STATE OF OKLAHOMA

1st Session of the 58th Legislature (2021)

SENATE BILL 563

By: Kirt

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## AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to election of county officials; requiring election for county offices to be nonpartisan; prohibiting declaration of party affiliation on Declaration of Candidacy for county office; clarifying eligibility for placement on certain primary and general election ballots; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

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

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5-103.1 of Title 26, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

- A. Beginning with the 2022 election cycle, elections for any county office shall be conducted on a nonpartisan basis. Candidates for a county office shall file a Declaration of Candidacy with the secretary of the county election board as provided in Section 5-103 of Title 26 of the Oklahoma Statutes but shall not declare a party affiliation.
- B. If more than two candidates qualify to have their names appear on the ballot for a county office, the names of all such

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    candidates shall appear on the Primary Election ballot. If no
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    single candidate receives more than fifty percent (50%) of the votes
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    cast at the Primary Election, the names of the two candidates
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    receiving the highest number of votes at the Primary Election shall
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    appear on the General Election ballot.
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        C. If only two candidates qualify to have their names appear on
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    the ballot for a county office, the names of both candidates shall
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    appear on the General Election ballot.
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        SECTION 2. This act shall become effective November 1, 2021.
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