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February 21, 2023

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR

SENATE BILL NO. 677

By: Treat

An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2021, Section 5-111, which relates to declaration of candidacy forms; requiring confidentiality of certain information; requiring certain form be included with declaration of candidacy; authorizing release of information to certain persons for specified purposes; requiring candidate to submit certain form with declaration of candidacy; specifying information to be included on certain form; exempting candidates for federal office from certain requirements; requiring Secretary of State Election Board to prescribe certain form; and declaring an emergency.

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

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2021, Section 5-111, is amended to read as follows:

Section 5-111. A. Forms to be used for filing Declarations of Candidacy shall be prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board and shall contain the following information:

1. The name of the candidate as it shall appear on the ballot;
2. The legal name of the candidate;

1 3. The candidate's place of residence and mailing address,
2 which shall be kept confidential as provided in subsection B of this
3 section;

4 4. The name of the office sought;

5 5. The candidate's date of birth;

6 6. The party affiliation of the candidate seeking political
7 party nomination;

8 7. The precinct and county wherein the candidate is a
9 registered voter;

10 8. A voter registration verification form as provided in
11 subsection C of this section;

12 9. An oath wherein the candidate swears or affirms that he or
13 she is qualified to become a candidate for the office sought, and
14 that, if elected, the candidate will be qualified to hold the
15 office; and

16 ~~9.~~ 10. Any additional information which the Secretary deems
17 necessary.

18 B. The address of residence and the mailing address of a
19 candidate provided on a Declaration of Candidacy shall be kept
20 confidential; provided, however, such address information shall be
21 provided to a candidate, candidate representative, or other lawful
22 authority in anticipation of or as part of a contest of candidacy or
23 contest of an election as provided for in this title or as part of a
24 petition challenge as provided by law.

1 C. 1. Prior to filing a Declaration of Candidacy, a candidate
2 shall obtain a voter registration verification form from the
3 secretary of the election board with whom the candidate is required
4 to file. The candidate shall provide the form with the Declaration
5 of Candidacy.

6 2. A voter registration verification form shall include:

- 7 a. the candidate's name, date of birth, address of
8 residence, party affiliation, voter identification
9 number, the precinct and county where the candidate is
10 registered, and the original date of voter
11 registration within the county, if available, and
12 b. the districts in which the candidate is registered to
13 vote including but not limited to state senator and
14 representative, county commissioner, school and
15 technology center, and municipality. If applicable, a
16 ward or member district shall be included for the
17 school or technology center district or municipality.

18 3. The secretary of the election board with whom the candidate
19 is required to file shall only accept a Declaration of Candidacy if
20 the information contained on the voter registration verification
21 form matches the information provided on the Declaration of
22 Candidacy, and if such Declaration meets all other requirements of
23 state law.

1 4. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to
2 candidates for federal office.

3 5. The Secretary of the State Election Board shall prescribe
4 the voter registration verification form required by this
5 subsection.

6 D. If the candidate has ever been ultimately determined by a
7 court of proper authority to be guilty of an offense specified in
8 subsection A of Section 5-105a of this title or at the time of
9 filing the Declaration of Candidacy is named in an outstanding
10 warrant for arrest for such an offense, in this or any other state,
11 the candidate shall provide the following information on a form
12 prescribed by the Secretary of the State Election Board:

13 1. The name of the offense;

14 2. The date of conviction or issuance of the outstanding
15 warrant; and

16 3. The county and state of conviction or issuance of the
17 outstanding warrant.

18 The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to an offense
19 for which the candidate has received a pardon.

20 ~~E.~~ E. A Declaration of Candidacy form must be signed by the
21 candidate, and the signature must be properly notarized by a notary
22 public or other person authorized by law to administer oaths.

23 ~~D.~~ F. In addition to the information required by this section,
24 a candidate may include a telephone number, email address and

1 website address. Such additional information shall not be required
2 of any candidate but if provided shall be made available to the
3 public.

4 SECTION 2. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
5 of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby
6 declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
7 be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

8 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY
9 February 21, 2023 - DO PASS AS AMENDED BY CS
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