



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB4532

Introduced 1/30/2026, by Rep. Maurice A. West, II

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/7-19

from Ch. 46, par. 7-19

Amends the Election Code. In provisions concerning primary election ballots, provides that the lettering of candidate names on a ballot shall be in both capital and lowercase letters in conformance with standard English language guidelines, unless compliance is not feasible due to the election system utilized by the election authority.

LRB104 16951 SPS 30365 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing
5 Section 7-19 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/7-19) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-19)

7 Sec. 7-19. The primary ballot of each political party for
8 each precinct shall be arranged and printed substantially in
9 the manner following:

10 1. Designating words. At the top of the ballot shall be
11 printed in large capital letters, words designating the
12 ballot, if a Republican ballot, the designating words shall
13 be: "REPUBLICAN PRIMARY BALLOT"; if a Democratic ballot the
14 designating words shall be: "DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY BALLOT"; and
15 in like manner for each political party.

16 2. Order of Names, Directions to Voters, etc. Beginning
17 not less than one inch below designating words, the name of
18 each office to be filled shall be printed in capital letters.
19 Such names may be printed on the ballot either in a single
20 column or in 2 or more columns and in the following order,
21 to-wit:

22 President of the United States, State offices,
23 congressional offices, delegates and alternate delegates to be

1 elected from the State at large to National nominating
2 conventions, delegates and alternate delegates to be elected
3 from congressional districts to National nominating
4 conventions, member or members of the State central committee,
5 trustees of sanitary districts, county offices, judicial
6 officers, city, village and incorporated town offices, town
7 offices, or of such of the said offices as candidates are to be
8 nominated for at such primary, and precinct, township or ward
9 committeepersons. If two or more columns are used, the
10 foregoing offices to and including member of the State central
11 committee shall be listed in the left-hand column and
12 Senatorial offices, as defined in Section 8-3, shall be the
13 first offices listed in the second column.

14 Below the name of each office shall be printed in small
15 letters the directions to voters: "Vote for one"; "Vote for
16 not more than two"; "Vote for not more than three". If no
17 candidate or candidates file for an office and if no person or
18 persons file a declaration as a write-in candidate for that
19 office, then below the title of that office the election
20 authority instead shall print "No Candidate".

21 Next to the name of each candidate for delegate or
22 alternate delegate to a national nominating convention shall
23 appear either (a) the name of the candidate's preference for
24 President of the United States or the word "uncommitted" or
25 (b) no official designation, depending upon the action taken
26 by the State central committee pursuant to Section 7-10.3 of

1 this Act.

2 Below the name of each office shall be printed ~~in capital~~
3 ~~letters~~ the names of all candidates, arranged in the order in
4 which their petitions for nominations were filed, except as
5 otherwise provided in Sections 7-14 and 7-17 of this Article.
6 The lettering of candidate names on a ballot shall be in both
7 capital and lowercase letters in conformance with standard
8 English language guidelines, unless compliance is not feasible
9 due to the election system utilized by the election authority.

10 Opposite and in front of the name of each candidate shall be
11 printed a square and all squares upon the primary ballot shall
12 be of uniform size. The names of each team of candidates for
13 Governor and Lieutenant Governor, however, shall be printed
14 within a bracket, and a single square shall be printed in front
15 of the bracket. Spaces between the names of candidates under
16 each office shall be uniform and sufficient spaces shall
17 separate the names of candidates for one office from the names
18 of candidates for another office, to avoid confusion and to
19 permit the writing in of the names of other candidates.

20 Where voting machines or electronic voting systems are
21 used, the provisions of this Section may be modified as
22 required or authorized by Article 24 or Article 24A, whichever
23 is applicable.

24 (Source: P.A. 100-1027, eff. 1-1-19.)