general election:

(A) Dies;

(B) Withdraws because of military call up;

(C) Withdraws because of physical or mental disability, such physical or mental disability being properly documented by competent medical authority;

(D) Withdraws because such candidate is forced to change residence by the candidate's employer for a job-related reason;

(E) Is declared ineligible or disqualified by a court;

(F) Is declared disqualified by the peace officer standards and training (POST) commission pursuant to § 8-8-102(e);

(G) Is declared disqualified by the Tennessee highway officials certification board pursuant to § 54-7-104; or

(H) Is disqualified by the political party executive committee under § 2-5-204;

leaving no candidates for nomination or office, additional candidates may qualify for the election or that nomination by filing their petitions as provided by law no later than twelve o'clock (12:00) noon, prevailing time, seven (7) calendar days after the occurrence of such an event listed under this subdivision (g)(1); provided, that, if a candidate is disqualified by the political party executive committee under § 2-5-204, the qualifying deadline shall be no later than twelve o'clock (12:00) noon, prevailing time, seven (7) calendar days after the final determination of the appeal process under § 2-5-204(b)(2)(B). If a qualifying deadline is extended pursuant to this subdivision (g)(1), there shall not be a withdrawal period.

(2) If the qualifying deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the qualifying deadline shall be twelve o'clock (12:00) noon, prevailing time, on the previous business day.

(3) Candidates may withdraw for reasons other than those listed in subdivision (g)(1); however, no additional candidates may qualify.

SECTION 2. This act applies to any event that occurs and subsequently affects the August 4, 2022, primary and general elections. If any event under Tennessee Code Annotated,

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Section 2-5-101(g)(1) occurs after the qualifying deadline, but before the effective date of this act, the qualifying deadline shall be no later than twelve o'clock (12:00) noon, prevailing time, seven (7) calendar days after the effective date of this act.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: April 27, 2022



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES


RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 28th day of April 2022


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR