SENATE FLOOR VERSION

April 8, 2015
AS AMENDED

ENGROSSED HOUSE

BILL NO. 2181

By: Hickman and Cooksey of the

House

and

Quinn and **Holt** of the Senate

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An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2011, Section 1-108, which relates to formation of political parties; modifying requirements for formation of a recognized political party; and providing an effective date.

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

- 2. After such notice is filed, petitions seeking recognition of a political party, in a form to be prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board, shall be filed with such Secretary, bearing the signatures of registered voters equal to at least five percent (5%) three percent (3%) of the total votes cast in the last General Election either for Governor or for electors for President and Vice President. Each page of such petitions must contain the names of registered voters from a single county. Petitions may be circulated a maximum of one (1) year after notice is filed, provided that petitions shall be filed with the Secretary no later than March 1 of an even-numbered year. Such petitions shall not be circulated between March 1 and November 15 of any even-numbered year; and
- 3. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of such petitions, the State Election Board shall determine the sufficiency of such petitions. If such Board determines there are a sufficient number of valid signatures of registered voters, the party becomes recognized under the laws of the State of Oklahoma with all rights and obligations accruing thereto.

SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2015. COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES April 8, 2015 - DO PASS AS AMENDED

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