

HB0365S01 compared with HB0365

~~text~~ shows text that was in HB0365 but was deleted in HB0365S01.

text shows text that was not in HB0365 but was inserted into HB0365S01.

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Representative Jordan D. Teuscher proposes the following substitute bill:

VOTER AFFILIATION AMENDMENTS

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jordan D. Teuscher

Senate Sponsor: _____

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill ~~amends the deadline for a voter to change political~~addresses voting in primary elections, and changing party affiliation, for an election held in an even-numbered year.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms;
- ▶ amends the deadline by which a voter may change the voter's political party affiliation for an election held in an even-numbered year;
- ▶ prohibits voting in the primary elections of multiple registered political parties for the same election; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

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Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

20A-2-107, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 170

REPEALS AND REENACTS:

20A-2-107.5, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 430

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

Section 1. Section **20A-2-107** is amended to read:

20A-2-107. Designating or changing party affiliation -- Times permitted.

(1) As used in this section, "change of affiliation deadline" means:

(a) for an election held in an even-numbered year in which a presidential election will be held, the day after the declaration of candidacy deadline described in Subsection 20A-9-201.5(2)(b); or

(b) for an election held in an even-numbered year in which a presidential election will not be held, April 1.

~~[(1)]~~ (2) The county clerk shall:

(a) except as provided in Subsection ~~[(3)]~~ 1(6) or ~~[20A-2-107.5(1)(c)]~~ ~~[(6) or~~ 20A-2-107.5(3), record the party affiliation designated by the voter on the voter registration form as the voter's party affiliation; or

(b) if no political party affiliation is designated by the voter on the voter registration form:

(i) except as provided in Subsection ~~[(1)(b)(ii)]~~ (2)(b)(ii), record the voter's party affiliation as the party that the voter designated the last time that the voter designated a party on a voter registration form, unless the voter more recently registered as "unaffiliated"; or

(ii) record the voter's party affiliation as "unaffiliated" if the voter:

(A) did not previously designate a party;

(B) most recently designated the voter's party affiliation as "unaffiliated"; or

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(C) did not previously register.

~~[(2)]~~ (3) (a) Any registered voter may designate or change the voter's political party affiliation by complying with the procedures and requirements of this Subsection ~~[(2)]~~ (3).

(b) A registered voter may designate or change the voter's political party affiliation by filing with the county clerk, the municipal clerk, or the lieutenant governor a voter registration form or another signed form ~~[with the county clerk]~~ that identifies the registered political party with which the voter chooses to affiliate.

(c) Except as provided in Subsection ~~[(2)(d)]~~ (3)(d), a voter registration form or another signed form designating or changing a voter's political party affiliation takes effect when the county clerk receives the signed form.

(d) The party affiliation of a voter who changes party affiliation, or who becomes unaffiliated from a political party, at any time on or after the change of affiliation deadline and on or before the date of the regular primary election, takes effect the day after the statewide canvass for the regular primary election.

~~[(d) In an even-numbered year, a form described in Subsection (2)(c) received by the county clerk after March 31 takes effect on the day after that year's regular primary election if the form changes a registered voter's affiliation with one political party to affiliate with another political party.]~~

~~[(e) Any part of a form described in Subsection (2)(d), other than the voter's designation or change of political party affiliation, takes effect when the county clerk receives the signed form.]~~

~~[(f)]~~ (4) For purposes of Subsection ~~[(2)(d)]~~ (3)(d), a ~~[signed]~~ form described in Subsection ~~[(2)(c)]~~ (3)(c) is received by the county clerk ~~[on or before March 31]~~ before the change of affiliation deadline if:

~~[(i)]~~ (a) the individual submits the form in person at the county clerk's office no later than 5 p.m. on the ~~[last business day before April 1]~~ day before the change of affiliation deadline;

~~[(ii)]~~ (b) the individual submits the form electronically through the system described in Section 20A-2-206, at or before 11:59 p.m. ~~[on March 31]~~ before the day of the change of affiliation deadline; or

~~[(iii)]~~ (c) the individual's form is clearly postmarked ~~[on or before March 31]~~ before

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the change of affiliation deadline.

~~[(g)]~~ (5) Subsection ~~[(2)(d)]~~ (3)(d) does not apply to the party affiliation designated by a voter on ~~[the]~~ a voter registration form if:

~~[(i)]~~ (a) the voter has not previously been registered to vote in the state; or

~~[(ii)]~~ (b) the voter's most recent party affiliation was changed to "unaffiliated" by a county clerk under Subsection ~~[(3)]~~ (6).

~~[(3)]~~ (6) If the most recent party affiliation designated by a voter is for a political party that is no longer a registered political party, the county clerk shall:

(a) change the voter's party affiliation to "unaffiliated"; and

(b) notify the voter electronically or by mail:

(i) that the voter's affiliation has been changed to "unaffiliated" because the most recent party affiliation designated by the voter is for a political party that is no longer a registered political party; and

(ii) of the methods and deadlines for changing the voter's party affiliation.

Section 2. Section 20A-2-107.5 is repealed and reenacted to read:

20A-2-107.5. Designating or changing party affiliation -- Regular primary election and presidential primary election -- Voting in primaries of multiple parties prohibited.

(1) As used in this section, "change of affiliation deadline" means the same as that term is defined in Subsection 20A-2-107(1).

(2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), a registered voter who is classified as "unaffiliated" may, at a regular primary election or a presidential primary election:

(a) affiliate with a political party by completing a change of party affiliation form or voter registration form and submitting the form to the county clerk or a poll worker; and

(b) vote in that party's primary election.

(3) The party affiliation of a voter who changes party affiliation, or who becomes unaffiliated from a political party, at any time on or after the change of affiliation deadline and on or before the date of the regular primary election, takes effect the day after the statewide canvass for the regular primary election.

(4) (a) The presidential primary election of a registered political party is considered part of that registered political party's regular primary election for purposes of participating in

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the regular primary election of that registered political party.

(b) In accordance with Subsection (4)(a), a voter who votes in the presidential primary election of a registered political party may not, for the same election, vote in the regular primary election of a different registered political party.

(c) A voter who votes in the presidential primary election of a registered political party may not, for the same election, vote in the presidential primary election of another registered political party.

(d) A voter who votes in the regular primary election of a registered political party may not, for the same election, vote in the regular primary election of another registered political party.