
DIGEST

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Thompson

HB No. 1030

Abstract: Repeals provisions that authorize the imposition on candidates of additional fees by certain political party committees and provisions related thereto.

Present law (R.S. 18:442) provides that a recognized political party shall be controlled and directed by one state central committee and a parish executive committee for each parish.

Present law (R.S. 18:447) authorizes a parish executive committee of a political party to accept donations, conduct fundraising activities, and accept funds from such activities for the purpose of funding the operation of the committee. Provides that such funds may be used solely for the operation of the committee and that no such funds may be used for the direct benefit of any particular candidate for public office. Requires reporting concerning such funds. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law authorizes a parish executive committee of a political party to collect fees assessed to candidates. Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law (R.S. 18:461) provides that a person who desires to become a candidate in a primary election shall qualify as a candidate by timely filing notice of his candidacy, which shall be accompanied either by a nominating petition or by the qualifying fee. Present law (R.S. 18:464) provides for the method of payment and amount of the qualifying fee. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law (R.S. 18:464) authorizes a state central committee to impose additional fees on state candidates, candidates for presidential nominee, candidates for membership on the committee, and local and municipal candidates. Authorizes a parish executive committee to impose additional fees on local and municipal candidates and candidates for membership on the committee. Provides for collection of the fees and transmission of the fees to the committee. Provides limitations on the use of the fees by the committee. Requires notice of the imposition of the fees. Proposed law repeals present law.

Present law (R.S. 18:464(E)) authorizes a clerk of court to retain a portion of qualifying fees submitted by local and municipal candidates and candidates for membership on a political party committee. Proposed law retains present law.

Present law prohibits a clerk from retaining a portion of any additional fee imposed by a political party committee. Proposed law repeals present law.

Proposed law provides that fees collected by a state central committee or parish executive committee pursuant to present law (R.S. 18:464(C) or (D)) prior to the effective date of proposed law shall be used solely for the operation of such committees. Provides that no such fees shall be used for the direct benefit of any particular candidate for public office.

(Amends R.S. 18:447(A) and (B), 461(A)(1), 463(A)(1)(d), 464(E), and 1280.22(A) and (B)(2)(d); Repeals R.S. 18:464(C), (D), (G), and (H))