

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

4 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
5 FOR ENGROSSED
6 SENATE BILL NO. 668

By: Johnson (Rob) of the Senate

and

Watson and Hickman of the
House

10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

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

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

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

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

1 1. Notice of intent to form a recognized political party must
2 be filed in writing with the Secretary of the State Election Board
3 at any time except during the period between March 1 and November 15
4 of any even-numbered year;

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

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

1 B. In the event a question or dispute arises as to which person
2 or persons have the authority to act on behalf of a recognized
3 political party, the Secretary of the State Election Board shall
4 have the authority to make such determination based on relevant
5 state statutes, official documents filed with the Secretary of the
6 State Election Board, the party's by-laws and, if possible,
7 consultation with the party's national chair or executive committee.

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

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10 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, dated 04/03/2013 - DO
11 PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.