

HB0548S01 compared with HB0548

~~{Omitted text}~~ shows text that was in HB0548 but was omitted in HB0548S01

inserted text shows text that was not in HB0548 but was inserted into HB0548S01

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1 **Primary Election Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Andrew Stoddard

Senate Sponsor: Michael K. McKell



2
3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill ~~{ modifies the circumstances under which certain }~~ addresses primary elections ~~{ may be held }~~ .

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 **provides that a municipality may hold a primary election if the number of candidates for a municipal office exceeds twice but does not exceed three times the number of individuals needed to fill that office;**

11 **requires a municipality to hold a primary election if the number of candidates for a municipal office exceeds three times the number of individuals needed to fill that office;**

8 ~~{ makes municipal primary elections discretionary by requiring authorization of }~~ clarifies the ~~{ municipal legislative body to }~~ circumstances under which a special district may hold a primary election; and

10 **makes technical and conforming changes.**

15 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

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16 None

17 **Other Special Clauses:**

18 None

19 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

20 AMENDS:

21 **10-2a-215** , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special Session, Chapter 6

22 **17B-1-306** , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 39, 161

23 **20A-9-404** , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

24

25 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

26 Section 1. Section **10-2a-215** is amended to read:

27 **10-2a-215. Election of officers of new municipality -- Primary and final election dates --
Notice of election -- County clerk duties -- Candidate duties -- Occupation of office.**

26 (1) For the election of municipal officers, the county legislative body shall:

27 (a) unless a primary election is [~~prohibited~~] not {authorized} held under Subsection 20A-9-404(2), hold
a primary election; and

29 (b) unless the election may be cancelled in accordance with Section 20A-1-206, hold a final election.

31 (2) Each election described in Subsection (1) shall be held:

32 (a) consistent with the petition sponsors' determination of the length of each council member's initial
term; and

34 (b) for the incorporation of a city:

35 (i) appropriate to the form of government chosen by the voters at the incorporation election;

37 (ii) consistent with the voters' decision about whether to elect city council members by district and, if
applicable, consistent with the boundaries of those districts as determined by the petition sponsors;
and

40 (iii) consistent with the sponsors' determination of the number of city council members to be elected.

42 (3)

(a) Subject to Subsection (3)(b), and notwithstanding Subsection 20A-1-201.5(2), the primary election
described in Subsection (1)(a) shall be held at the earliest of the next:

44 (i) regular primary election described in Subsection 20A-1-201.5(1); or

45 (ii) municipal primary election described in Section 20A-9-404.

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- 46 (b) The county shall hold the primary election, if necessary, on the next election date described in
Subsection (3)(a) that is after the incorporation election conducted under Section 10-2a-210.
- 49 (4)
- (a) Subject to Subsection (4)(b), the county shall hold the final election described in Subsection (1)(b):
- 51 (i) on the following election date that next follows the date of the incorporation election held under
Subsection 10-2a-210(1)(a);
- 53 (ii) [a] on the regular general election described in Section 20A-1-201; or
- 54 (iii) [a] on the regular municipal general election under Section 20A-1-202.
- 55 (b) The county shall hold the final election on the earliest of the next election date that is listed in
Subsection (4)(a)(i), (ii), or (iii):
- 57 (i) that is after a primary election; or
- 58 (ii) if there is no primary election, that is at least:
- 59 (A) 75 days after the incorporation election under Section 10-2a-210; and
- 60 (B) 65 days after the candidate filing period.
- 61 (5) The county clerk shall provide notice of an election under this section for the future municipality, as
a class A notice under Section 63G-30-102, for at least two weeks before the day of the election.
- 64 (6) Until the municipality is incorporated, the county clerk:
- 65 (a) is the election officer for all purposes related to the election of municipal officers;
- 66 (b) may, as necessary, determine appropriate deadlines, procedures, and instructions related to the
election of municipal officers for a new municipality that are not otherwise contrary to law;
- 69 (c) shall require and determine deadlines for municipal office candidates to file campaign financial
disclosures in accordance with Section 10-3-208; and
- 71 (d) shall ensure that the ballot for the election includes each office that is required to be included in the
election for officers of the newly incorporated municipality, including the term of each office.
- 74 (7) An individual who has filed as a candidate for an office described in this section shall comply with:
- 76 (a) the campaign finance disclosure requirements described in Section 10-3-208; and
- 77 (b) the requirements and deadlines established by the county clerk under this section.
- 78 (8) Notwithstanding Section 10-3-201, the officers elected at a final election described in Subsection (4)
(a) shall take office:
- 80 (a) after taking the oath of office; and
- 81

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- (b) at noon on the first Monday following the day on which the election official transmits a certificate of nomination or election under the officer's seal to each elected candidate in accordance with Subsection 20A-4-304(6)(b).

88 Section 2. Section **17B-1-306** is amended to read:

89 **17B-1-306. Special district board -- Election procedures -- Notice.**

86 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (12), each elected board member shall be selected as provided in this section.

88 (2)

(a) Each election of a special district board member shall be held:

89 (i) at the same time as the municipal general election or the regular general election, as applicable; and

91 (ii) at polling places designated by the special district board in consultation with the county clerk for each county in which the special district is located, which polling places shall coincide with municipal general election or regular general election polling places, as applicable, whenever feasible.

95 (b) The special district board, in consultation with the county clerk, may consolidate two or more polling places to enable voters from more than one district to vote at one consolidated polling place.

98 (c)

(i) Subject to Subsections (5)(h) and (i), the number of polling places under Subsection (2)(a)(ii) in an election of board members of an irrigation district shall be one polling place per division of the district, designated by the district board.

101 (ii) Each polling place designated by an irrigation district board under Subsection (2)(c)(i) shall coincide with a polling place designated by the county clerk under Subsection (2)(a)(ii).

104 (3)

(a) The clerk of each special district with a board member position to be filled at the next municipal general election or regular general election, as applicable, shall provide notice of:

107 (i) each elective position of the special district to be filled at the next municipal general election or regular general election, as applicable;

109 (ii) the constitutional and statutory qualifications for each position; and

110 (iii) the dates and times for filing a declaration of candidacy.

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- 114 (b) If the election is to be held at the same time as the municipal general election, a declaration of
candidacy shall be filed between June 1 and June 7 of any odd-numbered year.
- 117 (c) If the election is to be held at the same time as the regular general election, a declaration of
candidacy shall be filed between June 1 and June 7 of any even-numbered year.
- 120 (4) The clerk of the special district shall publish the notice described in Subsection (3)(a) for the special
district, as a class A notice under Section 63G-30-102, for at least 10 days before the first day for
filing a declaration of candidacy.
- 120 (5)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(c), to become a candidate for an elective special district board
position, an individual shall file a declaration of candidacy in person with an official designated by
the special district within the candidate filing period for the applicable election year in which the
election for the special district board is held and:
- 125 (i) during the special district's standard office hours, if the standard office hours provide at least
three consecutive office hours each day during the candidate filing period that is not a holiday or
weekend;
- 128 (ii) if the standard office hours of a special district do not provide at least three consecutive office
hours each day, a three-hour consecutive time period each day designated by the special district
during the candidate filing period that is not a holiday or weekend; or
- 132 (iii) during the special district's standard office hours if the special district has adopted a four day
standard work week with standard office hours of at least eight hours each of those days.
- 135 (b) When the candidate filing deadline falls on a Saturday, Sunday, holiday, or a day that is not a
regular business day for the special district [~~pursuant to~~] under Subsection (5)(a)(iii), the filing time
shall be extended until the close of normal office hours on the following regular business day.
- 139 (c) Subject to Subsection (5)(f), an individual may designate an agent to file a declaration of candidacy
with the official designated by the special district if:
- 141 (i) the individual is located outside of the state during the entire filing period;
- 142 (ii) the designated agent appears in person before the official designated by the special district; and
- 144 (iii) the individual communicates with the official designated by the special district using an electronic
device that allows the individual and official to see and hear each other.
- 147 (d)

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(i) Before the filing officer may accept any declaration of candidacy from an individual, the filing officer shall:

149 (A) read to the individual the constitutional and statutory qualification requirements for the office
that the individual is seeking; and

151 (B) require the individual to state whether the individual meets those requirements.

152 (ii) If the individual does not meet the qualification requirements for the office, the filing officer may
not accept the individual's declaration of candidacy.

154 (iii) If it appears that the individual meets the requirements of candidacy, the filing officer shall accept
the individual's declaration of candidacy.

156 (e) The declaration of candidacy shall be in substantially the following form:

157 "I, (print name) _____, being first duly sworn, say that I reside at (Street)
_____, City of _____, County of _____, state of Utah, (Zip
Code) _____, (Telephone Number, if any) _____; that I meet the qualifications for the
office of board of trustees member for _____ (state the name of the special
district); that I am a candidate for that office to be voted upon at the next election; and that, if filing
via a designated agent, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate filing period, and
I hereby request that my name be printed upon the official ballot for that election.

165 (Signed) _____

166 Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me by _____ on this _____ day of
_____, _____.

168 (Signed) _____

169 (Clerk or Notary Public)".

170 (f) An agent designated under Subsection (5)(c) may not sign the form described in Subsection (5)(e).

172 (g) Each individual wishing to become a valid write-in candidate for an elective special district board
position is governed by Section 20A-9-601.

174 (h) If at least one individual does not file a declaration of candidacy as required by this section,
an individual shall be appointed to fill that board position in accordance with the appointment
provisions of Section 20A-1-512.

177 (i) If only one candidate files a declaration of candidacy and there is no write-in candidate who
complies with Section 20A-9-601, the board, in accordance with Section 20A-1-206, may:

180 (i) consider the candidate to be elected to the position; and

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- 181 (ii) cancel the election.
- 182 (6)
- (a) A primary election [~~may be held~~] for a particular local board position or office may be held only if:
- 184 (i) the primary election is authorized by the special district board; and
- 185 (ii) the number of candidates for [~~a particular local board position or~~] the position or office exceeds
twice the number of [~~persons needed to fill that~~] individuals needed to fill that position or office.
- 188 (b) [~~The~~] A primary election authorized under Subsection (6)(a) shall be conducted:
- 189 (i) on the same date as the municipal primary election or the regular primary election, as applicable; and
- 191 (ii) according to the procedures for primary elections provided under Title 20A, Election Code.
- 193 (7)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (7)(c), within one business day after the deadline for filing a
declaration of candidacy, the special district clerk shall certify the candidate names to the clerk of
each county in which the special district is located.
- 196 (b)
- (i) Except as provided in Subsection (7)(c) and in accordance with Sections 20A-6-109 and 20A-6-110,
the clerk of each county in which the special district is located and the special district clerk shall
coordinate placement of the name of each candidate for special district office in the nonpartisan
section of the ballot with the appropriate election officer.
- 201 (ii) If consolidation of the special district election ballot with the municipal general election ballot or
the regular general election ballot, as applicable, is not feasible, the special district board of trustees,
in consultation with the county clerk, shall provide for a separate special district election ballot to be
administered by poll workers at polling places designated under Subsection (2).
- 206 (c)
- (i) Subsections (7)(a) and (b) do not apply to an election of a member of the board of an irrigation
district established under Chapter 2a, Part 5, Irrigation District Act.
- 208 (ii) The board of an irrigation district shall:
- 209 (A) subject to Subsections (7)(c)(ii)(B) and (C), establish the form of the ballot for a board member
election;
- 211 (B) ensure that the ballot is in a nonpartisan format; and
- 212 (C) ensure that the name of each candidate is placed on the ballot in accordance with Sections
20A-6-109 and 20A-6-110.

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- 214 (8)
- (a) Each voter at an election for a board of trustees member of a special district shall:
- 215 (i) be a registered voter within the district, except for an election of:
- 216 (A) an irrigation district board of trustees member; or
- 217 (B) a basic special district board of trustees member who is elected by property owners; and
- 219 (ii) meet the requirements to vote established by the district.
- 220 (b) Each voter may vote for as many candidates as there are offices to be filled.
- 221 (c) The candidates who receive the highest number of votes are elected.
- 222 (9) Except as otherwise provided by this section, the election of special district board members is governed by Title 20A, Election Code.
- 224 (10)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection 17B-1-303(8), a person elected to serve on a special district board shall serve a four-year term, beginning at noon on the January 1 after the person's election.
- 227 (b) A person elected shall be sworn in as soon as practical after January 1.
- 228 (11)
- (a) Except as provided in Subsection (11)(b), each special district shall reimburse the county or municipality holding an election under this section for the costs of the election attributable to that special district.
- 231 (b) Each irrigation district shall bear the district's own costs of each election the district holds under this section.
- 233 (12) This section does not apply to an improvement district that provides electric or gas service.
- 235 (13) Except as provided in Subsection 20A-3a-605(1)(b), the provisions of Title 20A, Chapter 3a, Part 6, Early Voting, do not apply to an election under this section.
- 237 (14)
- (a) As used in this Subsection (14), "board" means:
- 238 (i) a special district board; or
- 239 (ii) the administrative control board of a special service district that has elected members on the board.
- 241 (b) If a board desires to hold elections for membership on the board at a regular general election instead of a municipal general election, or at a municipal general election instead of a regular general election, the board may submit an application to the lieutenant governor that:

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- 245 (i) requests permission to change the election year for membership on the board in a manner described
in this Subsection (14)(b);
- 247 (ii) indicates that a change in the election year is beneficial, based on potential cost savings, a potential
increase in voter turnout, or another material reason; and
- 249 (iii) if a change in the election year may result in shortening a board member's term of office, indicates
that the members of the board unanimously support the lieutenant governor taking that action.
- 252 (c) Upon receipt of an application described in Subsection (14)(b), the lieutenant governor may approve
the application if:
- 254 (i) the lieutenant governor concludes that changing the election year is beneficial based on the criteria
described in Subsection (14)(b)(ii); and
- 256 (ii) for an application that may result in shortening a board member's term of office, the application
satisfies the unanimity requirement described in Subsection (14)(b)(iii).
- 259 (d) If the lieutenant governor approves a board's application described in this section:
- 260 (i) all future elections for membership on the board shall be held at the time of the general election
specified in the application; and
- 262 (ii) the board may not hold elections at the time of an election other than the general election specified
in the application, unless the board receives permission from the lieutenant governor to change the
election under the same procedure, and by applying the same criteria, described in this Subsection
(14).
- 266 (15)
- (a) This Subsection (15) applies to a special district if:
- 267 (i) the special district's board members are elected by the owners of real property, as provided in
Subsection 17B-1-1402(1)(b); and
- 269 (ii) the special district was created before January 1, 2020.
- 270 (b) The board of a special district described in Subsection (15)(a) may conduct an election:
- 272 (i) to fill a board member position that expires at the end of the term for that board member's position;
and
- 274 (ii) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-1-512(1)(a)(i), to fill a vacancy in an unexpired term of a board
member.
- 276 (c) An election under Subsection (15)(b) may be conducted as determined by the special district board,
subject to Subsection (15)(d).

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- 278 (d)
- (i) The special district board shall provide to property owners eligible to vote at the special district election:
- 280 (A) notice of the election; and
- 281 (B) a form to nominate an eligible individual to be elected as a board member.
- 282 (ii)
- (A) The special district board may establish a deadline for a property owner to submit a nomination form.
- 284 (B) A deadline under Subsection (15)(d)(ii)(A) may not be earlier than 15 days after the board provides the notice and nomination form under Subsection (15)(d)(i).
- 287 (iii)
- (A) After the deadline for submitting nomination forms, the special district board shall provide a ballot to all property owners eligible to vote at the special district election.
- 290 (B) A special district board shall allow at least five days for ballots to be returned.
- 291 (iv) A special district board shall certify the results of an election under this Subsection (15) during an open meeting of the board.
- 297 Section 3. Section **20A-9-404** is amended to read:
- 298 **20A-9-404. Municipal primary elections.**
- 295 (1)
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section [~~or Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project~~], candidates for municipal office in all municipalities shall be nominated at a municipal primary election.
- 298 (b) Municipal primary elections shall be held:
- 299 (i) consistent with Section 20A-1-201.5, on the second Tuesday following the first Monday in the August before the regular municipal election; and
- 301 (ii) whenever possible, at the same polling places as the regular municipal election.
- 302 (c) Subsections (3) through (5) do not apply to an election to elect local school board members under Section 53G-3-302.
- 304 ~~{(d) Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, does not apply to an election to elect local school board members under Section 53G-3-302.}~~
- 306 ~~(2)~~

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~~{(a)} { }~~ Except as otherwise provided in Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, if the number of candidates for a particular municipal office does not exceed twice the number of individuals needed to fill that office, a primary election for that office may not be held and the candidates are considered nominated.]

- 314 (2) If the number of candidates for a particular municipal office:
- 315 (a) does not exceed twice the number of individuals needed to fill that office, a primary election for the
office may not be held and the candidates are considered nominated;
- 317 (b) exceeds twice but does not exceed three times the number of individuals needed to fill that office, a
primary election for the office may be held; or
- 319 (c) exceeds three times the number of individuals needed to file that office, a primary election for the
office shall be held.
- 321 (3)
- 322 (a) A primary election for a particular municipal office { ~~hat~~ } { } { } ~~{may}~~ For purposes of this
Subsection (3), "convention" means an organized assembly of voters or delegates. { } shall
- 323 (b)
- 324 (i) { ~~hat~~ } be held { ~~hat~~ } { } { } ~~{only}~~ By ordinance adopted before the May 1 that falls before a
regular municipal election, any third, fourth, or fifth class city or town may exempt itself from a
primary election by providing that the nomination of candidates for municipal office to be voted
upon at a municipal election be nominated by a municipal party convention or committee. { }
- 328 (ii) { ~~hat~~ } if { ~~hat~~ } { } { } ~~{:}~~ The municipal party convention or committee described in Subsection (3)
(b)(i) shall be held on or before May 30 of an odd-numbered year. { }
- 311 [~~(i)~~
- 330 (iii) ~~{the}~~ Any primary election ~~{is authorized}~~ exemption ordinance adopted under this Subsection
(3) remains in effect until repealed by ~~{the municipal legislative body; and}~~ ordinance. { }
- 312 {~~(ii)~~(c)} { } { } ~~hat~~ }
- 313 (i) the number of candidates for the municipal office exceeds { ~~hat~~ } { } { } ~~{twice}~~ A convention or
committee may not nominate more than one candidate for each of the municipal offices to be voted
upon at the municipal election. { } three times }
- 334 (ii) { ~~hat~~ } the number of individuals needed to fill that office.
- 314 {(b)} If a primary election is not { ~~hat~~ } { } { } ~~{authorized}~~ A convention or committee may not nominate
an individual who has accepted the nomination of a different convention or committee. { } held }

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- 336 (iii) { ←~~ñ~~ } under Subsection (2)(a), the candidates for the office are considered nominated.
- 316 {~~(3)~~}
- {~~(a)~~} For purposes of this Subsection (3), "convention" means an organized assembly of voters or delegates} A municipal party may not have more than one group of candidates placed upon the ballot and may not group the same candidates on different tickets by the same party under a different name or emblem.
- 318 {~~(b)~~} (d)
- (i) {~~By ordinance adopted~~} On or before {~~the~~} May {~~1 that falls before a regular municipal election~~} 31 of an odd-numbered year, {~~any third, fourth, or fifth class city or town may exempt itself from a primary election by providing that~~} a convention or committee shall prepare and submit to the filing officer a certificate of nomination {~~of candidates~~} for {~~municipal office to be voted upon at a municipal election be nominated by a municipal party convention or committee~~} each individual nominated.
- 323 (ii) The {~~certificate~~} municipal party convention or committee described in Subsection (3)(b)(i) shall be held on or before May 30 of {~~nomination shall~~} an odd-numbered year.
- 325 {~~(iii)~~} (A) {~~Any primary election exemption ordinance adopted under this Subsection (3) remains~~} contain the name of the office for which each individual is nominated, the name, post office address, and, if in effect until repealed by ordinance, a city, the street number of residence and place of business, if any, of each individual nominated;
- 327 {~~(e)~~} (B)
- {~~(i)~~} A convention or committee may designate in not {~~nominate~~} more than {~~one candidate for each of~~} five words the {~~municipal offices to be voted upon at~~} party that the {~~municipal election~~} convention or committee represents;
- 329 {~~(ii)~~} (C) {~~A~~} contain a copy of the resolution passed at the convention {~~or~~} that authorized the committee {~~may not nominate an individual who has accepted~~} to make the nomination {~~of a different convention or committee~~} ;
- 331 {~~(iii)~~} (D) {~~A municipal party may not have more than one group~~} contain a statement certifying that the name of {~~candidates placed upon the ballot and may~~} the candidate nominated by the political party will not {~~group the same candidates~~} appear on {~~different tickets by~~} the {~~same~~} ballot as a candidate for any other political party {~~under a different name or emblem~~} ;
- 334 {~~(d)~~} (E)

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- {(i)} ~~On or before May 31~~ be signed by the presiding officer and secretary of ~~{an odd-numbered year, a}~~ the convention or committee ~~{shall prepare and submit to the filing officer a certificate of nomination for each individual nominated.}~~ ; and
- 337 {(ii)} ~~(F)~~ ~~{The certificate of nomination shall:}~~ contain a statement identifying the residence and post office address of the presiding officer and secretary and certifying that the presiding officer and secretary were officers of the convention or committee and that the certificates are true to the best of their knowledge and belief.
- 338 ~~{(A)}~~ ~~(iii)~~ ~~{contain the name of the office for which each individual is}~~ A candidate nominated~~{,}~~ by a municipal party convention or committee shall file a declaration with the ~~{name, post office address, and, if in a city, the street number of residence and place of business, if any, of each individual nominated;}~~ filing officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-9-203(3) that includes:
- 341 ~~{(B)}~~ ~~(A)~~ ~~{designate in not more than five words}~~ the name of the ~~{party}~~ municipal party or convention that nominated the ~~{convention or committee represents}~~ candidate; and
- 343 ~~{(C)}~~ ~~(B)~~ ~~{contain a copy of}~~ the ~~{resolution passed at}~~ office for which the convention ~~{that authorized the committee to make the nomination;}~~ or committee nominated the candidate.
- 345 ~~{(D)}~~ ~~(e)~~ ~~{contain}~~ A committee appointed at a ~~{statement certifying that the name of the candidate nominated by}~~ convention, if authorized by an enabling resolution, may also make nominations or fill vacancies in nominations made at a convention if the committee makes the ~~{political party will not appear on}~~ nomination before the ~~{ballot as}~~ deadline for a ~~{candidate for any other political party;}~~ write-in candidate to file a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-601.
- 348 ~~{(E)}~~ ~~(f)~~ ~~{be signed by}~~ The election ballot shall substantially comply with the form prescribed in Chapter 6, Part 4, Ballot Form Requirements for Municipal Elections, but the ~~{presiding officer and secretary of the convention or committee; and}~~ party name shall be included with the candidate's name.
- 350 ~~{(F)}~~ ~~(4)~~
- ~~(a)~~ ~~{contain a statement identifying the residence and post office address of the presiding officer and secretary and certifying that the presiding officer and secretary were officers of the convention or committee and that the certificates are true to the best of their knowledge and belief.}~~ Any third, fourth, or fifth class city or a town may adopt an ordinance before
- 354 ~~{(iii)}~~ ~~[{A candidate nominated by a municipal party convention or committee shall file a declaration with the filing officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-9-203(3) that includes:}~~ the

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- 357 ~~{(A)}~~] ~~{the name of}~~ May 1 that falls before the ~~{municipal party or convention}~~ regular municipal
election that ~~{nominated the candidate; and}~~ :
- 359 ~~{(B)}~~ (i) exempts the ~~{office for which the convention}~~ city or ~~{committee nominated}~~ town from the
~~{candidate:}~~ other methods of nominating candidates to municipal office provided in this section;
and
- 360 ~~{(e)}~~ (ii) ~~{A committee appointed at a}~~ provides for a municipal partisan convention ~~{, if authorized~~
~~by an enabling resolution, may also make nominations or fill vacancies}~~ method of nominating
candidates as provided in ~~{nominations made at a convention if the committee makes the~~
~~nomination before the deadline for a write-in candidate to file a declaration of candidacy under~~
~~Section 20A-9-601}~~ this Subsection (4).
- 364 ~~{(f)}~~ (b)
(i) ~~{The election ballot shall substantially comply with the form prescribed in Chapter 6, Part 4, Ballot~~
~~Form Requirements for Municipal Elections, but the}~~ Any party that was a registered political party
at the last regular general election or regular municipal election is a municipal political party ~~{name~~
~~shall be included with the candidate's name}~~ under this section.
- 367 ~~{(4)}~~ (ii)
(a) Any ~~{political party}~~ third, fourth, or fifth class city or a town may ~~{qualify as a municipal~~
~~political party by presenting a petition to the city recorder that:}~~ adopt an ordinance before
- 383 (A) ~~{[the]}~~ is signed, with a holographic signature, by registered voters within the municipality equal
to at least 20% of the number of votes cast for all candidates for mayor in the last municipal election
at which a mayor was elected;}
- 387 (B) ~~{May 1 that falls}~~ is filed with the city recorder or town clerk no later than 5 p.m. on the last
business day before the ~~{regular}~~ day on which the municipal ~~{election that:}~~ party holds a
convention to nominate a candidate under this Subsection (4);
- 369 ~~{(i)}~~ (C) ~~{exempts the city or town from}~~ is substantially similar to the form of the ~~{other~~
~~methods of nominating candidates to municipal office provided in this section}~~ signature sheets
described in Section 20A-7-303; and
- 371 ~~{(ii)}~~ (D) ~~{provides for a municipal partisan convention method}~~ contains the name of
~~{nominating candidates as provided in this Subsection (4)}~~ the municipal political party using
not more than five words.
- 373 ~~{(b)}~~ (iii)

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- {(i)} Any party that was a registered political party at } With the {last regular general election or regular municipal election} assistance of the county clerk, the city recorder or town clerk shall use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002 to determine whether each signer is a {municipal political party under this section} registered voter who is qualified to sign the petition.
- 376 {(ii)} (c)
- (i) {Any political party may qualify as a municipal political party by presenting} If the number of candidates for a {petition to} particular office does not exceed twice the number of offices to be filled at the {city recorder} regular municipal election, no primary election for that{:} office shall be held and the candidates are considered to be nominated.
- 378 {(A)} (ii) {is signed, with} If the number of candidates for a {holographic signature, by registered voters within} particular office exceeds twice the {municipality equal} number of offices to be filled at {least 20% of the number of votes cast for all} the regular municipal election, those candidates for {mayor in the last municipal election} municipal office shall be nominated at {which} a {mayor was elected;} municipal primary election.
- 382 {(B)} (d) {is filed with the city recorder or town clerk no later than 5 p.m. on} The clerk shall ensure that the {last business day before the day on which the municipal party holds a convention} partisan municipal primary ballot is similar to {nominate a candidate under this Subsection (4);} the ballot forms required by Section 20A-6-401 and, as applicable, Section 20A-6-401.1.
- 385 {(C)} (e) {is substantially similar to} After marking a municipal primary ballot, the {form of the signature sheets described in Section 20A-7-303; and} voter shall deposit the ballot in the blank ballot box.
- 387 {(D)} (f) {contains} Immediately after the {name of} canvass, the {municipal political party using not more than five words} election judges shall, without examination, destroy the tickets deposited in the blank ballot box.
- 389 {(iii)} (5)
- (a) {With} A voter who signs a petition under Subsection (4)(b)(ii) may have the voter's signature removed from the petition by, no later than 5 p.m. three business days after the day on which the {assistance of} petition is filed with the {county} city recorder or town clerk, submitting to the city recorder or town clerk {shall use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002 to determine whether each signer is a registered voter who is qualified to sign} a statement requesting that the {petition} voter's signature be removed.

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- 392 ~~{(e)}~~ (b)
~~{(i)}~~ If the number of candidates for a particular office does not exceed twice the number of offices to be filled at the regular municipal election, no primary election for that office } A statement described in Subsection (5)(a) shall ~~{be held and }~~ comply with the ~~{candidates are considered to be nominated}~~ requirements described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).
- 396 ~~{(ii)}~~ (c) ~~{If }~~ With the ~~{number of candidates for a particular office exceeds twice the number of offices to be filled at }~~ assistance of the county clerk and using the ~~{regular municipal election }~~ procedures described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(3), ~~{those candidates for municipal office }~~ the city recorder or town clerk shall ~~{be nominated at a municipal primary election }~~ determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a petition after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.
- 399 ~~{(d)}~~ ~~{The clerk shall ensure that the partisan municipal primary ballot is similar to the ballot forms required by Section 20A-6-401 and, as applicable, Section 20A-6-401.1. }~~
- 401 ~~{(e)}~~ ~~{After marking a municipal primary ballot, the voter shall deposit the ballot in the blank ballot box. }~~
- 403 ~~{(f)}~~ ~~{Immediately after the canvass, the election judges shall, without examination, destroy the tickets deposited in the blank ballot box. }~~
- 405 ~~{(5)}~~
~~{(a)}~~ ~~{A voter who signs a petition under Subsection (4)(b)(ii) may have the voter's signature removed from the petition by, no later than 5 p.m. three business days after the day on which the petition is filed with the city recorder or town clerk, submitting to the city recorder or town clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed. }~~
- 410 ~~{(b)}~~ ~~{A statement described in Subsection (5)(a) shall comply with the requirements described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2). }~~
- 412 ~~{(e)}~~ ~~With the assistance of the county clerk and using the procedures described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(3), the city recorder or town clerk shall determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a petition after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature. }~~
- 421 Section 4. **Effective date.**
Effective Date.
This bill takes effect on May 6, 2026.

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