## DIGEST

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HB 12 Original	2024 First Extraordinary Session	Wright

**Abstract:** Mandates the legislature to provide for a party primary system for congressional office, statewide office, and state legislative office by Jan. 1, 2026.

<u>Present law</u> provides that all qualified voters may vote on candidates in primary and general elections without regard to the voter's party affiliation or lack of it, and all candidates for public office may be voted on without regard to the candidate's party affiliation or lack of it.

<u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> for most public offices, but mandates the legislature to provide for a system of elections in which all recognized political parties shall make nominations of candidates for congressional office, statewide office, and state legislative office by direct primary elections by Jan. 1, 2026. <u>Proposed law</u> retains <u>present law</u> for general elections.

(Amends R.S. 18:401(B); Adds R.S. 18:401(C) and (D))