

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 711 by Representative Pugh

ELECTIONS/CANDIDATES: Provides for the requirements of the notice of candidacy by additionally requiring a candidate for major or district office to certify that he has filed any campaign finance reports previously due and provides for the filing of vacancies on parish executive committees

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Adds a provision relative to vacancies on parish executive committees of recognized political parties to provide that if a vacancy occurs in the membership by a representative of a district and no qualified resident of the district will accept membership, the committee may appoint any qualified resident of the parish to fill the vacancy.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law requires a person who desires to become a candidate in a primary election to qualify by timely filing a notice of candidacy accompanied by either a nominating petition or the qualifying fee and any additional fees. Provides relative to the content of a notice of candidacy and requires that it include a certificate, signed by the candidate, certifying all of the following:

1. That he has read the notice of his candidacy.
2. That he meets the qualifications of the office.
3. That he is not currently under an order of imprisonment for conviction of a felony and that he is not prohibited from qualifying as a candidate pursuant to present constitution (Art. I, §10) due to conviction of a felony.
4. That, except for a candidate for U.S. senator or representative, for each of the previous five tax years he has filed his federal and state income tax returns, has filed for an extension of time for filing either his federal or state income tax return or both, or was not required to file either a federal or state income tax return or both.
5. That he acknowledges that he is subject to the provisions of present law (Campaign Finance Disclosure Act) if he is a candidate for any office other than U.S. senator, representative in congress, or member of a committee of a political party and that he does not owe any outstanding fines, fees, or penalties pursuant to present law.
6. That he does not owe any outstanding fines, fees, or penalties pursuant to present law (Code of Governmental Ethics).
7. That all of the statements contained in it are true and correct.

Proposed law adds a requirement that, if the candidate is a major or district office candidate as defined in R.S. 18:1483, he has filed each report he has been required to file by the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, if any were previously due.

Present law relative to parish executive committees of recognized political parties, provides the election and composition of the parish executive committee of a recognized political party and provides that if a vacancy occurs in the membership for an at-large position it shall be filled by appointment by the parish executive committee of any qualified resident of the parish and provides that if the vacancy in membership is left by a representative of a district,

it shall be filled by appointment by the parish executive committee of any qualified resident of the district.

Proposed law provides that if no qualified resident of the district will accept membership, allows the parish executive committee to appoint any qualified resident of the parish to fill the vacancy.

Effective Jan. 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 18:444(F)(2) and 463(A)(2)(a)(v)-(vii); Adds R.S. 18:463(A)(2)(a)(viii))