

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 420

BY REPRESENTATIVE BILLINGS

AN ACT

To amend and reenact R.S. 18:441(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 18:107(G) and 441(B)(4) and (E), relative to political parties; to provide for recognition of a political party; to provide for party affiliation for voter registration; to prohibit recognition of certain political parties; to prohibit designation of party affiliation with certain parties for voter registration; to require a change in party affiliation under certain circumstances; to provide for a procedure allowing a political party to request that it be dissolved; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:441(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:107(G) and 441(B)(4) and (E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

§107. Party affiliation ~~not required~~ for registration; change in party affiliation

\* \* \*

G.(1) A person who applies for registration on or after August 1, 2025, shall not be designated as "Independent" or designated as being affiliated with the "Independent Party". An applicant who declares party affiliation as "Independent" or with the "Independent Party" shall have his party affiliation entered as "No Party".

1        The Department of State shall notify the registrant of the change pursuant to R.S.  
2        18:109. The notice shall contain an explanation for the change in registration.

3                (2) A registrant who is registered as "Independent" or designated as being  
4        affiliated with the "Independent Party" before August 1, 2025, shall have his party  
5        affiliation changed to "No Party". The Department of State shall notify the registrant  
6        of the change pursuant to R.S. 18:109. The notice shall contain an explanation for  
7        the change in registration.

8                                \*           \*           \*

9        §441. Recognition

10                               \*           \*           \*

11                B.(1) A political party shall be recognized if ninety days prior to the opening  
12        of the qualifying period for any election at least ~~one~~ five thousand registered voters  
13        in the state are registered as being affiliated with such political party; such political  
14        party has filed a notarized registration statement as described in Paragraph (2) of this  
15        Subsection with the secretary of state; and the political party has paid a registration  
16        fee of ~~one~~ five thousand dollars to the secretary of state upon filing the registration  
17        statement. The political party designation of a candidate shall not be listed on the  
18        ballot unless the political party was recognized prior to the close of qualifying for the  
19        office the candidate is seeking.

20                               \*           \*           \*

21                (4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no political party  
22        shall be recognized in this state which declares its name solely to be "Independent"  
23        or the "Independent Party".

24                               \*           \*           \*

25                E.(1) A political party may through its bylaws provide for the process of  
26        dissolution. A political party that has been recognized pursuant to Subsection B of  
27        this Section may request to have the party dissolved by the secretary of state. A  
28        political party that requests the party's dissolution shall file a notarized dissolution  
29        statement with the secretary of state made in accordance with the party's bylaws.

1                   (2) A registrant who is registered as being affiliated with a political party  
2                   that is dissolved pursuant to this Subsection shall have his party affiliation changed  
3                   to "No Party". The Department of State shall notify the registrant of the change  
4                   pursuant to R.S. 18:109. The notice shall contain an explanation for the change in  
5                   registration.

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_