

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 420

BY REPRESENTATIVE BILLINGS

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 18:441(B)(1) and to enact R.S. 18:107(G) and 441(B)(4) and (E),
3 relative to political parties; to provide for recognition of a political party; to provide
4 for party affiliation for voter registration; to prohibit recognition of certain political
5 parties; to prohibit designation of party affiliation with certain parties for voter
6 registration; to require a change in party affiliation under certain circumstances; to
7 provide for a procedure allowing a political party to request that it be dissolved; and
8 to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 18:441(B)(1) is hereby amended and reenacted and R.S. 18:107(G)
11 and 441(B)(4) and (E) are hereby enacted to read as follows:

12 §107. Party affiliation ~~not required~~ for registration; change in party affiliation

13 * * *

14 G.(1) A person who applies for registration on or after August 1, 2025, shall
15 not be designated as "Independent" or designated as being affiliated with the
16 "Independent Party". An applicant who declares party affiliation as "Independent"
17 or with the "Independent Party" shall have his party affiliation entered as "No Party".

1 The Department of State shall notify the registrant of the change pursuant to R.S.
2 18:109. The notice shall contain an explanation for the change in registration.

3 (2) A registrant who is registered as "Independent" or designated as being
4 affiliated with the "Independent Party" before August 1, 2025, shall have his party
5 affiliation changed to "No Party". The Department of State shall notify the registrant
6 of the change pursuant to R.S. 18:109. The notice shall contain an explanation for
7 the change in registration.

8 * * *

9 §441. Recognition

10 * * *

11 B.(1) A political party shall be recognized if ninety days prior to the opening
12 of the qualifying period for any election at least ~~one~~ five thousand registered voters
13 in the state are registered as being affiliated with such political party; such political
14 party has filed a notarized registration statement as described in Paragraph (2) of this
15 Subsection with the secretary of state; and the political party has paid a registration
16 fee of ~~one~~ five thousand dollars to the secretary of state upon filing the registration
17 statement. The political party designation of a candidate shall not be listed on the
18 ballot unless the political party was recognized prior to the close of qualifying for the
19 office the candidate is seeking.

20 * * *

21 (4) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no political party
22 shall be recognized in this state which declares its name solely to be "Independent"
23 or the "Independent Party".

24 * * *

25 E.(1) A political party may through its bylaws provide for the process of
26 dissolution. A political party that has been recognized pursuant to Subsection B of
27 this Section may request to have the party dissolved by the secretary of state. A
28 political party that requests the party's dissolution shall file a notarized dissolution
29 statement with the secretary of state made in accordance with the party's bylaws.

1 (2) A registrant who is registered as being affiliated with a political party
2 that is dissolved pursuant to this Subsection shall have his party affiliation changed
3 to "No Party". The Department of State shall notify the registrant of the change
4 pursuant to R.S. 18:109. The notice shall contain an explanation for the change in
5 registration.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____