

SB0170S02 compared with SB0170S01

~~text~~ shows text that was in SB0170S01 but was deleted in SB0170S02.

text shows text that was not in SB0170S01 but was inserted into SB0170S02.

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Senator Wayne A. Harper proposes the following substitute bill:

ELECTION SCHEDULE AMENDMENTS

2022 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

House Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions relating to the election schedule.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ modifies the deadlines by which a political party is required to provide certain notifications;
- ▶ modifies the period for filing a declaration of candidacy and a notice of intent to gather signatures;
- ▶ clarifies provisions relating to the residency requirement of a candidate; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

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Other Special Clauses:

This bill provides a special effective date.

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

20A-1-508, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapters 212, 255 and last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 212

20A-1-509.1, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 255

20A-8-402.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2019, Chapter 255

20A-9-101, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 344

20A-9-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapters 20 and 183

20A-9-406, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapters 22, 31, and 49

20A-9-407, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Second Special Session, Chapter 6

20A-9-408, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Second Special Session, Chapter 6

20A-9-502, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2018, Chapter 11

20A-9-503, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 22

20A-14-203, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2016, Chapter 16

ENACTS:

20A-9-201.5, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

Section 1. Section **20A-1-508** is amended to read:

20A-1-508. Midterm vacancies in county elected offices -- Temporary manager --

Interim replacement.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) (i) "County offices" includes the county executive, members of the county legislative body, the county treasurer, the county sheriff, the county clerk, the county auditor, the county recorder, the county surveyor, and the county assessor.

(ii) "County offices" does not include the office of county attorney, district attorney, or judge.

(b) "Party liaison" means the political party officer designated to serve as a liaison with each county legislative body on all matters relating to the political party's relationship with a

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county as required by Section 20A-8-401.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(d), until a county legislative body appoints an interim replacement to fill a vacant county office under Subsection (3), the following shall temporarily discharge the duties of the county office as a temporary manager:

(i) for a county office with one chief deputy, the chief deputy;

(ii) for a county office with more than one chief deputy:

(A) the chief deputy with the most cumulative time served as a chief deputy for the county office; or

(B) notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a)(ii)(A), if, before the vacating county officer vacates the office, the county officer files with the county clerk a written statement designating one of the county officer's chief deputies to discharge the duties of the county office in the event the county officer vacates the office, the designated chief deputy; or

(iii) for a county office without a chief deputy:

(A) if one management-level employee serving under the county office has a higher-seniority management level than any other employee serving under the county office, that management-level employee;

(B) if two or more management-level employees serving under the county office have the same and highest-seniority management level, the highest-seniority management-level employee with the most cumulative time served in the employee's current position; or

(C) notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a)(iii)(A) or (B), if, before the vacating county officer vacates the office, the county officer files with the county clerk a written statement designating one of the county officer's employees to discharge the county officer's duties in the event the county officer vacates the office, the designated employee.

(b) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(c), a temporary manager described in Subsection (2)(a) who temporarily discharges the duties of a county office holds the powers and duties of the county office until the county legislative body appoints an interim replacement under Subsection (3).

(c) The temporary manager described in Subsection (2)(a) who temporarily discharges the duties of a county office:

(i) may not take an oath of office for the county office as a temporary manager;

(ii) shall comply with Title 17, Chapter 36, Uniform Fiscal Procedures Act for

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Counties, and the county's budget ordinances and policies;

(iii) unless approved by the county legislative body, may not change the compensation of an employee;

(iv) unless approved by the county legislative body, may not promote or demote an employee or change an employee's job title;

(v) may terminate an employee only if the termination is conducted in accordance with:

(A) personnel rules described in Subsection 17-33-5(3) that are approved by the county legislative body; and

(B) applicable law;

(vi) unless approved by the county legislative body, may not exceed by more than 5% an expenditure that was planned before the county office for which the temporary manager discharges duties was vacated;

(vii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(c)(viii), may not receive a change in title or compensation; and

(viii) if approved by the county legislative body, may receive a performance award after:

(A) the county legislative body appoints an interim replacement under Subsection (3); and

(B) the interim replacement is sworn into office.

(d) This Subsection (2) does not apply to a vacancy in the office of county legislative body member.

(3) (a) Until a replacement is selected as provided in this section and has qualified, the county legislative body shall appoint an interim replacement to fill the vacant office by following the procedures and requirements of this Subsection (3).

(b) (i) To appoint an interim replacement, the county legislative body shall, within 10 days after the day on which the vacancy occurs, give notice of the vacancy to the party liaison of the same political party of the prior office holder and invite that party liaison to submit the name of an individual to fill the vacancy.

(ii) That party liaison shall, before 5 p.m. within 30 days after the day on which the liaison receives the notice described in Subsection (3)(b)(i), or if the party liaison does not receive the notice, before 5 p.m. within 40 days after the day on which the vacancy occurs,

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submit to the county legislative body the name of an individual the party selects in accordance with the party's constitution or bylaws to serve as the interim replacement.

(iii) The county legislative body shall, no later than five days after the day on which a party liaison submits the name of the individual to serve as the interim replacement, appoint the individual to serve out the unexpired term.

(c) (i) If the county legislative body fails to appoint an interim replacement to fill the vacancy in accordance with Subsection (3)(b)(iii), the county clerk shall, no later than five days after the day of the deadline described in Subsection (3)(b)(iii), send to the governor a letter that:

(A) informs the governor that the county legislative body has failed to appoint a replacement within the statutory time period; and

(B) contains the name of the individual submitted by the party liaison to fill the vacancy.

(ii) The governor shall, within 10 days after the day on which the governor receives the letter described in Subsection (3)(c)(i), appoint the individual named by the party liaison as an interim replacement to fill the vacancy.

(d) An individual appointed as interim replacement under this Subsection (3) shall hold office until a successor is elected and has qualified.

(4) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (4) apply to all county offices that become vacant if:

(i) the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more; and

(ii) the vacancy occurs after the election at which the officeholder was elected, but before the ~~[second Friday in March of the next even-numbered year]~~ first day of the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5.

(b) (i) When the conditions described in Subsection (4)(a) are met, the county clerk shall as soon as practicable, but no later than 180 days before the next regular general election, notify the public and each registered political party that the vacancy exists.

(ii) An individual intending to become a party candidate for the vacant office shall file a declaration of candidacy in accordance with:

(A) Chapter 9, Part 2, Candidate Qualifications and Declarations of Candidacy; and

(B) for a county commission office, Subsection 17-52a-201(6) or 17-52a-202(6), if

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applicable.

(iii) An individual who is nominated as a party candidate, who qualifies as an unaffiliated candidate for the vacant office under Chapter 9, Part 5, Candidates not Affiliated with a Party, or who qualifies as a write-in candidate for the vacant office under Chapter 9, Part 6, Write-in Candidates, shall run in the regular general election.

(5) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (5) apply to all county offices that become vacant if:

(i) the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more; and

(ii) the vacancy occurs on or after the [~~second Friday in March of the next even-numbered year~~] first day of the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5, but more than 75 days before the regular primary election.

(b) When the conditions described in Subsection (5)(a) are met, the county clerk shall as soon as practicable, but no later than 70 days before the next regular primary election, notify the public and each registered political party:

(i) that the vacancy exists; and

(ii) of the deadlines described in Subsection (5)(c)(i) and the deadlines established under Subsection (5)(d)(ii).

(c) (i) An individual intending to become a party candidate for a vacant office shall, within five days after the day on which the notice is given, ending at the close of normal office hours on the fifth day, file a declaration of candidacy for the vacant office in accordance with:

(A) Chapter 9, Part 2, Candidate Qualifications and Declarations of Candidacy; and

(B) for a county commission office, Subsection 17-52a-201(6) or 17-52a-202(6), if applicable.

(ii) The county central committee of each party shall:

(A) select a candidate or candidates from among those qualified candidates who have filed declarations of candidacy; and

(B) certify the name of the candidate or candidates to the county clerk as soon as practicable, but before 5 p.m. no later than 60 days before the day of the regular primary election.

(d) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (5)(d)(ii), an individual intending to become a candidate for a vacant office who does not wish to affiliate with a registered political party

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shall file a verified certificate of nomination described in Section 20A-9-502 with the county clerk in accordance with Chapter 9, Part 5, Candidates not Affiliated with a Party.

(ii) (A) The county clerk shall establish, in the clerk's reasonable discretion, a deadline that is before 5 p.m. no later than 65 days before the day of the next regular general election by which an individual who is not affiliated with a registered political party is required to submit a certificate of nomination under Subsection (5)(d)(i).

(B) The county clerk shall establish the deadline described in Subsection (5)(d)(ii)(A) in a manner that gives an unaffiliated candidate an equal opportunity to access the regular general election ballot.

(e) An individual who is nominated as a party candidate for the vacant office, who qualifies as an unaffiliated candidate for the vacant office under Chapter 9, Part 5, Candidates not Affiliated with a Party, or who qualifies as a write-in candidate for the vacant office under Chapter 9, Part 6, Write-in Candidates, shall run in the regular general election.

(6) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (6) apply to all county offices that become vacant:

(i) if the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more; and

(ii) when 75 days or less remain before the day of the regular primary election but more than 65 days remain before the day of the regular general election.

(b) When the conditions described in Subsection (6)(a) are met, the county clerk shall, as soon as practicable, notify the public and each registered political party:

(i) that the vacancy exists; and

(ii) of the deadlines established under Subsection (6)(d).

(c) (i) Before the deadline that the county clerk establishes under Subsection (6)(d)(i)(A), the county central committee of each registered political party that wishes to submit a candidate for the office shall certify the name of one candidate to the county clerk for placement on the regular general election ballot.

(ii) Before the deadline that the county clerk establishes under Subsection (6)(d)(i)(B), a candidate who does not wish to affiliate with a registered political party shall file a verified certificate of nomination described in Section 20A-9-502 with the county clerk in accordance with Chapter 9, Part 5, Candidates not Affiliated with a Party.

(iii) Before the deadline that the county clerk establishes under Subsection (6)(d)(i)(C),

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a write-in candidate shall submit to the county clerk a declaration of candidacy described in Section 20A-9-601.

(d) (i) The county clerk shall establish, in the clerk's reasonable discretion, deadlines that are before 5 p.m. no later than 65 days before the day of the next regular general election by which:

(A) a registered political party is required to certify a name under Subsection (6)(c)(i);

(B) an individual who does not wish to affiliate with a registered political party is required to submit a certificate of nomination under Subsection (6)(c)(ii); and

(C) a write-in candidate is required to submit a declaration of candidacy under Subsection (6)(c)(iii).

(ii) The county clerk shall establish deadlines under Subsection (6)(d)(i) in a manner that gives an unaffiliated candidate or a write-in candidate an equal opportunity to access the regular general election ballot.

(e) An individual who is certified as a party candidate for the vacant office, who qualifies as an unaffiliated candidate for the vacant office under Chapter 9, Part 5, Candidates not Affiliated with a Party, or who qualifies as a write-in candidate for the vacant office under Chapter 9, Part 6, Write-in Candidates, shall run in the regular general election.

(7) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (7) apply to all county offices that become vacant:

(i) if the vacant office has an unexpired term of less than two years; or

(ii) if the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more but 65 days or less remain before the day of the next regular general election.

(b) (i) When the conditions described in Subsection (7)(a) are met, the county legislative body shall as soon as practicable, but no later than 10 days after the day on which the vacancy occurs, give notice of the vacancy to the party liaison of the same political party as the prior office holder and invite that party liaison to submit the name of an individual to fill the vacancy.

(ii) That party liaison shall, before 5 p.m. within 30 days after the day on which the party liaison receives the notice described in Subsection (7)(b)(i), or if the party liaison does not receive the notice, before 5 p.m. no later than 40 days after the day on which the vacancy occurs, submit to the county legislative body the name of an individual to fill the vacancy.

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(iii) The county legislative body shall, no later than five days after the day on which a party liaison submits the name of the individual to fill the vacancy, appoint the individual to serve out the unexpired term.

(c) (i) If the county legislative body fails to appoint an individual to fill the vacancy in accordance with Subsection (7)(b)(iii), the county clerk shall send to the governor a letter that:

(A) informs the governor that the county legislative body has failed to appoint an individual to fill the vacancy within the statutory time period; and

(B) contains the name of the individual submitted by the party liaison to fill the vacancy.

(ii) The governor shall, within 10 days after the day on which the governor receives the letter described in Subsection (7)(c)(i), appoint the individual named by the party liaison to fill the vacancy.

(d) An individual appointed to fill the vacancy under this Subsection (7) shall hold office until a successor is elected and has qualified.

(8) Except as otherwise provided by law, the county legislative body may appoint replacements to fill all vacancies that occur in those offices filled by appointment of the county legislative body.

(9) Nothing in this section prohibits a candidate that does not wish to affiliate with a political party from filing a certificate of nomination for a vacant office within the same time limits as a candidate that is affiliated with a political party.

(10) (a) Each individual elected under Subsection (4), (5), or (6) to fill a vacancy in a county office shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of the individual who created the vacancy and until a successor is elected and qualified.

(b) Nothing in this section may be construed to contradict or alter the provisions of Section 17-16-6.

Section 2. Section **20A-1-509.1** is amended to read:

20A-1-509.1. Procedure for filling midterm vacancy in county or district with 15 or more attorneys.

(1) When a vacancy occurs in the office of county or district attorney in a county or district having 15 or more attorneys who are licensed active members in good standing with the Utah State Bar and registered voters, the vacancy shall be filled as provided in this section.

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(2) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (2) apply when the office of county attorney or district attorney becomes vacant and:

(i) the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more; and

(ii) the vacancy occurs before the ~~[third Thursday in March of the even-numbered year]~~ first day of the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5.

(b) When the conditions established in Subsection (2)(a) are met, the county clerk shall notify the public and each registered political party that the vacancy exists.

(c) All persons intending to become candidates for the vacant office shall:

(i) file a declaration of candidacy according to the procedures and requirements of Chapter 9, Part 2, Candidate Qualifications and Declarations of Candidacy;

(ii) if nominated as a party candidate or qualified as an independent or write-in candidate under Chapter 9, Candidate Qualifications and Nominating Procedures, run in the regular general election; and

(iii) if elected, complete the unexpired term of the person who created the vacancy.

(d) If the vacancy occurs ~~[after the second Friday in March and before the third Thursday in March,]~~ during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5:

(i) the time for filing a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-202 shall be extended until 5 p.m. seven days after the ~~[county clerk gives notice under Subsection (2)(b), but no later than 5 p.m. the fourth Thursday in March.]~~ last day of the filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

(ii) the county clerk shall notify the public and each registered political party that the vacancy exists.

(3) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (3) apply when the office of county attorney or district attorney becomes vacant and:

(i) the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more; and

(ii) the vacancy occurs after the third Thursday in March of the even-numbered year but more than 75 days before the regular primary election.

(b) When the conditions established in Subsection (3)(a) are met, the county clerk shall:

(i) notify the public and each registered political party that the vacancy exists; and

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(ii) identify the date and time by which a person interested in becoming a candidate shall file a declaration of candidacy.

(c) All persons intending to become candidates for the vacant office shall:

(i) before 5 p.m. within five days after the day on which the county clerk gives the notice described in Subsection (3)(b)(i), file a declaration of candidacy for the vacant office as required by Chapter 9, Part 2, Candidate Qualifications and Declarations of Candidacy; and

(ii) if elected, complete the unexpired term of the person who created the vacancy.

(d) The county central committee of each party shall:

(i) select a candidate or candidates from among those qualified candidates who have filed declarations of candidacy; and

(ii) certify the name of the candidate or candidates to the county clerk:

(A) before 5 p.m. no later than 60 days before the day of the regular primary election;

or

(B) electronically, before midnight no later than 60 days before the day of the regular primary election.

(4) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (4) apply when the office of county attorney or district attorney becomes vacant and:

(i) the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more; and

(ii) 75 days or less remain before the regular primary election but more than 65 days remain before the regular general election.

(b) When the conditions established in Subsection (4)(a) are met, the county central committees of each registered political party that wish to submit a candidate for the office shall, not later than five days after the day on which the vacancy occurs, certify the name of one candidate to the county clerk for placement on the regular general election ballot.

(c) The candidate elected shall complete the unexpired term of the person who created the vacancy.

(5) (a) The requirements of this Subsection (5) apply when the office of county attorney or district attorney becomes vacant and:

(i) the vacant office has an unexpired term of less than two years; or

(ii) the vacant office has an unexpired term of two years or more but 65 days or less remain before the next regular general election.

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(b) When the conditions established in Subsection (5)(a) are met, the county legislative body shall give notice of the vacancy to the county central committee of the same political party of the prior officeholder and invite that committee to submit the names of three nominees to fill the vacancy.

(c) That county central committee shall, within 30 days after the day on which the county legislative body gives the notice described in Subsection (5)(b), submit to the county legislative body the names of three nominees to fill the vacancy.

(d) The county legislative body shall, within 45 days after the vacancy occurs, appoint one of those nominees to serve out the unexpired term.

(e) If the county legislative body fails to appoint a person to fill the vacancy within 45 days, the county clerk shall send to the governor a letter that:

(i) informs the governor that the county legislative body has failed to appoint a person to fill the vacancy within the statutory time period; and

(ii) contains the list of nominees submitted by the party central committee.

(f) The governor shall appoint a person to fill the vacancy from that list of nominees within 30 days after receipt of the letter.

(g) A person appointed to fill the vacancy under this Subsection (5) shall complete the unexpired term of the person who created the vacancy.

(6) Nothing in this section prevents or prohibits independent candidates from filing a declaration of candidacy for the office within the required time limits.

Section 3. Section **20A-8-402.5** is amended to read:

20A-8-402.5. Notification of political convention dates.

(1) Before 5 p.m. no later than [~~February 15 of each even-numbered~~] the first Monday of October of each odd-numbered year, a registered political party shall notify the lieutenant governor of the dates of each political convention that will be held by the registered political party [~~that~~] the following year.

(2) If, after providing the notice described in Subsection (1), a registered political party changes the date of a political convention, the registered political party shall notify the lieutenant governor of the change before 5 p.m. no later than one business day after the day on which the registered political party makes the change.

Section 4. Section **20A-9-101** is amended to read:

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20A-9-101. Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

(1) (a) "Candidates for elective office" means persons who file a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-202 to run in a regular general election for a federal office, constitutional office, multicounty office, or county office.

(b) "Candidates for elective office" does not mean candidates for:

- (i) justice or judge of court of record or not of record;
- (ii) presidential elector;
- (iii) any political party offices; and
- (iv) municipal or local district offices.

(2) "Constitutional office" means the state offices of governor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, state auditor, and state treasurer.

(3) "Continuing political party" means the same as that term is defined in Section 20A-8-101.

(4) (a) "County office" means an elective office where the officeholder is selected by voters entirely within one county.

(b) "County office" does not mean:

- (i) the office of justice or judge of any court of record or not of record;
- (ii) the office of presidential elector;
- (iii) any political party offices;
- (iv) any municipal or local district offices; and
- (v) the office of United States Senator and United States Representative.

(5) "Federal office" means an elective office for United States Senator and United States Representative.

(6) "Filing officer" means:

(a) the lieutenant governor, for:

- (i) the office of United States Senator and United States Representative; and
- (ii) all constitutional offices;

(b) for the office of a state senator or state representative, the lieutenant governor or the applicable clerk described in Subsection (6)(c) or (d);

(c) the county clerk, for county offices and local school district offices;

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(d) the county clerk in the filer's county of residence, for multicounty offices;

(e) the city or town clerk, for municipal offices; or

(f) the local district clerk, for local district offices.

(7) "Local district office" means an elected office in a local district.

(8) "Local government office" includes county offices, municipal offices, and local district offices and other elective offices selected by the voters from a political division entirely within one county.

(9) (a) "Multicounty office" means an elective office where the officeholder is selected by the voters from more than one county.

(b) "Multicounty office" does not mean:

(i) a county office;

(ii) a federal office;

(iii) the office of justice or judge of any court of record or not of record;

(iv) the office of presidential elector;

(v) any political party offices; or

(vi) any municipal or local district offices.

(10) "Municipal office" means an elective office in a municipality.

(11) (a) "Political division" means a geographic unit from which an officeholder is elected and that an officeholder represents.

(b) "Political division" includes a county, a city, a town, a local district, a school district, a legislative district, and a county prosecution district.

(12) "Qualified political party" means a registered political party that:

(a) (i) permits a delegate for the registered political party to vote on a candidate nomination in the registered political party's convention remotely; or

(ii) provides a procedure for designating an alternate delegate if a delegate is not present at the registered political party's convention;

(b) does not hold the registered political party's convention before the fourth Saturday in March of an even-numbered year;

(c) permits a member of the registered political party to seek the registered political party's nomination for any elective office by the member choosing to seek the nomination by either or both of the following methods:

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(i) seeking the nomination through the registered political party's convention process, in accordance with the provisions of Section 20A-9-407; or

(ii) seeking the nomination by collecting signatures, in accordance with the provisions of Section 20A-9-408; and

(d) (i) if the registered political party is a continuing political party, no later than 5 p.m. on [~~September 30~~] the first Monday of October of an odd-numbered year, certifies to the lieutenant governor that, for the election in the following year, the registered political party intends to nominate the registered political party's candidates in accordance with the provisions of Section 20A-9-406; or

(ii) if the registered political party is not a continuing political party, certifies at the time that the registered political party files the petition described in Section 20A-8-103 that, for the next election, the registered political party intends to nominate the registered political party's candidates in accordance with the provisions of Section 20A-9-406.

Section 5. Section **20A-9-201** is amended to read:

20A-9-201. Declarations of candidacy -- Candidacy for more than one office or of more than one political party prohibited with exceptions -- General filing and form requirements -- Affidavit of impecuniosity.

(1) Before filing a declaration of candidacy for election to any office, an individual shall:

(a) be a United States citizen;

(b) meet the legal requirements of that office; and

(c) if seeking a registered political party's nomination as a candidate for elective office, state:

(i) the registered political party of which the individual is a member; or

(ii) that the individual is not a member of a registered political party.

(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), an individual may not:

(i) file a declaration of candidacy for, or be a candidate for, more than one office in Utah during any election year;

(ii) appear on the ballot as the candidate of more than one political party; or

(iii) file a declaration of candidacy for a registered political party of which the individual is not a member, except to the extent that the registered political party permits

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otherwise in the registered political party's bylaws.

(b) (i) An individual may file a declaration of candidacy for, or be a candidate for, president or vice president of the United States and another office, if the individual resigns the individual's candidacy for the other office after the individual is officially nominated for president or vice president of the United States.

(ii) An individual may file a declaration of candidacy for, or be a candidate for, more than one justice court judge office.

(iii) An individual may file a declaration of candidacy for lieutenant governor even if the individual filed a declaration of candidacy for another office in the same election year if the individual withdraws as a candidate for the other office in accordance with Subsection 20A-9-202(6) before filing the declaration of candidacy for lieutenant governor.

(3) (a) Except for a candidate for president or vice president of the United States, before the filing officer may accept any declaration of candidacy, the filing officer shall:

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

(ii) require the individual to state whether the individual meets the requirements described in Subsection (3)(a)(i);

(iii) if the declaration of candidacy is for a county office, inform the individual that an individual who holds a county elected office may not, at the same time, hold a municipal elected office; and

(iv) if the declaration of candidacy is for a legislative office, inform the individual that Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 6, prohibits a person who holds a public office of profit or trust, under authority of the United States or Utah, from being a member of the Legislature.

(b) Before accepting a declaration of candidacy for the office of county attorney, the county clerk shall ensure that the individual filing that declaration of candidacy is:

(i) a United States citizen;

(ii) an attorney licensed to practice law in the state who is an active member in good standing of the Utah State Bar;

(iii) a registered voter in the county in which the individual is seeking office; and

(iv) a current resident of the county in which the individual is seeking office and either has been a resident of that county for at least one year before the date of the election or was

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appointed and is currently serving as county attorney and became a resident of the county within 30 days after appointment to the office.

(c) Before accepting a declaration of candidacy for the office of district attorney, the county clerk shall ensure that, as of the date of the election, the individual filing that declaration of candidacy is:

(i) a United States citizen;

(ii) an attorney licensed to practice law in the state who is an active member in good standing of the Utah State Bar;

(iii) a registered voter in the prosecution district in which the individual is seeking office; and

(iv) a current resident of the prosecution district in which the individual is seeking office and either will have been a resident of that prosecution district for at least one year [~~as of~~] before the date of the election or was appointed and is currently serving as district attorney and became a resident of the prosecution district within 30 days after receiving appointment to the office.

(d) Before accepting a declaration of candidacy for the office of county sheriff, the county clerk shall ensure that the individual filing the declaration:

(i) is a United States citizen;

(ii) is a registered voter in the county in which the individual seeks office;

(iii) (A) has successfully met the standards and training requirements established for law enforcement officers under Title 53, Chapter 6, Part 2, Peace Officer Training and Certification Act; or

(B) has met the waiver requirements in Section 53-6-206;

(iv) is qualified to be certified as a law enforcement officer, as defined in Section 53-13-103; and

(v) [~~as of~~] before the date of the election, will have been a resident of the county in which the individual seeks office for at least one year.

(e) Before accepting a declaration of candidacy for the office of governor, lieutenant governor, state auditor, state treasurer, attorney general, state legislator, or State Board of Education member, the filing officer shall ensure that the individual filing the declaration of candidacy also makes the conflict of interest disclosure described in Section 20A-11-1603.

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(4) If an individual who files a declaration of candidacy does not meet the qualification requirements for the office the individual is seeking, the filing officer may not accept the individual's declaration of candidacy.

(5) If an individual who files a declaration of candidacy meets the requirements described in Subsection (3), the filing officer shall:

(a) inform the individual that:

(i) the individual's name will appear on the ballot as the individual's name is written on the individual's declaration of candidacy;

(ii) the individual may be required to comply with state or local campaign finance disclosure laws; and

(iii) the individual is required to file a financial statement before the individual's political convention under:

(A) Section 20A-11-204 for a candidate for constitutional office;

(B) Section 20A-11-303 for a candidate for the Legislature; or

(C) local campaign finance disclosure laws, if applicable;

(b) except for a presidential candidate, provide the individual with a copy of the current campaign financial disclosure laws for the office the individual is seeking and inform the individual that failure to comply will result in disqualification as a candidate and removal of the individual's name from the ballot;

(c) provide the individual with a copy of Section 20A-7-801 regarding the Statewide Electronic Voter Information Website Program and inform the individual of the submission deadline under Subsection 20A-7-801(4)(a);

(d) provide the candidate with a copy of the pledge of fair campaign practices described under Section 20A-9-206 and inform the candidate that:

(i) signing the pledge is voluntary; and

(ii) signed pledges shall be filed with the filing officer;

(e) accept the individual's declaration of candidacy; and

(f) if the individual has filed for a partisan office, provide a certified copy of the declaration of candidacy to the chair of the county or state political party of which the individual is a member.

(6) If the candidate elects to sign the pledge of fair campaign practices, the filing

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officer shall:

(a) accept the candidate's pledge; and

(b) if the candidate has filed for a partisan office, provide a certified copy of the candidate's pledge to the chair of the county or state political party of which the candidate is a member.

(7) (a) Except for a candidate for president or vice president of the United States, the form of the declaration of candidacy shall:

(i) be substantially as follows:

"State of Utah, County of _____

I, _____, declare my candidacy for the office of _____, seeking the nomination of the _____ party. I do solemnly swear, under penalty of perjury, that: I will meet the qualifications to hold the office, both legally and constitutionally, if selected; I reside at _____ in the City or Town of _____, Utah, Zip Code _____ Phone No. _____; I will not knowingly violate any law governing campaigns and elections; if filing via a designated agent, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate filing period; I will file all campaign financial disclosure reports as required by law; and I understand that failure to do so will result in my disqualification as a candidate for this office and removal of my name from the ballot. The mailing address that I designate for receiving official election notices is _____.

Subscribed and sworn before me this _____ (month\day\year).

Notary Public (or other officer qualified to administer oath)."; and

(ii) require the candidate to state, in the sworn statement described in Subsection

(7)(a)(i):

(A) the registered political party of which the candidate is a member; or

(B) that the candidate is not a member of a registered political party.

(b) An agent designated under Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(c) to file a declaration of candidacy may not sign the form described in Subsection (7)(a) or Section 20A-9-408.5.

(8) (a) Except for a candidate for president or vice president of the United States, the fee for filing a declaration of candidacy is:

(i) \$50 for candidates for the local school district board; and

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(ii) \$50 plus 1/8 of 1% of the total salary for the full term of office legally paid to the person holding the office for all other federal, state, and county offices.

(b) Except for presidential candidates, the filing officer shall refund the filing fee to any candidate:

(i) who is disqualified; or

(ii) who the filing officer determines has filed improperly.

(c) (i) The county clerk shall immediately pay to the county treasurer all fees received from candidates.

(ii) The lieutenant governor shall:

(A) apportion to and pay to the county treasurers of the various counties all fees received for filing of nomination certificates or acceptances; and

(B) ensure that each county receives that proportion of the total amount paid to the lieutenant governor from the congressional district that the total vote of that county for all candidates for representative in Congress bears to the total vote of all counties within the congressional district for all candidates for representative in Congress.

(d) (i) A person who is unable to pay the filing fee may file a declaration of candidacy without payment of the filing fee upon a prima facie showing of impecuniosity as evidenced by an affidavit of impecuniosity filed with the filing officer and, if requested by the filing officer, a financial statement filed at the time the affidavit is submitted.

(ii) A person who is able to pay the filing fee may not claim impecuniosity.

(iii) (A) False statements made on an affidavit of impecuniosity or a financial statement filed under this section shall be subject to the criminal penalties provided under Sections 76-8-503 and 76-8-504 and any other applicable criminal provision.

(B) Conviction of a criminal offense under Subsection (8)(d)(iii)(A) shall be considered an offense under this title for the purposes of assessing the penalties provided in Subsection 20A-1-609(2).

(iv) The filing officer shall ensure that the affidavit of impecuniosity is printed in substantially the following form:

"Affidavit of Impecuniosity

Individual Name

Address

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Phone Number _____

I, _____ (name), do solemnly [swear] [affirm], under penalty of law for false statements, that, owing to my poverty, I am unable to pay the filing fee required by law.

Date _____ Signature _____

Affiant

Subscribed and sworn to before me on _____ (month\day\year)

(signature)

Name and Title of Officer Authorized to Administer Oath _____".

(v) The filing officer shall provide to a person who requests an affidavit of impecuniosity a statement printed in substantially the following form, which may be included on the affidavit of impecuniosity:

"Filing a false statement is a criminal offense. In accordance with Section 20A-1-609, a candidate who is found guilty of filing a false statement, in addition to being subject to criminal penalties, will be removed from the ballot."

(vi) The filing officer may request that a person who makes a claim of impecuniosity under this Subsection (8)(d) file a financial statement on a form prepared by the election official.

(9) An individual who fails to file a declaration of candidacy or certificate of nomination within the time provided in this chapter is ineligible for nomination to office.

(10) A declaration of candidacy filed under this section may not be amended or modified after the final date established for filing a declaration of candidacy.

Section 6. Section **20A-9-201.5** is enacted to read:

20A-9-201.5. Declaration of candidacy filing period for a qualified political party.

(1) In 2022, for a qualified political party, the filing period to file a declaration of candidacy for an elective office that is to be filled at the next regular general election begins at 8 a.m. on February 28, 2022, and ends at 5 p.m. on March 4, 2022.

(2) Beginning on January 1, 2024, for a qualified political party, the filing period to file a declaration of candidacy for an elective office that is to be filled at the next regular general election:

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(a) begins the later of:

(i) January 2 of the year in which the next regular general election is held; or

(ii) if January 2 is on a weekend, the first business day after January 2; and

(b) ends at 5 p.m. on the fourth business day after the day on which the filing period begins.

Section 7. Section **20A-9-406** is amended to read:

20A-9-406. Qualified political party -- Requirements and exemptions.

The following provisions apply to a qualified political party:

(1) the qualified political party shall, no later than 5 p.m. on [~~November 30~~] the first Monday of October of each odd-numbered year, certify to the lieutenant governor the identity of one or more registered political parties whose members may vote for the qualified political party's candidates and whether unaffiliated voters may vote for the qualified political party's candidates;

(2) the following provisions do not apply to a nomination for the qualified political party:

(a) Subsections 20A-9-403(1) through (3)(b) and (3)(d) through (4)(a);

(b) Subsection 20A-9-403(5)(c); and

(c) Section 20A-9-405;

(3) an individual may only seek the nomination of the qualified political party by using a method described in Section 20A-9-407, Section 20A-9-408, or both;

(4) the qualified political party shall comply with the provisions of Sections 20A-9-407, 20A-9-408, and 20A-9-409;

(5) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-6-301(1)(a), (1)(e), or (2)(a), each election officer shall ensure that a ballot described in Section 20A-6-301 includes each individual nominated by a qualified political party:

(a) under the qualified political party's name, if any; or

(b) under the title of the qualified registered political party as designated by the qualified political party in the certification described in Subsection (1), or, if none is designated, then under some suitable title;

(6) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-6-302(1)(a), each election officer shall ensure, for ballots in regular general elections, that each candidate who is nominated by the qualified

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political party is listed by party;

(7) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-6-304(1)(e), each election officer shall ensure that the party designation of each candidate who is nominated by the qualified political party is displayed adjacent to the candidate's name on a mechanical ballot;

(8) "candidates for elective office," defined in Subsection 20A-9-101(1)(a), also includes an individual who files a declaration of candidacy under Section 20A-9-407 or 20A-9-408 to run in a regular general election for a federal office, constitutional office, multicounty office, or county office;

(9) an individual who is nominated by, or seeking the nomination of, the qualified political party is not required to comply with Subsection 20A-9-201(1)(c);

(10) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-403(3), the qualified political party is entitled to have each of the qualified political party's candidates for elective office appear on the primary ballot of the qualified political party with an indication that each candidate is a candidate for the qualified political party;

(11) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-403(4)(a), the lieutenant governor shall include on the list provided by the lieutenant governor to the county clerks:

(a) the names of all candidates of the qualified political party for federal, constitutional, multicounty, and county offices; and

(b) the names of unopposed candidates for elective office who have been nominated by the qualified political party and instruct the county clerks to exclude such candidates from the primary-election ballot;

(12) notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-403(5)(c), a candidate who is unopposed for an elective office in the regular primary election of the qualified political party is nominated by the party for that office without appearing on the primary ballot; and

(13) notwithstanding the provisions of Subsections 20A-9-403(1) and (2) and Section 20A-9-405, the qualified political party is entitled to have the names of its candidates for elective office featured with party affiliation on the ballot at a regular general election.

Section 8. Section **20A-9-407** is amended to read:

20A-9-407. Convention process to seek the nomination of a qualified political party.

(1) This section describes the requirements for a member of a qualified political party

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who is seeking the nomination of a qualified political party for an elective office through the qualified political party's convention process.

(2) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-201(7)(a), the form of the declaration of candidacy for a member of a qualified political party who is nominated by, or who is seeking the nomination of, the qualified political party under this section shall be substantially as described in Section 20A-9-408.5.

(3) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(a), and except as provided in Subsection 20A-9-202(4), a member of a qualified political party who, under this section, is seeking the nomination of the qualified political party for an elective office that is to be filled at the next general election, shall:

(a) except as provided in Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(c), file a declaration of candidacy in person with the filing officer~~[:]~~ during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

~~[(i) on or after 48 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

~~[(ii) before 5 p.m. 52 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

(b) pay the filing fee.

(4) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-202(2)(a), a member of a qualified political party who, under this section, is seeking the nomination of the qualified political party for the office of district attorney within a multicounty prosecution district that is to be filled at the next general election shall:

(a) file a declaration of candidacy with the county clerk designated in the interlocal agreement creating the prosecution district~~[:]~~ during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

~~[(i) on or after 48 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

~~[(ii) before 5 p.m. 52 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

(b) pay the filing fee.

(5) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-202(3)(a)(iii), a lieutenant governor candidate

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who files as the joint-ticket running mate of an individual who is nominated by a qualified political party, under this section, for the office of governor shall, ~~[before the deadline described in Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(b)]~~ during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5, file a declaration of candidacy and submit a letter from the candidate for governor that names the lieutenant governor candidate as a joint-ticket running mate.

(6) (a) A qualified political party that nominates a candidate under this section shall certify the name of the candidate to the lieutenant governor before the deadline described in Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(b).

(b) The lieutenant governor shall include, in the primary ballot certification or, for a race where a primary is not held because the candidate is unopposed, in the general election ballot certification, the name of each candidate nominated by a qualified political party under this section.

(7) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-701(2), the ballot shall, for each candidate who is nominated by a qualified political party under this section, designate the qualified political party that nominated the candidate.

Section 9. Section **20A-9-408** is amended to read:

20A-9-408. Signature-gathering process to seek the nomination of a qualified political party.

(1) This section describes the requirements for a member of a qualified political party who is seeking the nomination of the qualified political party for an elective office through the signature-gathering process described in this section.

(2) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-201(7)(a), the form of the declaration of candidacy for a member of a qualified political party who is nominated by, or who is seeking the nomination of, the qualified political party under this section shall be substantially as described in Section 20A-9-408.5.

(3) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(a), and except as provided in Subsection 20A-9-202(4), a member of a qualified political party who, under this section, is seeking the nomination of the qualified political party for an elective office that is to be filled at the next general election shall:

~~[(a) within the period beginning on January 1 before the next regular general election~~

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and ending at 5 p.m. 52 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201]

(a) during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5, and before gathering signatures under this section, file with the filing officer on a form approved by the lieutenant governor a notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy that includes:

(i) the name of the member who will attempt to become a candidate for a registered political party under this section;

(ii) the name of the registered political party for which the member is seeking nomination;

(iii) the office for which the member is seeking to become a candidate;

(iv) the address and telephone number of the member; and

(v) other information required by the lieutenant governor;

(b) except as provided in Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(c), file a declaration of candidacy, in person, with the filing officer[?] during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

~~[(i) on or after 48 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

~~[(ii) before 5 p.m. 52 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

(c) pay the filing fee.

(4) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-202(2)(a), a member of a qualified political party who, under this section, is seeking the nomination of the qualified political party for the office of district attorney within a multicounty prosecution district that is to be filled at the next general election shall:

~~[(a) on or after January 1 before the next regular general election]~~

(a) ~~+~~ during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5, and before gathering signatures under this section, file with the filing officer on a form approved by the lieutenant governor a notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy that includes:

(i) the name of the member who will attempt to become a candidate for a registered

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political party under this section;

(ii) the name of the registered political party for which the member is seeking nomination;

(iii) the office for which the member is seeking to become a candidate;

(iv) the address and telephone number of the member; and

(v) other information required by the lieutenant governor;

(b) except as provided in Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(c), file a declaration of candidacy, in person, with the filing officer[?] during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

~~[(i) on or after 48 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

~~[(ii) before 5 p.m. 52 days after the day on which the Legislature's general session begins, as provided in Section 36-3-201; and]~~

(c) pay the filing fee.

(5) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-202(3)(a)(iii), a lieutenant governor candidate who files as the joint-ticket running mate of an individual who is nominated by a qualified political party, under this section, for the office of governor shall, ~~[before the deadline described in Subsection 20A-9-202(1)(b)]~~ during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5, file a declaration of candidacy and submit a letter from the candidate for governor that names the lieutenant governor candidate as a joint-ticket running mate.

(6) The lieutenant governor shall ensure that the certification described in Subsection 20A-9-701(1) also includes the name of each candidate nominated by a qualified political party under this section.

(7) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-9-701(2), the ballot shall, for each candidate who is nominated by a qualified political party under this section, designate the qualified political party that nominated the candidate.

(8) A member of a qualified political party may seek the nomination of the qualified political party for an elective office by:

(a) complying with the requirements described in this section; and

(b) collecting signatures, on a form approved by the lieutenant governor, during the

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period beginning on [~~January 1 of an even-numbered year~~] the day on which the member files a notice of intent to gather signatures and ending at 5 p.m. 14 days before the day on which the qualified political party's convention for the office is held, in the following amounts:

(i) for a statewide race, 28,000 signatures of registered voters in the state who are permitted by the qualified political party to vote for the qualified political party's candidates in a primary election;

(ii) for a congressional district race, 7,000 signatures of registered voters who are residents of the congressional district and are permitted by the qualified political party to vote for the qualified political party's candidates in a primary election;

(iii) for a state Senate district race, 2,000 signatures of registered voters who are residents of the state Senate district and are permitted by the qualified political party to vote for the qualified political party's candidates in a primary election;

(iv) for a state House district race, 1,000 signatures of registered voters who are residents of the state House district and are permitted by the qualified political party to vote for the qualified political party's candidates in a primary election;

(v) for a State Board of Education race, the lesser of:

(A) 2,000 signatures of registered voters who are residents of the State Board of Education district and are permitted by the qualified political party to vote for the qualified political party's candidates in a primary election; or

(B) 3% of the registered voters of the qualified political party who are residents of the applicable State Board of Education district; and

(vi) for a county office race, signatures of 3% of the registered voters who are residents of the area permitted to vote for the county office and are permitted by the qualified political party to vote for the qualified political party's candidates in a primary election.

(9) (a) In order for a member of the qualified political party to qualify as a candidate for the qualified political party's nomination for an elective office under this section, the member shall:

(i) collect the signatures on a form approved by the lieutenant governor, using the same circulation and verification requirements described in Sections 20A-7-204 and 20A-7-205; and

(ii) submit the signatures to the election officer before 5 p.m. no later than 14 days before the day on which the qualified political party holds the party's convention to select

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candidates, for the elective office, for the qualified political party's nomination.

(b) An individual may not gather signatures under this section until after the individual files a notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy described in this section.

(c) An individual who files a notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy, described in Subsection (3)(a) or (4)(a), is, beginning on the day on which the individual files the notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy:

(i) required to comply with the reporting requirements that a candidate for office is required to comply with; and

(ii) subject to the same enforcement provisions, and civil and criminal penalties, that apply to a candidate for office in relation to the reporting requirements described in Subsection (9)(c)(i).

(d) Upon timely receipt of the signatures described in Subsections (8) and (9)(a), the election officer shall, no later than the earlier of 14 days after the day on which the election officer receives the signatures, or one day before the day on which the qualified political party holds the convention to select a nominee for the elective office to which the signature packets relate:

(i) check the name of each individual who completes the verification for a signature packet to determine whether each individual is a resident of Utah and is at least 18 years old;

(ii) submit the name of each individual described in Subsection (9)(d)(i) who is not a Utah resident or who is not at least 18 years old to the attorney general and the county attorney;

(iii) determine whether each signer is a registered voter who is qualified to sign the petition, using the same method, described in Section 20A-7-206.3, used to verify a signature on a petition; and

(iv) certify whether each name is that of a registered voter who is qualified to sign the signature packet.

(e) Upon timely receipt of the signatures described in Subsections (8) and (9)(a), the election officer shall, no later than one day before the day on which the qualified political party holds the convention to select a nominee for the elective office to which the signature packets relate, notify the qualified political party and the lieutenant governor of the name of each member of the qualified political party who qualifies as a nominee of the qualified political party, under this section, for the elective office to which the convention relates.

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(f) Upon receipt of a notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy described in this section, the lieutenant governor shall post the notice of intent to gather signatures for candidacy on the lieutenant governor's website in the same location that the lieutenant governor posts a declaration of candidacy.

Section 10. Section **20A-9-502** is amended to read:

20A-9-502. Certificate of nomination -- Contents -- Circulation -- Verification -- Criminal penalty.

(1) The candidate shall:

(a) prepare a certificate of nomination in substantially the following form:

"State of Utah, County of _____

I, _____, declare my intention of becoming an unaffiliated candidate for the political group designated as ____ for the office of ____ . I do solemnly swear that I can qualify to hold that office both legally and constitutionally if selected, and that I reside at ____ Street, in the city of ____, county of ____, state of _____, zip code ____, phone ____, and that I am providing, or have provided, the required number of holographic signatures of registered voters required by law; that as a candidate at the next election I will not knowingly violate any election or campaign law; that, if filing via a designated agent for an office other than president of the United States, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate filing period; I will file all campaign financial disclosure reports as required by law; and I understand that failure to do so will result in my disqualification as a candidate for this office and removal of my name from the ballot.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this _____ (month\day\year).

Notary Public (or other officer
qualified to administer oaths)";

(b) bind signature sheets to the certificate that:

(i) are printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

(ii) are ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

(iii) contain the name of the proposed candidate and the words "Unaffiliated Candidate

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Certificate of Nomination Petition" printed directly below the horizontal line;

(iv) contain the word "Warning" printed directly under the words described in Subsection (1)(b)(iii);

(v) contain, to the right of the word "Warning," the following statement printed in not less than eight-point, single leaded type:

"It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a certificate of nomination signature sheet with any name other than the person's own name or more than once for the same candidate or if the person is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to become registered to vote in this state before the county clerk certifies the signatures.";

(vi) contain the following statement directly under the statement described in Subsection (1)(b)(v):

"Each signer says:

I have personally signed this petition with a holographic signature;

I am registered to vote in Utah or intend to become registered to vote in Utah before the county clerk certifies my signature; and

My street address is written correctly after my name.";

(vii) contain horizontally ruled lines, 3/8 inch apart under the statement described in Subsection (1)(b)(vi); and

(viii) be vertically divided into columns as follows:

(A) the first column shall appear at the extreme left of the sheet, be 5/8 inch wide, be headed with "For Office Use Only," and be subdivided with a light vertical line down the middle;

(B) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)";

(C) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Holographic Signature of Registered Voter";

(D) the next column shall be one inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age (Optional)";

(E) the final column shall be 4-3/8 inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip Code"; and

(F) at the bottom of the sheet, contain the following statement: "Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with voter registration

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records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be certified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are certified or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records."; and

(c) bind a final page to one or more signature sheets that are bound together that contains, except as provided by Subsection (3), the following printed statement:

"Verification

State of Utah, County of _____

I, _____, of _____, hereby state that:

I am a Utah resident and am at least 18 years old;

All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were signed by persons who professed to be the persons whose names appear on the signature sheets, and each of them signed the person's name on the signature sheets in my presence;

I believe that each has printed and signed the person's name and written the person's street address correctly, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah or will register to vote in Utah before the county clerk certifies the signatures on the signature sheet.

(Signature)

(Residence Address)

(Date)".

(2) An agent designated to file a certificate of nomination under Subsection 20A-9-503[(+)](2)(b) may not sign the form described in Subsection (1)(a).

(3) (a) The candidate shall circulate the nomination petition and ensure that the person in whose presence each signature sheet is signed:

(i) is at least 18 years old;

(ii) except as provided by Subsection (3)(b), meets the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

(iii) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification bound to one or more signature sheets that are bound together.

(b) A person who is not a resident may sign the verification on a petition for an unaffiliated candidate for the office of president of the United States.

(c) A person may not sign the verification if the person signed a signature sheet bound to the verification.

(4) (a) It is unlawful for any person to:

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- (i) knowingly sign a certificate of nomination signature sheet:
 - (A) with any name other than the person's own name;
 - (B) more than once for the same candidate; or
 - (C) if the person is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to become registered to vote in this state before the county clerk certifies the signatures; or
- (ii) sign the verification of a certificate of nomination signature sheet if the person:
 - (A) except as provided by Subsection (3)(b), does not meet the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105;
 - (B) has not witnessed the signing by those persons whose names appear on the certificate of nomination signature sheet; or
 - (C) knows that a person whose signature appears on the certificate of nomination signature sheet is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to become registered to vote in this state.
- (b) Any person violating this Subsection (4) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- (5) (a) The candidate shall submit the petition and signature sheets to the county clerk for certification when the petition has been completed by:
 - (i) at least 1,000 registered voters residing within the state when the nomination is for an office to be filled by the voters of the entire state; or
 - (ii) at least 300 registered voters residing within a political division or at least 5% of the registered voters residing within a political division, whichever is less, when the nomination is for an office to be filled by the voters of any political division smaller than the state.
- (b) In reviewing the petition, the county clerk shall count and certify only those persons who signed the petition with a holographic signature who:
 - (i) are registered voters within the political division that the candidate seeks to represent; and
 - (ii) did not sign any other certificate of nomination for that office.
- (c) The candidate may supplement or amend the certificate of nomination at any time on or before the filing deadline.

Section 11. Section **20A-9-503** is amended to read:

20A-9-503. Certificate of nomination -- Filing -- Fees.

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(1) ~~[(a)]~~ Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), after the certificate of nomination has been certified, executed, and acknowledged by the county clerk, the candidate shall:

~~[(i) between the second Friday in March and the close of normal office hours on the third Thursday in March of the year in which the regular general election will be held.]~~

~~[(A)]~~ (a) (i) file the petition in person with the lieutenant governor, if the office the candidate seeks is a constitutional office or a federal office, or the county clerk, if the office the candidate seeks is a county office, during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

~~[(B)]~~ (ii) pay the filing fee; or

~~[(ii)]~~ (b) not later than the close of normal office hours on June 15 of any odd-numbered year:

~~[(A)]~~ (i) file the petition in person with the municipal clerk, if the candidate seeks an office in a city or town, or the local district clerk, if the candidate seeks an office in a local district; and

~~[(B)]~~ (ii) pay the filing fee.

~~[(b)-(i)]~~ (2) (a) The provisions of this Subsection ~~[(1)(b)]~~ (2) do not apply to an individual who files a declaration of candidacy for president of the United States.

~~[(ii)]~~ (b) Subject to Subsections ~~[(3)]~~ (4)(c) and 20A-9-502(2), an individual may designate an agent to file a declaration of candidacy with the appropriate filing officer if:

~~[(A)]~~ (i) the individual is located outside of the state during the entire filing period;

~~[(B)]~~ (ii) the designated agent appears in person before the filing officer; and

~~[(C)]~~ (iii) the individual communicates with the filing officer using an electronic device that allows the individual and filing officer to see and hear each other.

~~[(2)]~~ (3) (a) At the time of filing, and before accepting the petition, the filing officer shall read the constitutional and statutory requirements for candidacy to the candidate.

(b) If the candidate states that he does not meet the requirements, the filing officer may not accept the petition.

~~[(3)]~~ (4) (a) An individual filing a certificate of nomination for president or vice president of the United States under this section shall pay a filing fee of \$500.

(b) Notwithstanding Subsection (1), ~~[a person]~~ an individual filing a certificate of nomination for president or vice president of the United States:

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(i) may file the certificate of nomination [~~between the second Friday in March and the close of normal office hours on August 15 of the year in which the regular general election will be held~~] during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5;
and

(ii) may use a designated agent to file the certificate of nomination.

(c) An agent designated under Subsection [~~(1)(b)(ii)~~] (2) or described in Subsection [~~(3)~~] (4)(b)(ii) may not sign the certificate of nomination form.

Section 12. Section **20A-14-203** is amended to read:

20A-14-203. Becoming a member of a local board of education -- Declaration of candidacy -- Election.

(1) An individual may become a candidate for a local school board by:

~~[(a) (i) in the 2016 general election, by filing a declaration of candidacy with the county clerk, in accordance with Section 20A-9-202, before 5 p.m. on March 17, 2016; or]~~

~~[(ii) in a general election held after 2016, by filing a declaration of candidacy with the county clerk on or after the second Friday in March, and before 5 p.m. on the third Thursday in March, before the next regular general election; and]~~

(a) filing a declaration of candidacy with the county clerk during the declaration of candidacy filing period described in Section 20A-9-201.5; and

(b) [~~by~~] paying the fee described in Section 20A-9-202.

(2) (a) The term of office for an individual elected to a local board of education is four years, beginning on the first Monday in January after the election.

(b) A member of a local board of education shall serve until a successor is elected or appointed and qualified.

(c) A member of a local board of education is "qualified" when the member takes or signs the constitutional oath of office.

Section 13. **Effective date.**

If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect
~~upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution, Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.~~

on February 28, 2022.

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