

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 351

BY REPRESENTATIVE MIKE JOHNSON

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

ELECTIONS/CANDIDATES: Provides for penalties for attesting to false information in a notice of candidacy

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 18:1401(G), relative to objections to candidacy; to provide for penalties for attesting to false information in a notice of candidacy; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 18:1401(G) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1401. Objections to candidacy; contests of elections; contests of certification of recall petition; parties authorized to institute actions; penalties

* * *

G. Upon a determination that a candidate knowingly attested to false information in a notice of candidacy, the court shall assess court costs and attorney fees, and the court may impose any other sanctions the court deems appropriate against the candidate.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 351 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Mike Johnson

Abstract: Provides penalties for when a candidate attests to false information in a notice of candidacy.

Present law provides that a qualified elector may bring an action objecting to candidacy under certain circumstances. Further provides for other contests and challenges.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law provides that a candidate who attests to false information in a notice of candidacy shall have court costs and attorney fees assessed against them. Further provides that the court may impose further sanctions if deemed appropriate.

(Adds R.S. 18:1401(G))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill:

1. Revise proposed law to provide that upon a determination that a candidate knowingly attested to false information in a notice of candidacy the court shall assess court costs and attorney fees and that the court may impose against the candidate any other sanction that the court deems appropriate.