

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR ENGROSSED

SENATE BILL NO. 668

By: Johnson (Rob) of the Senate

and

Watson of the House

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

An Act relating to political parties; amending 26 O.S. 2011, Section 1-108, which relates to procedures for formation; modifying signature requirement for petition; granting the Secretary of the State Election Board authority to determine certain political party disputes; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2011, Section 1-108, is amended to read as follows:

Section 1-108. A. A group of persons may form a recognized political party at any time except during the period between March 1 and November 15 of any even-numbered year if the following procedure is observed:

1. Notice of intent to form a recognized political party must be filed in writing with the Secretary of the State Election Board

1 at any time except during the period between March 1 and November 15
2 of any even-numbered year;

3 2. After such notice is filed, petitions seeking recognition of
4 a political party, in a form to be prescribed by the Secretary of
5 the State Election Board, shall be filed with such Secretary,
6 bearing the signatures of registered voters equal to at least five
7 percent (5%) of the total votes cast in the last General Election
8 ~~either for Governor or for electors for President and Vice~~
9 ~~President.~~ Each page of ~~such~~ the petitions must contain the names
10 of registered voters from a single county. Petitions may be
11 circulated a maximum of one (1) year after notice is filed, provided
12 that petitions shall be filed with the Secretary no later than March
13 1 of an even-numbered year. ~~Such~~ The petitions shall not be
14 circulated between March 1 and November 15 of any even-numbered
15 year; and

16 3. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of such petitions, the
17 State Election Board shall determine the sufficiency of such
18 petitions. If ~~such~~ the Board determines there are a sufficient
19 number of valid signatures of registered voters, the party becomes
20 recognized under the laws of the State of Oklahoma with all rights
21 and obligations accruing thereto.

22 B. In the event a question or dispute arises as to which person
23 or persons have the authority to act on behalf of a recognized
24 political party, the Secretary of the State Election Board shall

1 have the authority to make such determination based on relevant
2 state statutes, official documents filed with the Secretary of the
3 State Election Board, the party's by-laws and, if possible,
4 consultation with the party's national chair or executive committee.

5 SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2013.

6
7 54-1-7752 EK 04/03/13
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24