100TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
State of Illinois
2017 and 2018
HB0762
by Rep. Allen Skillicorn

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

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10 ILCS 5/7-2
10 ILCS 5/7-4
10 ILCS 5/8-2
10 ILCS 5/8-3
10 ILCS 5/10-1
10 ILCS 5/10-2
10 ILCS 5/10-3
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from Ch. 46, par. 7-2
from Ch. 46, par. 7-4
from Ch. 46, par. 8-2
from Ch. 46, par. 8-3
from Ch. 46, par. 10-1
from Ch. 46, par. 10-2
from Ch. 46, par. 10-3

[^0]LRB100 08214 MLM 18312 b

## A BILL FOR

AN ACT concerning elections.

## Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing Sections $7-2,7-4,8-2,8-3,10-1,10-2$, and $10-3$ as follows:
(10 ILCS 5/7-2) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-2)
Sec. 7-2. A political party, which at the general election for State and county officers then next preceding a primary, polled more than $\underline{2} 5$ per cent of the entire vote cast in the State, is hereby declared to be a political party within the State, and shall nominate all candidates provided for in this Article 7 under the provisions hereof, and shall elect precinct, township, ward and State central committeemen as herein provided.

A political party, which at the general election for State and county officers then next preceding a primary, cast more than $\underline{2} 5$ per cent of the entire vote cast within any congressional district, is hereby declared to be a political party within the meaning of this Article, within such congressional district, and shall nominate its candidate for Representative in Congress, under the provisions hereof. A political party, which at the general election for State and county officers then next preceding a primary, cast more than $\underline{2}$

5 per cent of the entire vote cast in any county, is hereby declared to be a political party within the meaning of this Article, within said county, and shall nominate all county officers in said county under the provisions hereof, and shall elect precinct, township, and ward committeemen, as herein provided;

A political party, which at the municipal election for city, village or incorporated town officers then next preceding a primary, cast more than 225 per cent of the entire vote cast in any city or village, or incorporated town is hereby declared to be a political party within the meaning of this Article, within said city, village or incorporated town, and shall nominate all city, village or incorporated town officers in said city or village or incorporated town under the provisions hereof to the extent and in the cases provided in Section 7-1.

A political party, which at the municipal election for town officers then next preceding a primary, cast more than $\underline{2} 5$ per cent of the entire vote cast in said town, is hereby declared to be a political party within the meaning of this Article, within said town, and shall nominate all town officers in said town under the provisions hereof to the extent and in the cases provided in Section 7-1.

A political party, which at the municipal election in any other municipality or political subdivision, (except townships and school districts), for municipal or other officers therein then next preceding a primary, cast more than $2 \sqrt{5}$ per cent of
the entire vote cast in such municipality or political subdivision, is hereby declared to be a political party within the meaning of this Article, within said municipality or political subdivision, and shall nominate all municipal or other officers therein under the provisions hereof to the extent and in the cases provided in Section 7-1.

Provided, that no political organization or group shall be qualified as a political party hereunder, or given a place on a ballot, which organization or group is associated, directly or indirectly, with Communist, Fascist, Nazi or other un-American principles and engages in activities or propaganda designed to teach subservience to the political principles and ideals of foreign nations or the overthrow by violence of the established constitutional form of government of the United States and the State of Illinois.
(Source: Laws 1943, vol. 2, p. 1.)
(10 ILCS 5/7-4) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-4)
Sec. 7-4. The following words and phrases in this Article 7 shall, unless the same be inconsistent with the context, be construed as follows:

1. The word "primary" the primary elections provided for in this Article, which are the general primary, the consolidated primary, and for those municipalities which have annual partisan elections for any officer, the municipal primary held 6 weeks prior to the general primary election date in even
numbered years.
2. The definition of terms in Section 1-3 of this Act shall apply to this Article.
3. The word "precinct" a voting district heretofore or hereafter established by law within which all qualified electors vote at one polling place.
4. The words "state office" or "state officer", an office to be filled, or an officer to be voted for, by qualified electors of the entire state, including President of the United States, United States Senator, and Congressman at large.
5. The words "congressional office" or "congressional officer", representatives in Congress.
6. The words "county office" or "county officer," include an office to be filled or an officer to be voted for, by the qualified electors of the entire county. "County office" or "county officer" also include the assessor and board of appeals and county commissioners and president of county board of Cook County, and county board members and the chairman of the county board in counties subject to "An Act relating to the composition and election of county boards in certain counties", enacted by the 76th General Assembly.
7. The words "city office" and "village office," and "incorporated town office" or "city officer" and "village officer", and "incorporated town officer" an office to be filled or an officer to be voted for by the qualified electors of the entire municipality, including aldermen.
8. The words "town office" or "town officer", an office to be filled or an officer to be voted for by the qualified electors of an entire town.
9. The words "town" and "incorporated town" shall respectively be defined as in Section 1-3 of this Act.
10. The words "delegates and alternate delegates to National nominating conventions" include all delegates and alternate delegates to National nominating conventions whether they be elected from the state at large or from congressional districts or selected by State convention unless contrary and non-inclusive language specifically limits the term to one class.
11. "Judicial office" means a post held by a judge of the Supreme, Appellate or Circuit Court. (Source: P.A. 80-1469.)
(10 ILCS 5/8-2) (from Ch. 46, par. 8-2)
Sec. 8-2. The term "political party" as used in this article shall mean a political party which, at the general election for State and county officers then next preceding a primary, polled more than 2 per cent of the entire vote cast in the State next preeding election for governor, polled at least five per eent of the entire vote east in the State; Provided, that no political organization or group shall be qualified as a political party hereunder, or given a place on a ballot, which organization or group is associated, directly or indirectly,
with Communist, Fascist, Nazi or other un-American principles and engages in activities or propaganda designed to teach subservience to the political principles and ideals of foreign nations or the overthrow by violence of the established constitutional form of government of the United States and the State of Illinois.
(Source: Laws 1943, vol. 2, p. 1.)
(10 ILCS 5/8-3) (from Ch. 46, par. 8-3)
Sec. 8-3. The following words and phrases in this article shall, unless the same be inconsistent with the context, be construed as follows:
(1) The terms "legislative office", "legislative officer" or "legislator" shall mean a State Senator or Representative in the General Assembly.
(2) The term "legislative district" shall mean the territorial area from which a State Senator is to be elected.
(3) The term "representative district" shall mean the territorial area from which a Representative in the General Assembly is to be elected.
(4) The terms "state office" or "state officer", an office to be filled, or an officer to be voted for, by qualified electors of the entire state, including President of the United States, United States Senator, and Congressman at large.
(5) The words "congressional office" or "congressional officer", representatives in Congress.
(6) The words "county office" or "county officer," include an officer to be filled or an officer to be voted for, by the qualified electors of the entire county. "County office" or "county officer" also include the assessor and board of appeals and county commissioners and president of county board of Cook County, and county board members and the chairman of the county board in counties subject to "An Act relating to the composition and election of county boards in certain counties", enacted by the 76th General Assembly.
(Source: P.A. 82-750.)
(10 ILCS 5/10-1) (from Ch. 46, par. 10-1)
Sec. 10-1. Application of Article to minor political parties.
(a) Political parties as defined in this Article and individual voters to the number and in the manner specified in this Article may nominate candidates for public offices whose names shall be placed on the ballot to be furnished, as provided in this Article. No nominations may be made under this Article 10, however, by any established political party which, at the general election next preceding, polled more than 2 \% 5\% of the entire vote cast in the State, district, or unit of local government for which the nomination is made. Those nominations provided for in Section 45-5 of the Township Code shall be made as prescribed in Sections 45-10 through 45-45 of that Code for nominations by established political parties, but
minor political parties and individual voters are governed by this Article. Any convention, caucus, or meeting of qualified voters of any established political party as defined in this Article may, however, make one nomination for each office therein to be filled at any election for officers of a municipality with a population of less than 5,000 by causing a certificate of nomination to be filed with the municipal clerk no earlier than 113 and no later than 106 days before the election at which the nominated candidates are to be on the ballot. The municipal caucuses shall be conducted on the first Monday in December of even-numbered years, except that, when that Monday is a holiday or the eve of a holiday, the caucuses shall be held on the next business day following the holiday. Every certificate of nomination shall state the facts required in Section 10-5 of this Article and shall be signed by the presiding officer and by the secretary of the convention, caucus, or meeting, who shall add to their signatures their places of residence. The certificates shall be sworn to by them to be true to the best of their knowledge and belief, and a certificate of the oath shall be annexed to the certificate of nomination.
(b) Publication of the time and place of holding the caucus shall be given by the municipal clerk. For municipalities of over 500 population, notice of the caucus shall be published in a newspaper published in the municipality. If there is no such newspaper, then the notice shall be published in a newspaper
published in the county and having general circulation in the municipality. For municipalities of 500 population or less, notice of the caucus shall be given by the municipal clerk by posting the notice in 3 of the most public places in the municipality. The publication or posting shall be given at least 10 days before the caucus.
(c) As provided in Sections 3.1-25-20 through 3.1-25-60 of the Illinois Municipal Code, a village may adopt a system of nonpartisan primary and general elections for the election of village officers.
(d) Any city, village, or incorporated town with a population of 5,000 or less may, by ordinance, determine that established political parties shall nominate candidates for municipal office in the city, village, or incorporated town by primary in accordance with Article 7.
(e) Only those voters who reside within the territory for which the nomination is made shall be permitted to vote or take part in the proceedings of any convention, caucus, or meeting of individual voters or of any political party held under this Section. No voter shall vote or take part in the proceedings of more than one convention, caucus, or meeting to make a nomination for the same office.
(Source: P.A. 97-81, eff. 7-5-11.)
(10 ILCS 5/10-2) (from Ch. 46, par. 10-2)
Sec. 10-2. The term "political party", as hereinafter used
in this Article 10, shall mean any "established political party", as hereinafter defined and shall also mean any political group which shall hereafter undertake to form an established political party in the manner provided for in this Article 10: Provided, that no political organization or group shall be qualified as a political party hereunder, or given a place on a ballot, which organization or group is associated, directly or indirectly, with Communist, Fascist, Nazi or other un-American principles and engages in activities or propaganda designed to teach subservience to the political principles and ideals of foreign nations or the overthrow by violence of the established constitutional form of government of the United States and the State of Illinois.

A political party which, at the last general election for State and county officers, polled for its candidate for Governor more than $2 \%$ 우 of the entire vote cast for Governor, is hereby declared to be an "established political party" as to the State and as to any district or political subdivision thereof.

A political party which, at the last election in any congressional district, legislative district, county, township, municipality or other political subdivision or district in the State, polled more than $2 \frac{0}{\circ}$ \% of the entire vote cast within such territorial area or political subdivision, as the case may be, has voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve the respective territorial area
of such district or political subdivision, is hereby declared to be an "established political party" within the meaning of this Article as to such district or political subdivision.

Any group of persons hereafter desiring to form a new political party throughout the State, or in any congressional, legislative or judicial district, or in any other district or in any political subdivision (other than a municipality) not entirely within a single county, shall file with the State Board of Elections a petition, as hereinafter provided; and any such group of persons hereafter desiring to form a new political party within any county shall file such petition with the county clerk; and any such group of persons hereafter desiring to form a new political party within any municipality or township or within any district of a unit of local government other than a county shall file such petition with the local election official or Board of Election Commissioners of such municipality, township or other unit of local government, as the case may be. Any such petition for the formation of a new political party throughout the State, or in any such district or political subdivision, as the case may be, shall declare as concisely as may be the intention of the signers thereof to form such new political party in the State, or in such district or political subdivision; shall state in not more than 5 words the name of such new political party; shall at the time of filing contain a complete list of candidates of such party for all offices to be filled in the

State, or such district or political subdivision as the case may be, at the next ensuing election then to be held; and, if such new political party shall be formed for the entire State, shall be signed by $1 \%$ of the number of voters who voted at the next preceding Statewide general election or 10,000 25,000 qualified voters, whichever is less. If such new political party shall be formed for any district or political subdivision less than the entire State, such petition shall be signed by qualified voters equaling in number not less than $2 \%$ 5\% of the number of voters who voted at the next preceding regular election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. However, whenever the minimum signature requirement for a district or political subdivision new political party petition shall exceed the minimum number of signatures for State-wide new political party petitions at the next preceding State-wide general election, such State-wide petition signature requirement shall be the minimum for such district or political subdivision new political party petition.

For the first election following a redistricting of congressional districts, a petition to form a new political party in a congressional district shall be signed by at least 2,000 5,000 qualified voters of the congressional district. For the first election following a redistricting of legislative districts, a petition to form a new political party in a
legislative district shall be signed by at least 1,200 3,000 qualified voters of the legislative district. For the first election following a redistricting of representative districts, a petition to form a new political party in a representative district shall be signed by at least 6001,500 qualified voters of the representative district.

For the first election following redistricting of county board districts, or of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a county or municipality, a petition to form a new political party in a county board district or in a municipal ward or district shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than 2 \% 5\% of the total number of votes cast at the preceding general or municipal election, as the case may be, for the county or municipal office voted on throughout the county or municipality for which the greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates, divided by the number of districts or wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward.

In the case of a petition to form a new political party within a political subdivision in which officers are to be elected from districts and at-large, such petition shall consist of separate components for each district from which an officer is to be elected. Each component shall be circulated only within a district of the political subdivision and signed
only by qualified electors who are residents of such district. Each sheet of such petition must contain a complete list of the names of the candidates of the party for all offices to be filled in the political subdivision at large, but the sheets comprising each component shall also contain the names of those candidates to be elected from the particular district. Each component of the petition for each district from which an officer is to be elected must be signed by qualified voters of the district equalling in number not less than $2 \%$ \% of the number of voters who voted at the next preceding regular election in such district at which an officer was elected to serve the district. The entire petition, including all components, must be signed by a total of qualified voters of the entire political subdivision equalling in number not less than $2 \frac{0}{0}$ 5 of the number of voters who voted at the next preceding regular election in such political subdivision at which an officer was elected to serve the political subdivision at large.

The filing of such petition shall constitute the political group a new political party, for the purpose only of placing upon the ballot at such next ensuing election such list or an adjusted list in accordance with Section 10-11, of party candidates for offices to be voted for throughout the State, or for offices to be voted for in such district or political subdivision less than the State, as the case may be, under the name of and as the candidates of such new political party.

If, at such ensuing election, the new political party's candidate for Governor shall receive more than 2\% 5\% of the entire votes cast for Governor, then such new political party shall become an "established political party" as to the State and as to every district or political subdivision thereof. If, at such ensuing election, the other candidates of the new political party, or any other candidate or candidates of the new political party shall receive more than $2 \%$ of all the votes cast for the office or offices for which they were candidates at such election, in the State, or in any district or political subdivision, as the case may be, then and in that event, such new political party shall become an "established political party" within the State or within such district or political subdivision less than the State, as the case may be, in which such candidate or candidates received more than 2\% 5\% of the votes cast for the office or offices for which they were candidates. It shall thereafter nominate its candidates for public offices to be filled in the State, or such district or political subdivision, as the case may be, under the provisions of the laws regulating the nomination of candidates of established political parties at primary elections and political party conventions, as now or hereafter in force.

A political party which continues to receive for its candidate for Governor more than $2 \frac{5 \%}{}$ of the entire vote cast for Governor, shall remain an "established political party" as to the State and as to every district or political subdivision
thereof. But if the political party's candidate for Governor fails to receive more than 2\% 5\% of the entire vote cast for Governor, or if the political party does not nominate a candidate for Governor, the political party shall remain an "established political party" within the State or within such district or political subdivision less than the State, as the case may be, only so long as, and only in those districts or political subdivisions in which, the candidates of that political party, or any candidate or candidates of that political party, continue to receive more than 2\% 5\% of all the votes cast for the office or offices for which they were candidates at succeeding general or consolidated elections within the State or within any district or political subdivision, as the case may be.

Any such petition shall be filed at the same time and shall be subject to the same requirements and to the same provisions in respect to objections thereto and to any hearing or hearings upon such objections that are hereinafter in this Article 10 contained in regard to the nomination of any other candidate or candidates by petition. If any such new political party shall become an "established political party" in the manner herein provided, the candidate or candidates of such new political party nominated by the petition hereinabove referred to for such initial election, shall have power to select any such party committeeman or committeemen as shall be necessary for the creation of a provisional party organization and
provisional managing committee or committees for such party within the State, or in any district or political subdivision in which the new political party has become established; and the party committeeman or committeemen so selected shall constitute a provisional party organization for the new political party and shall have and exercise the powers conferred by law upon any party committeeman or committeemen to manage and control the affairs of such new political party until the next ensuing primary election at which the new political party shall be entitled to nominate and elect any party committeeman or committeemen in the State, or in such district or political subdivision under any parts of this Act relating to the organization of political parties.

A candidate for whom a nomination paper has been filed as a partisan candidate at a primary election, and who is defeated for his or her nomination at the primary election, is ineligible for nomination as a candidate of a new political party for election in that general election. (Source: P.A. 86-875.)
(10 ILCS 5/10-3) (from Ch. 46, par. 10-3)
Sec. 10-3. Nomination of independent candidates (not candidates of any political party), for any office to be filled by the voters of the state at large may also be made by nomination papers signed in the aggregate for each candidate by 1\% of the number of voters who voted in the next preceding

Statewide general election or $10,00025,000$ qualified voters of the State, whichever is less. Nominations of independent candidates for public office within any district or political subdivision less than the State, may be made by nomination papers signed in the aggregate for each candidate by qualified voters of such district, or political subdivision, equaling not less than 2\% 5\%, nor more than $8 \%$ (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons, who voted at the next preceding regular election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. However, whenever the minimum signature requirement for an independent candidate petition for a district or political subdivision office shall exceed the minimum number of signatures for an independent candidate petition for an office to be filled by the voters of the State at large at the next preceding State-wide general election, such State-wide petition signature requirement shall be the minimum for an independent candidate petition for such district or political subdivision office. For the first election following a redistricting of congressional districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for congressman shall be signed by at least 2,000 5,000 qualified voters of the congressional district. For the first election following a redistricting of legislative districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for State Senator in the General

Assembly shall be signed by at least 1,200 3,000 qualified voters of the legislative district. For the first election following a redistricting of representative districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for State Representative in the General Assembly shall be signed by at least $\underline{600} 1,500$ qualified voters of the representative district. For the first election following redistricting of county board districts, or of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a county or municipality, nomination papers for an independent candidate for county board member, or for alderman or trustee of such municipality, shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than $2 \frac{0}{0} 5 \%$ nor more than $8 \%$ (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total number of votes cast at the preceding general or general municipal election, as the case may be, for the county or municipal office voted on throughout such county or municipality for which the greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates, divided by the number of districts or wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward. Each voter signing a nomination paper shall add to his or her signature his or her place of residence, and each voter may subscribe to one nomination for such office to be filled, and no more: Provided that the name of any candidate whose name may appear in any other place upon the ballot shall not be so added by petition for the same
office.
The person circulating the petition, or the candidate on whose behalf the petition is circulated, may strike any signature from the petition, provided that;
(1) the person striking the signature shall initial the petition at the place where the signature is struck; and
(2) the person striking the signature shall sign a certification listing the page number and line number of each signature struck from the petition. Such certification shall be filed as a part of the petition.
(3) the persons striking signatures from the petition shall each sign an additional certificate specifying the number of certification pages listing stricken signatures which are attached to the petition and the page numbers indicated on such certifications. The certificate shall be filed as a part of the petition, shall be numbered, and shall be attached immediately following the last page of voters' signatures and before the certifications of stricken signatures.
(4) all of the foregoing requirements shall be necessary to effect a valid striking of any signature. The provisions of this Section authorizing the striking of signatures shall not impose any criminal liability on any person so authorized for signatures which may be fraudulent.

In the case of the offices of Governor and Lieutenant

Governor a joint petition including one candidate for each of those offices must be filed.

A candidate for whom a nomination paper has been filed as a partisan candidate at a primary election, and who is defeated for his or her nomination at the primary election, is ineligible to be placed on the ballot as an independent candidate for election in that general or consolidated election.

A candidate seeking election to an office for which candidates of political parties are nominated by caucus who is a participant in the caucus and who is defeated for his or her nomination at such caucus, is ineligible to be listed on the ballot at that general or consolidated election as an independent candidate. (Source: P.A. 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon becoming law.


[^0]:    Amends the Election Code. Changes the threshold at which a party must poll to be considered a political party, rather than a new political party, from 5\% of the entire vote cast in the state in the general election for State and county officers then next preceding a primary to $2 \%$. Includes the President of the United States in the definition of "state office" or "state officer" for certain purposes. Reduces various signature requirements to form a new political party. Makes conforming changes. Effective immediately.

