

AN ACT relating to elections.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. KRS 118.176 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A "bona fide" candidate means one who is seeking nomination in a primary or election in a special or regular~~general~~ election according to law.
- (2) The bona fides of any candidate seeking nomination or election in a primary, special, or regular~~general~~ election may be questioned by any qualified voter entitled to vote for ~~the~~~~such~~ candidate or by an opposing candidate by summary proceedings consisting of a motion before the Circuit Court of the judicial circuit in which the candidate whose bona fides is questioned resides. An action regarding the bona fides of any candidate seeking nomination or election in a primary, special, or regular~~general~~ election may be commenced at any time prior to the regular~~general~~ election. The motion shall be tried summarily and without delay. Proof may be heard orally, and upon motion of either party shall be officially reported. If the Circuit Judge of the circuit in which the proceeding is filed is disqualified or absent from the county or is herself or himself a candidate, the proceeding may be presented to, heard and determined by the Circuit Judge of any adjoining judicial circuit.
- (3) In any action or proceeding under this section the burden of proof as to the bona fides of a candidate shall be on the person challenging the bona fides of a candidate.
- (4) If the court finds the candidate is not a bona fide candidate it shall~~must~~ so order, and certify the fact to the board of elections, and the candidate's name shall be stricken from the written designation of election officers filed with the board of elections or the court may refuse recognition or relief in a mandatory or injunctive way. The order of the Circuit Court shall be entered on the order book of the court and shall be subject to a motion to set aside in the Court of Appeals. The motion shall be heard by the Court of Appeals or a judge thereof in the manner provided for dissolving or granting injunctions, except that the motion shall~~must~~ be made before

the court or judge within five (5) days after the entry of the order in the Circuit Court, and may be heard and tried upon the original papers, and the order of the Court of Appeals or judge thereof shall be final.

- (5) No person shall approach the Circuit Judge for the purpose or view of influencing his or her decision on the motion pending before the Circuit Judge~~[him]~~ or to be tried by him or her.

Section 2. KRS 118.315 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) A candidate for any office to be voted for at any regular election may be nominated by a petition of electors qualified to vote for him or her, complying with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section. No person whose registration status is as a registered member of a political party shall be eligible to election as an independent, or political organization, or political group candidate, nor shall any person be eligible to election as an independent, or political organization, or political group candidate whose registration status was as a registered member of a political party on January 1 immediately preceding the regular election for which the person seeks to be a candidate. This restriction shall not apply to candidates to those offices specified in KRS 118.105(7), for supervisor of a soil and water conservation district, for candidates for mayor or legislative body in cities of the second to sixth class, or to candidates participating in nonpartisan elections.
- (2) The form of the petition shall be prescribed by the State Board of Elections. It shall be signed by the candidate and by registered voters from the district or jurisdiction from which the candidate seeks nomination. The petition shall include a declaration, sworn to by the candidate, that he or she possesses all the constitutional and statutory requirements of the office for which the candidate has filed. Signatures for a petition of nomination for a candidate seeking any office, excluding President of the United States in accordance with KRS 118.591(1), shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. Signatures for

nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. A petition of nomination for a state officer, or any officer for whom all the electors of the state are entitled to vote, shall contain five thousand (5,000) petitioners; for a representative in Congress from any congressional district, or for any officer from any other district except as herein provided, four hundred (400) petitioners; for a county officer, member of the General Assembly, or Commonwealth's attorney, one hundred (100) petitioners; for a soil and water conservation district supervisor, twenty-five (25) petitioners; for a city officer or board of education member, two (2) petitioners; and for an officer of a division less than a county, except as herein provided, twenty (20) petitioners. It shall not be necessary that the signatures of the petition be appended to one (1) paper. Each petitioner shall include the date he or she affixes the signature, address of residence, and date of birth. Failure of a voter to include the signature affixation date, date of birth, and address of residence shall result in the signature not being counted. If any person joins in nominating, by petition, more than one (1) nominee for any office to be filled, he or she shall be counted as a petitioner for the candidate whose petition is filed first, except a petitioner for the nomination of candidates for soil and water conservation district supervisors may be counted for every petition to which his or her signature is affixed.

- (3) Titles, ranks, or spurious phrases shall not be accepted on the filing papers and shall not be printed on the ballots as part of the candidate's name; however, nicknames, initials, and contractions of given names may be accepted as the candidate's name.
- (4) The Secretary of State and county clerks shall examine the petitions of all candidates who file with them to determine whether each petition is regular on its face. If there is an error, the Secretary of State or the county clerk shall notify the candidate by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours of filing.

Section 3. KRS 118.365 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Certificates of nomination issued by the State Board of Elections shall be filed by that board with the Secretary of State immediately. The certificates issued by the county board of elections shall be filed by that board with the county clerk immediately.
- (2) Petitions of nomination for candidates for city offices except as provided in KRS 83A.047, for candidates for members of boards of education, and for candidates for supervisors of soil and water conservation districts shall be filed with the county clerk not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by law for the holding of regular elections for the offices sought.
- (3) Candidates for an office, the nomination to which is to be made by a convention pursuant to KRS 118.325(1) and (2), except for the office of electors of President and Vice President of the United States, shall file the statements required by KRS 118.325(3), with the official designated in KRS 118.165 with whom notification and declaration are filed for the office, not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the regular election for the office sought.
- (4) Certificates of nomination made by the governing authority of a political party within the meaning of KRS 118.015 or a political organization not constituting a political party within the meaning of KRS 118.015 but whose candidate received two percent (2%) of the vote of the state at the last preceding election for presidential electors to fill vacancies in office, as provided in KRS 118.115 and 118.325, shall be filed as required with the Secretary of State or county clerk not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the offices will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by law for the election of the person in nomination.
- (5) Except as otherwise provided in this section, petitions of nomination shall be filed as

required with the Secretary of State or county clerk not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the offices will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by law for the holding of regular~~general~~ elections for the offices sought. Certificates of nomination shall be filed with the Secretary of State or county clerk, as required by law, not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the offices will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by law for the holding of regular~~general~~ elections for the offices sought. The filing of petitions of nomination for independent, or political organization, or political group candidates shall not be accepted by the Secretary of State or the county clerk if the candidate has not filed a statement-of-candidacy form as required by KRS 118.367.

- (6) Petitions and certificates of nomination for electors of President and Vice President of the United States shall be filed with the Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which there is an election for President and Vice President of the United States and not later than the Friday following the first Tuesday in September preceding the date fixed by law for the election of the electors.
- (7) Petitions for recall elections or elections on public questions shall be filed as required with the county clerk not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by law for holding a regular~~general~~ election.
- (8) Petitions of any kind named in this section, statements, and certificates of nomination shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed on the last date on which ~~such~~ papers are permitted to be filed.

Section 4. KRS 118.367 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) An independent, or political organization, or political group candidate required to file nomination papers pursuant to KRS 118.365(5) shall be required to file a

statement-of-candidacy form with the same office at which nomination papers are filed. Candidates for federal office and candidates for mayor or legislative body in cities of the second to sixth class participating in partisan elections shall not be required to file a statement-of-candidacy form. The statement-of-candidacy form shall be filed not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than **the last Tuesday in** April~~[+]~~ preceding the day fixed by law for holding of **regular**~~[general]~~ elections for the offices sought.~~[If the office in which the statement-of-candidacy form is to be filed is closed on April 1, the form may be filed on the next business day.]~~ The statement-of-candidacy form shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time when filed on the last day on which papers are permitted to be filed. No person shall file a statement-of-candidacy form for more than one (1) public office during an election cycle.

- (2) The statement-of-candidacy form shall be prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The statement-of-candidacy form shall be signed by the candidate upon filing. No charge shall be assessed for the filing of a statement-of-candidacy form. The Secretary of State and county clerks shall examine the statement-of-candidacy form of each candidate who files the form to determine if there is an error. If an error has occurred, the candidate shall be notified by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours.

Section 5. KRS 118.375 is amended to read as follows:

If a vacancy occurs in any elective office less than one hundred thirty-four (134) days before the primary or at any time after the primary, but not less than **three (3) months**~~one hundred six (106) days]~~ before the **regular**~~[general]~~ election, independent, **or political organization, or political group** candidates may file their petitions at the time and place provided~~[for]~~ in KRS 118.365, subject to the restrictions concerning party registration and candidacy provided in KRS 118.315(1).

Section 6. KRS 118.760 is amended to read as follows:

Nominations by political parties, as defined in KRS 118.015, to fill vacancies at special elections shall be made in ~~the[such]~~ manner~~[as may be]~~ determined by the governing authority of the party in the territory in which the election is to be held. *An independent, or political organization, or political group candidate may be nominated at a special election by a petition of electors qualified to vote for him or her. The independent, or political organization, or political group candidate shall not be a registered member of a political party prior to the filing of the petition as prescribed in KRS 118.770. The form of the petition and the required number of signatures on the petition are set forth in KRS 118.315(2).*

Section 7. KRS 118.770 is amended to read as follows:

When a writ of election or proclamation is issued to fill a vacancy as prescribed in KRS 118.710, 118.720, or 118.730, independent, *or political organization, or political group* petitions and certificates of nomination may be filed twenty-eight (28) days before the day of election, and if filed with the Secretary of State shall be immediately certified by him *or her* to the proper county clerks.

Section 8. KRS 118.775 is amended to read as follows:

A successful candidate in a special election held for the purpose of filling a vacancy in any elective office shall take office immediately upon certification of the election results by the State Board of Elections *or the county board of elections in which the special election was held*, and administration of the oath of office.

Section 9. KRS 118A.100 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Candidates for an unexpired term of a judicial office to be filled at a regular election shall be nominated at the primary next preceding the regular election in the manner prescribed in KRS 118A.060 if the vacancy occurs not later than the second Tuesday in January preceding the primary. If the vacancy occurs on or after that date, the election to fill the unexpired term shall be held in accordance with the procedures described in this section and Section 152 of the Constitution of Kentucky.
- (2) If in a regular election for judicial office no candidates nominated as provided in KRS

118A.060 are available due to death, incapacity, or withdrawal, and the candidates have not been replaced as provided in KRS 118A.060, the election to fill the regular term shall be conducted in the manner prescribed in subsections (3) through (11) of this section.

- (3) Each candidate shall file a petition for ***nomination***~~[candidacy]~~ with the Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the election for the unexpired term will be held and not later than the second Tuesday in August preceding the day fixed by law for holding the regular election for the unexpired term. ***The petition shall be sworn to by the candidate and by not less than two (2) registered voters from the district or circuit from which he or she seeks nomination, before an officer authorized to administer an oath. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot.*** The petition shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed on the last date on which the papers are permitted to be filed.
- (4) The petition for ***nomination***~~[candidacy]~~ shall be in the form prescribed by the State Board of Elections. ***The petition shall include a declaration sworn to by the candidate, that he or she possesses all the constitutional and statutory requirements of the office for which the candidate has filed.*** Titles, ranks, or spurious phrases shall not be accepted on the petition and shall not be printed on the ballots as part of the candidate's name; however, nicknames, initials, and contractions of given names may be acceptable as the candidate's name.
- (5) The Secretary of State shall examine the petition of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If there is an error, the Secretary of State shall notify the candidate by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours of filing.
- (6) The order of names on the ballot for each district or circuit, and numbered division thereof if divisions exist, shall be determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in

the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the second Tuesday in August preceding the regular election.

- (7) Not later than the *date set forth in KRS 118.215*~~[second Monday after the filing deadline for the regular election in a year in which there is no election for President and Vice President of the United States, or not later than the Thursday after the first Tuesday in September preceding a regular election in a year in which there is an election for President and Vice President of the United States,]~~ and after the order of names on the ballot has been determined as required in subsection (6) of this section, the Secretary of State shall:
- (a) Certify to the county clerks of the respective counties entitled to participate in the election of the various candidates, the name and place of residence of each candidate for each office, by district or circuit, and numbered division thereof if divisions exist, as specified in the petitions for *nomination*~~[candidacy]~~ filed with *the Secretary of State*~~[him]~~; and
 - (b) Designate for the county clerks the office of the Court of Justice with which the names of candidates shall be printed and the order in which they are to appear on the ballot.
- (8) The ballot position of a candidate shall not be changed after the ballot position has been designated by the county clerk.
- (9) The county clerks of each county shall cause to be printed on the ballot labels for the voting machines and on the absentee ballots for the regular election the names of the candidates for offices of the Court of Justice.
- (10) The names of the candidates shall be placed on the voting machine in a separate column or columns or in a separate line or lines and identified by the words "Judicial Ballot," and in ~~[such]~~ a manner so that the casting of a vote for all of the candidates of a political party will not operate to cast a vote for judicial candidates. The words "Vote for one" or "Vote for one in each division," shall be printed on the appropriate location. The office, numbered division thereof if divisions exist, and the candidates

therefor shall be clearly labeled. No party designation or emblem of any kind, nor any sign indicating any candidate's political belief or party affiliation, shall be used on voting machines or special ballots.

- (11) The candidate receiving the highest number of votes cast at the regular election for a district or circuit, or for a numbered division thereof if divisions exist, shall be elected.

Section 10. KRS 118A.190 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The State Board of Elections shall issue certificates of nomination or election for all primary and regular elections as provided in this section.
- (2) Following a primary or regular election, the board of elections of each county shall make out duplicate certificates of the total number of votes received by each candidate, by circuit or district, and numbered division thereof if divisions exist. *The certificate of the total number of votes shall be certified to the Secretary of State's Office not later than 12 p.m., prevailing time, on the Friday following the primary or regular election*~~[The board shall deliver these certificates to the county clerk].~~ The clerk shall keep one (1) of the certificates in his *or her* office and, within three (3) days of their receipt from the board, shall forward the other certificate by mail to the Secretary of State who shall deliver it to the State Board of Elections.
- (3) ~~[When all the returns are received by]~~The State Board of Elections~~[, the board]~~ shall meet to count and tabulate the votes received by the different candidates as certified to the Secretary of State *no later than the third Monday after the primary or regular election*~~[If all returns have not been received by the third Monday after the primary or regular election, the board shall, nevertheless, proceed with its duties at that time.]~~ When the board certifies the results of a primary or regular election~~[on the basis of incomplete returns]~~, the right to contest the election *or primary* shall not be impaired. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum and may act. The board shall prepare the certificates of nomination or election in the office of the board, from the returns made. The certificates shall be in writing and in

duplicate, and shall be signed by the board members. The board shall forward the original certificate, by mail, to the *nominated or* elected candidate, unless he *or she* has failed to comply with KRS Chapter 121. The duplicate shall be retained in the office of the board.

- (4) Certificates of nomination for a judicial office shall be issued to the two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes, except that if more than two (2) candidates are found to have received the highest and an equal number of votes for the same office or if two (2) or more candidates are found to have received the second highest and an equal number of votes for the same office, the election shall be determined by lot in *the[such]* manner~~[as]~~ the board directs, in the presence of not less than three (3) other persons.
- (5) The certificate of election for a judicial office shall be issued to the candidate receiving the highest number of votes, except that if two (2) or more candidates are found to have received the highest and an equal number of votes for the same office, the election shall be determined by lot in *the[such]* manner~~[as]~~ the board directs, in the presence of not less than three (3) other persons.

Section 11. KRS 83A.045 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Except as provided in KRS 83A.047, partisan elections of city officers shall be governed by the following provisions, regardless of the form of government or classification of the city:
 - (a) A candidate for party nomination to city office shall file his or her nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the last Tuesday in *April*~~[January]~~ before the day fixed by KRS Chapter 118 for holding a primary election for the office sought. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will

appear on the ballot. All nomination papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time when filed on the last day on which the papers are permitted to be filed.

- (b) An independent candidate for nomination to city office shall not participate in a primary, but shall file his or her nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August before the day fixed by KRS Chapter 118 for holding a regular election for the office. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. All nomination papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time when filed on the last day on which the papers are permitted to be filed.
 - (c) A candidate for city office who is defeated in a partisan primary election shall be ineligible as a candidate for the same office in the regular election. However, if a vacancy occurs in the party nomination for which he or she was an unsuccessful candidate in the primary, his or her name may be placed on the voting machines for the regular election as a candidate of that party if he or she has been duly made the party nominee after the vacancy occurs, as provided in KRS 118.105.
- (2) Except as provided in KRS 83A.047, nonpartisan elections of city officers shall be governed by KRS 83A.050, 83A.170, 83A.175, and the following provisions, regardless of the form of government or classification of the city:
- (a) A candidate for city office shall file his or her nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January before

the day fixed by KRS Chapter 118 for holding a primary for nominations for the office. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. All nomination papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time when filed on the last day on which the papers are permitted to be filed;

- (b) Any city of the fourth to sixth class may by ordinance provide that the nomination and election of candidates for city office in a nonpartisan election shall be conducted pursuant to the provisions of this subsection:
 - 1. A city may forgo conducting a nonpartisan primary election for the nomination of candidates to city office, regardless of the number of candidates running for each office, and require all candidates to file their nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the second Tuesday in August before the day fixed by KRS Chapter 118 for holding a regular election for the office. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot.
 - 2. All nomination papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time when filed on the last day on which the papers are permitted to be filed.
 - 3. If a city does not conduct a primary pursuant to this subsection, the election of candidates to city office shall be governed by the provisions of this subsection, KRS 83A.175(2) to (6), and KRS Chapters 116 to 121.
 - 4. In the absence of a primary pursuant to this subsection, the number of candidates equal to the number of city offices to be filled who receive the highest number of votes cast in the regular election for each city office

shall be elected.

5. Candidates shall be subject to all other applicable election laws pursuant to this chapter and KRS Chapters 116 to 121.
 6. If a vacancy occurs in a candidacy for city office in any city which has not held a primary pursuant to this subsection after the expiration of time for filing nomination papers, or if there are fewer candidates than there are offices to be filled, the vacancy in candidacy shall be filled by write-in voting.
- (c) A candidate for city office who is defeated in a nonpartisan primary election shall be ineligible as a candidate for the same office in the regular election.

Section 12. KRS 117.045 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The county board of elections shall in the manner prescribed by this section, not later than ~~June~~March 20 each year, except in a year in which no primary and regular elections are scheduled, appoint for each precinct in the county two (2) judges, one (1) clerk and one (1) sheriff of election. They shall serve in all elections held in the county during the year, except for minors seventeen (17) years of age who will become eighteen (18) years of age on or before the day of the regular election who may only serve as election officers for the primary and regular elections as provided in subsection (9) of this section. If a special election is ordered to be held in a year in which no elections are scheduled, the county executive committee of each political party in each county in the territory affected by the special election shall, not later than twenty-eight (28) days preceding the date of the special election, submit a written list of nominees for precinct election officers to serve in the special election in a manner consistent with the provisions of subsection (2) of this section. The county board of elections in each county in the territory affected by the special election shall, not later than twenty-one (21) days preceding the date of the special election, appoint precinct election officers to serve in the special election in a manner consistent with the provisions of subsections (4), (5), and (6) of this section. The

State Board of Elections shall promulgate an administrative regulation establishing evaluation procedures which county boards of elections may use to qualify persons nominated to serve as precinct election officers.

- (2) The county executive committees of the two (2) political parties having representation on the State Board of Elections may, on or before ~~June~~March 15 each year, designate in writing to the county board of elections a list of not less than four (4) names for each precinct; except that, in any precinct where there are not as many as four (4) persons possessing the qualifications of an election officer belonging to the political party filing the list, a lesser number may be designated. If there are two (2) or more contending executive committees of the same party in any county, the one recognized by the written certificate of the ~~chairperson~~chairman of the state central committee of the party shall be the one authorized to submit the lists. The lists shall contain the full name, address, phone number, and Social Security number, if available, of each person listed. The lists shall be accompanied by a signed statement from each person stating that he or she is willing to serve, has not failed to serve without excuse in the past, and has not been convicted of an election law offense or any felony, unless the person's civil rights have been restored by the Governor. The State Board of Elections shall prescribe by promulgation of an administrative regulation the form of the list.
- (3) The Attorney General shall notify each party state central committee of the duties of the party.
- (4) If lists are submitted, the county board of elections shall select one (1) judge at each voting place from each political party's list, and the county board shall select the sheriff from one (1) political party's list and the clerk from the other. If no lists are submitted, the two (2) members of the county board of elections who are appointed by the State Board of Elections may submit lists; and the county board shall select the sheriff and one (1) judge from one (1) list and the clerk and the other judge from the remaining list. If no lists are submitted, the county board shall select the sheriff and

one (1) judge from the membership of one (1) party and the clerk and the other judge from the membership of the remaining party. The county board shall, when possible, also appoint an adequate number of alternate precinct election officers from names on the lists which were submitted but which were not selected by the county board as precinct election officers. If alternate precinct election officers are not appointed from the lists of nominees who were not selected as precinct election officers, the county board of elections shall submit its method of selecting alternate precinct election officers to the State Board of Elections for its approval.

- (5) If, after all reasonable efforts have been made, the county board of elections is unable to find two (2) qualified officers for each precinct who are affiliated with the two (2) political parties having representation on the State Board of Elections, the county board shall submit a list of emergency election officer appointments to the State Board of Elections. The county board shall also present, in writing, its efforts to recruit and appoint election officers as prescribed in subsection (4) of this section. The list of emergency appointments may include qualified voters not affiliated with the two (2) parties represented on the state board. The state board, after its review, may approve any or all of the emergency appointments submitted by the county board or may direct the county board to take other action. Any emergency appointment shall be made for the next ensuing election only.
- (6) In addition to precinct election officers appointed under subsection (1) of this section, a county board of elections may appoint up to two (2) additional precinct election officers per precinct with the approval of the State Board of Elections. The state board shall promulgate an administrative regulation establishing conditions under which additional precinct officers may be approved.
- (7) The county board of elections shall, within ten (10) days before the next ensuing election, give each election officer written notice of his or her appointment. The board may direct the sheriff of the county to serve the notice of appointment, if it deems the action is necessary.

- (8) The State Board of Elections may require the county board of elections to submit its list of precinct officers for review. The State Board of Elections may, after a hearing, direct the removal of any election officer who the board finds would not fairly administer the state election laws. The state board shall replace any officer so removed. The board shall provide for the method and manner of the hearing by the promulgation of an administrative regulation.
- (9) An election officer shall be a qualified voter of the precinct; except that, where no qualified voter of the required political party is available within the precinct, the election officer shall be a qualified voter of the county. A minor seventeen (17) years of age who will become eighteen (18) years of age on or before the day of the regular election may serve as an election officer for the primary and regular elections in which he or she is qualified to vote; however, no precinct shall have more than one (1) person serving as an election officer who is a minor seventeen (17) years of age. An election officer shall not be a candidate or the spouse, parent, brother, sister, or child of a candidate who is to be voted for at the election. An election officer shall not have changed his or her voter registration party affiliation for one (1) year prior to his or her appointment. An election officer may be removed, for cause, at any time up to five (5) days before an election. Vacancies shall be filled by the county board with alternate precinct election officers and the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall be of the same political party as the vacating officer, except for emergency appointments made as provided in subsection (5) of this section.
- (10) If the county board of elections fails to appoint election officers, or if any officer is not present at the precinct at the time for commencing the election, or refuses to act, and if no alternate is available, the officer in attendance representing the political party of the absentee shall appoint a suitable person to act in his or her place for that election. If both representatives of the same political party are absent, qualified voters present affiliating with that party shall elect, viva voce, suitable persons to act in their places.

- (11) Each election officer shall be paid a minimum of sixty dollars (\$60) per election day served, and such an additional amount as compensation as may be determined by the county board of elections, with the approval of the governing body which would be responsible for funding the election officers' pay, for each election in which the election officer serves, to be paid by the county. For delivering the election packets to the polls, the precinct election officers shall receive in addition the mileage reimbursement provided for state employees, for each mile necessarily traveled in the delivery of the packets to the polls, or a flat fee if the fee equals or exceeds that amount. For delivering election returns, the precinct election judges shall receive in addition the mileage reimbursement provided for state employees for each mile necessarily traveled from the place of voting to and from the place of delivery, or a flat fee if the fee equals or exceeds that amount. The fee paid to the precinct election judges for delivering election returns shall be paid by the county.

Section 13. KRS 118.025 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by law, voting in all elections shall be by secret ballot on voting machines.
- (2) The general laws applying to primaries, regular, and special, ~~and primary~~ elections shall apply to elections conducted with the use of voting machines, and all provisions of the general laws applying to the custody of ballot boxes shall apply, as far as applicable, to the custody of the voting machine.
- (3) Primaries~~Primary elections~~ for the nomination of candidates or slates of candidates to be voted for at the next regular election shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first~~third~~ Monday in August~~May~~ of each year.
- (4) The election of all officers of all governmental units shall be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.
- (5) If the law authorizes the calling of a special election on a day other than the day of the regular election in November, the election shall be held on a Tuesday.
- (6) If the law requires that a special election be held within a period of time during which

the voting machines must be locked as required by KRS 117.295, the special election shall be held on the fourth Tuesday following the expiration of the period during which the voting machines are locked.

Section 14. KRS 118.165 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Except as provided in KRS Chapters 116 to 121, candidates for offices to be voted for by the electors of one (1) county or of a district less than one (1) county, except members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary ~~election~~. Candidates for offices to be voted for by the electors of more than one (1) county, and for members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their nomination papers with the Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. All nomination papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed on the last date on which the papers may be filed.
- (2) The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall examine the notification and declaration form of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If there is an error, the proper officer shall notify the candidate by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours of filing.

Section 15. KRS 118.215 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) After the order of the names has been determined as provided in KRS 118.225, the Secretary of State shall certify, to the county clerks of the respective counties entitled

to participate in the nomination or election of the respective candidates, the name, place of residence, and party of each candidate or slate of candidates for each office, as specified in the nomination papers or certificates and petitions of nomination filed with him or her, and shall designate the device with which the candidate groups, slates of candidates, or lists of candidates of each party shall be printed, in the order in which they are to appear on the ballot, with precedence to be given to the party that polled the highest number of votes at the preceding election for presidential electors, followed by the political party which received the second highest number of votes, with the order of any other political parties and independents to be determined by lot. Candidates for county offices and local state offices shall be listed in the following order: Commonwealth's attorney, circuit clerk, property valuation administrator, county judge/executive, county attorney, county clerk, sheriff, jailer, county commissioner, coroner, justice of the peace, and constable. The names of candidates for President and Vice President shall be certified in lieu of certifying the names of the candidates for presidential electors. The names shall be certified as follows:

- (a) Not later than the second Monday after the filing deadline for the primary;
 - (b) Not later than the second Monday after the primary~~filing deadline for the general election~~, except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection; and
 - (c) Not later than the Monday after the Friday following the first Tuesday in September preceding a regular~~general~~ election, for those years in which there is an election for President and Vice President of the United States.
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, all independent candidates or slates of candidates whose nominating petitions are filed with the county clerk or the Secretary of State shall be listed under the title and device designated by them as provided in KRS 118.315, or if none is designated, under the word "independent," and shall be placed on the ballot in a separate column or columns or in a separate line or lines according to the office which they seek. The order in which independent candidates or slates of candidates shall appear on the

ballot shall be determined by lot by the county clerk. If the same device is selected by two (2) groups of petitioners, it shall be given to the first selecting it and the county clerk shall permit the other group to select a suitable device. This section shall not apply to candidates for municipal offices which come under subsection (3) of this section.

- (3) The ballots used at any election in which city officers are to be elected as provided in subsection (2) of this section shall contain the names of candidates for the city offices grouped according to the offices they seek, and the candidates shall be immediately arranged with and designated by the title of office they seek. The order in which the names of the candidates for each office are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by lot. Each group of candidates for each separate office for which the candidates are to be elected shall be clearly separated from other groups on the ballot and spaced to avoid confusion on the part of the voter.
- (4) The Secretary of State shall not knowingly certify to the county clerk of any county the name of any candidate or slate of candidates who has not filed the required nomination papers, nor knowingly fail to certify the name of any candidate or slate of candidates who has filed the required nomination papers.
- (5) If the county clerk determines that the number of certified candidates or slates of candidates cannot be placed on a ballot which can be accommodated by the voting machines currently in use by the county, he or she shall so notify the State Board of Elections not later than the last Tuesday in May~~February~~ preceding the primary or the last Tuesday in August preceding the regular~~general~~ election. The State Board of Elections shall meet within five (5) days of the notice, review the ballot conditions, and determine whether supplemental paper ballots are necessary for the election. Upon approval of the State Board of Elections, supplemental paper ballots may be used for nonpartisan candidates or slates of candidates for an office or offices and public questions submitted for a yes or no vote. All candidates or slates of candidates for any particular office shall be placed either on the machine ballot or on the paper

ballot. Supplemental paper ballots may also be used to conduct the voting, in the instance of a small precinct as provided in KRS 117.066.

- (6) The ballot position of a candidate or slate of candidates shall not be changed after the ballot position has been designated by the county clerk.

Section 16. KRS 118.225 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) For the purpose of determining the order in which the names of candidates or slates of candidates to be voted for by the electors of the entire state shall be certified and printed on the ballots with the designation of the respective offices, the Secretary of State shall prepare lists of the counties of each congressional district of the state. He or she shall arrange the surnames of all candidates or slates of candidates for each office in alphabetical order for the First Congressional District, and the names shall be certified in this order to the county clerks of all the counties comprising that district. For each succeeding congressional district, taken in numerical order, the name appearing first for each office in the last preceding district shall be placed last, and the name appearing second in the last preceding district shall be placed first, and each other name shall be moved up one (1) place. The lists shall be certified accordingly.
- (2) For all other offices for which nomination papers and petitions are filed with the Secretary of State, the order of names of candidates for each office shall be determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding the primary or the Thursday following the second Tuesday in August preceding the general election.
- (3) For all offices for which nomination papers and petitions are filed in the office of the county clerk, the order in which the names of candidates for each office are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by lot at a public drawing in the office of the county clerk at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January before the primary or the Thursday following the second Tuesday in

August preceding the ~~regular~~~~[general]~~ election.

- (4) If the number of certified candidates or slates of candidates cannot be placed on a ballot which can be accommodated on voting machines currently in use in the county, the county clerk shall notify the State Board of Elections, as provided in KRS 118.215.

Section 17. KRS 118.561 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Subject to KRS 118.555, on the first Tuesday after the ~~first~~~~[third]~~ Monday in ~~August~~~~[May]~~, in each presidential election year, the Commonwealth of Kentucky shall conduct presidential preference ~~primaries~~~~[primary elections]~~ within each political party.
- (2) Hours of voting shall be in accordance with KRS 118.035.
- (3) The cost of election, officials, and the entire method of conducting the presidential preference primary shall be in accordance with Kentucky statutory provisions on ~~primaries~~~~[primary elections]~~.

Section 18. KRS 118.591 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Any person seeking the endorsement by a political party for the office of President of the United States, or any group organized in this state on behalf of, and with the consent of, the person, may file with the Secretary of State certified petitions signed by five thousand (5,000) persons who, at the time they sign, are registered and qualified voters in the Commonwealth and are affiliated, by registration, with the same political party as the candidate for whom petitions are filed.
- (2) The petitions shall be filed by the petitioners with the Secretary of State no later than the last Tuesday in ~~April~~~~[January]~~ preceding a presidential preference primary.
- (3) The petitions shall state:
 - (a) The name of the candidate for nomination and the party of which he ~~or she~~ is a member; and
 - (b) The name and address of the ~~chairperson~~~~[chairman]~~ of the group circulating such petition.

- (4) The Secretary of State shall determine the sufficiency of petitions filed with him or, her and shall immediately communicate his or her determination to the chairman of the group which has filed the petitions.
- (5) In lieu of the petition requirements of subsections (1) to (4) of this section, a candidate may qualify to appear on the presidential preference primary ballot of his or her political party by filing with the Secretary of State, no later than the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding a presidential preference primary, a notice of candidacy signed by the candidate and either of the following:
 - (a) A certification by the Federal Election Commission that, by the filing deadline, the candidate has qualified for matching federal campaign funds; or
 - (b) Evidence that, by the filing deadline, the candidate's name is qualified to appear on the presidential preference primary ballot of his or her political party in at least twenty (20) other states.
- (6) The Secretary of State shall determine the sufficiency of the documentation provided pursuant to subsection (5) of this section and shall immediately communicate his or, her determination to the candidate or his or her agent.

Section 19. KRS 118.601 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Secretary of State shall contact each person who has been nominated by petition, or who has been nominated pursuant to KRS 118.591(5) and (6), and notify him or, her in writing by certified mail, with return receipt requested, that his or her name will appear as a candidate on the Kentucky presidential primary ballot of his or her party.
- (2) The order in which the names of candidates for a presidential preference primary are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by lot at a public drawing in the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding the presidential preference primary.
- (3) Not later than the date set forth in KRS 118.215(1)(a) preceding the presidential preference primary, and after the order of the names has been determined as provided

by subsection (2) of this section, the Secretary of State shall certify to each county clerk the name, place of residence, and party of each candidate, as specified in the notice of candidacy forms or petitions filed with him or her and shall designate the device with which the candidates of each party shall be printed, in the order in which they are to appear on the ballot, with precedence to be given to the party that polled the highest number of votes at the preceding election for presidential electors, followed by the political party which received the second highest number of votes.

Section 20. KRS 118A.060 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Except as provided in KRS 118A.100, no person's name shall appear on a ballot label or absentee ballot for an office of the Court of Justice without first having been nominated as provided in this section.
- (2) Each candidate for nomination shall file a petition for nomination with the Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot and not later than the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary~~-election~~ for the office. The petition shall be sworn to before an officer authorized to administer an oath by the candidate and by not less than two (2) registered voters from the district or circuit from which he or she seeks nomination. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. The petition shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed on the last date on which the papers are permitted to be filed.
- (3) The petition for nomination shall be in the form prescribed by the State Board of Elections. The petition shall include a declaration sworn to by the candidate, that he or she possesses all the constitutional and statutory requirements of the office for which the candidate has filed. Titles, ranks, or spurious phrases shall not be accepted on the petition and shall not be printed on the ballots as part of the candidate's name;

however, nicknames, initials, and contractions of given names may be acceptable as the candidate's name.

- (4) The Secretary of State shall examine the petition of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If there is an error, the Secretary of State shall notify the candidate by certified mail within twenty-four (24) hours of filing. The order of names on the ballot for each district or circuit, and numbered division thereof if divisions exist, shall be determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the last Tuesday in ~~April~~January preceding the primary~~[-election]~~.
- (5) Not later than the date set forth in KRS 118.215(1)(a) preceding the primary~~[-election]~~, and after the order of names on the ballot has been determined as required in subsection (4) of this section, the Secretary of State shall:
 - (a) Certify to the county clerks of the respective counties entitled to participate in the election of the various candidates, the name and place of residence of each candidate for each office, by district or circuit, and numbered division thereof if divisions exist, as specified in the petitions for nomination filed with him or her; and
 - (b) Designate for the county clerks the office of the Court of Justice with which the names of candidates shall be printed and the order in which they are to appear on the ballot.
- (6) The ballot position of a candidate shall not be changed after the ballot position has been designated by the Secretary of State.
- (7) The county clerks of each county shall cause to be printed on the ballot labels for the voting machines and on the special ballots for the primary the names of the candidates for offices in the Court of Justice.
- (8) The names of the candidates shall be placed on the voting machine in a separate column or columns or in a separate line or lines and identified by the words "Judicial Ballot." The words "Vote for one," or "Vote for one in each division," shall be printed

on the ballot in an appropriate location. The office, numbered division thereof if divisions exist, and the candidates therefor shall be clearly labeled. No party designation or emblem of any kind, nor any sign indicating any candidate's political belief or party affiliation, shall be used on voting machines or special ballots.

- (9) The two (2) candidates receiving the highest number of votes for nomination for justice or judge of a district or circuit, or numbered division thereof if divisions exist, shall be nominated. Certificates of nomination shall be issued as provided in KRS 118A.190.
- (10) If it appears after expiration of the time for filing petitions for nomination that there are not more than two (2) candidates who have filed the necessary petitions for a place on the ballot in the regular election, no drawing for ballot position shall be held and the Secretary of State shall immediately issue and file in the Secretary's office certificates of nomination, and send copies to the candidates.

Section 21. KRS 117.355 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) Within three (3) days after any primary or general election, the precinct election sheriff shall file a report with the chairperson~~[chairman]~~ of the county board of elections and with the local grand jury. The report shall include any irregularities observed and any recommendations for improving the election process.
- (2) Within ten (10) days after any primary or general election, the county board of elections shall file a report with the State Board of Elections and the local grand jury. The report shall include any irregularities of which the county board has knowledge and any recommendations for improving the election process. The report shall also include a breakdown by precinct of the number of voters requiring assistance to vote and the reasons therefor; the number of special ballots cast by category; and any other information required by the state board.
- (3) Within twenty (20)~~[thirty (30)]~~ days after any primary or general election, the county board of elections shall transmit the information required by KRS 117.275(4).
- (4) The State Board of Elections shall issue administrative regulations to prescribe the

forms required by this section.