

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

SENATE BILL 971

By: Rader

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to judicial elections; amending 26 O.S. 2011, Sections 11-101, 11-102 and 11-109, which relate to judicial elections; modifying information required to be included in declaration of candidacy and printed on ballot; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2011, Section 11-101, is amended to read as follows:

Section 11-101. A Justice of the Supreme Court or a Judge of the Court of Criminal Appeals whose term of office expires the second Monday in January following a General Election and who seeks retention in office must file with the Secretary of State not less than sixty (60) days before the date of such General Election a Declaration of Candidacy to succeed himself or herself. The declaration of candidacy shall include the information required to be printed on the ballot pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Section 11-109 of this title.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2011, Section 11-102, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 11-102. A Justice of the Supreme Court or Judge of the
4 Court of Criminal Appeals who has been appointed and who will have
5 served twelve (12) months in office before the next General Election
6 and who seeks to be retained in office must file a Declaration of
7 Candidacy to be retained in office with the Secretary of State not
8 less than sixty (60) days before the date of such election. If such
9 judicial officer has not served twelve (12) months on or before the
10 next General Election following his or her appointment, he or she
11 shall continue in office, and ~~he~~ shall file a Declaration of
12 Candidacy to be retained in office with the Secretary of State not
13 less than sixty (60) days before the date of the second General
14 Election following ~~his~~ the appointment. The declaration of
15 candidacy shall include the information required to be printed on
16 the ballot pursuant to the provisions of paragraph 2 of Section 11-
17 109 of this title.

18 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2011, Section 11-109, is
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 11-109. Ballots for retention of Justices of the
21 Supreme Court and Judges of the Court of Criminal Appeals and the
22 Court of Appeals shall be printed in the same manner as other
23 ballots for the General Election, except as hereinafter provided.
24 Near the top of the ballot shall be printed the following words:

1 "NOTICE TO VOTER: Vote separately on each justice or judge; they are
2 not running against each other." Below said words shall appear ~~the~~:

3 1. The office number, as reflected by the numbers of the
4 districts from which said Justices or Judges were appointed~~7~~;

5 2. The age of the justice or judge as of the date of the
6 General Election, the number of years served in the position as
7 justice or judge, the name of the Governor who originally appointed
8 the justice or judge to the court, which shall be printed in a font
9 of 8-point type or larger; and ~~this~~

10 3. This question: "Shall (Here insert name of Justice or
11 Judge) of (Here insert the title of the court) be retained in
12 Office?" Said question shall be followed by the words "YES" and
13 "NO", one above the other.

14 SECTION 4. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
15 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
16 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
17 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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