

Senator Daniel W. Thatcher proposes the following substitute bill:

BALLOT AND VOTER INFORMATION AMENDMENTS

2020 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Daniel W. Thatcher

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions relating to ballots.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ removes a statement from the unaffiliated portion of the ballot.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

20A-6-301, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 274

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

Section 1. Section **20A-6-301** is amended to read:

20A-6-301. Paper ballots -- Regular general election.

(1) Each election officer shall ensure that:

(a) all paper ballots furnished for use at the regular general election contain:



- 26 (i) no captions or other endorsements except as provided in this section;
- 27 (ii) no symbols, markings, or other descriptions of a political party or group, except for
- 28 a registered political party that has chosen to nominate its candidates in accordance with
- 29 Section 20A-9-403; and
- 30 (iii) no indication that a candidate for elective office has been nominated by, or has
- 31 been endorsed by, or is in any way affiliated with a political party or group, unless the
- 32 candidate has been nominated by a registered political party in accordance with Subsection
- 33 20A-9-202(4) or Subsection 20A-9-403(5).
- 34 (b) immediately below the perforated ballot stub, the following endorsements are
- 35 printed in 18 point bold type:
- 36 (i) "Official Ballot for ____ County, Utah";
- 37 (ii) the date of the election; and
- 38 (iii) the words "Clerk of _____ County" or, as applicable, the name of a
- 39 combined office that includes the duties of a county clerk;
- 40 (c) the party name or title is printed in capital letters not less than one-fourth of an inch
- 41 high;
- 42 (d) unaffiliated candidates, candidates not affiliated with a registered political party,
- 43 and all other candidates for elective office who were not nominated by a registered political
- 44 party in accordance with Subsection 20A-9-202(4) or Subsection 20A-9-403(5), are listed with
- 45 the other candidates for the same office in accordance with Section 20A-6-305, without a party
- 46 name or title[, and with a mark referencing the following statement at the bottom of the ticket:
- 47 ~~"This candidate is not affiliated with, or does not qualify to be listed on the ballot as affiliated~~
- 48 ~~with, a political party."];~~
- 49 (e) each ticket containing the lists of candidates, including the party name and device,
- 50 are separated by heavy parallel lines;
- 51 (f) the offices to be filled are plainly printed immediately above the names of the
- 52 candidates for those offices;
- 53 (g) the names of candidates are printed in capital letters, not less than one-eighth nor
- 54 more than one-fourth of an inch high in heavy-faced type not smaller than 10 point, between
- 55 lines or rules three-eighths of an inch apart; and
- 56 (h) on a ticket for a race in which a voter is authorized to cast a write-in vote and in

57 which a write-in candidate is qualified under Section 20A-9-601:

58 (i) the ballot includes a space for a write-in candidate immediately following the last
59 candidate listed on that ticket; or

60 (ii) for the offices of president and vice president and governor and lieutenant
61 governor, the ballot includes two spaces for write-in candidates immediately following the last
62 candidates on that ticket, one placed above the other, to enable the entry of two valid write-in
63 candidates.

64 (2) Each election officer shall ensure that:

65 (a) each person nominated by any registered political party under Subsection
66 20A-9-202(4) or Subsection 20A-9-403(5), and no other person, is placed on the ballot:

67 (i) under the registered political party's name, if any; or

68 (ii) under the title of the registered political party as designated by them in their
69 certificates of nomination or petition, or, if none is designated, then under some suitable title;

70 (b) the names of all unaffiliated candidates that qualify as required in Title 20A,
71 Chapter 9, Part 5, Candidates not Affiliated with a Party, are placed on the ballot;

72 (c) the names of the candidates for president and vice president are used on the ballot
73 instead of the names of the presidential electors; and

74 (d) the ballots contain no other names.

75 (3) When the ballot contains a nonpartisan section, the election officer shall ensure
76 that:

77 (a) the designation of the office to be filled in the election and the number of
78 candidates to be elected are printed in type not smaller than eight point;

79 (b) the words designating the office are printed flush with the left-hand margin;

80 (c) the words, "Vote for one" or "Vote for up to ____ (the number of candidates for
81 which the voter may vote)" extend to the extreme right of the column;

82 (d) the nonpartisan candidates are grouped according to the office for which they are
83 candidates;

84 (e) the names in each group are placed in the order specified under Section 20A-6-305
85 with the surnames last; and

86 (f) each group is preceded by the designation of the office for which the candidates
87 seek election, and the words, "Vote for one" or "Vote for up to ____ (the number of

88 candidates for which the voter may vote)," according to the number to be elected.

89 (4) Each election officer shall ensure that:

90 (a) proposed amendments to the Utah Constitution are listed on the ballot in
91 accordance with Section [20A-6-107](#);

92 (b) ballot propositions submitted to the voters are listed on the ballot in accordance
93 with Section [20A-6-107](#); and

94 (c) bond propositions that have qualified for the ballot are listed on the ballot under the
95 title assigned to each bond proposition under Section [11-14-206](#).