

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 648

2025 Regular Session

Beaulieu

ELECTIONS/CANDIDATES: Increases candidate qualifying fees and dedicates the monies to the Campaign Sign Recycling Fund.

DIGEST

Proposed law establishes the Campaign Sign Recycling Fund as a special fund in the state treasury. Directs the state treasurer to invest the monies in the fund in the same manner as the state general fund. Interest earned on investment of monies shall be deposited into the state general fund. Unexpended and unencumbered monies in the fund at the end of the fiscal year shall remain in the fund.

Proposed law imposes an additional \$25 fee for each candidate qualifying for an election in the state, except for candidates for membership on a school board or the state central committee or parish executive committee of a political party, beginning Aug. 1, 2025. Monies collected from the additional fee shall be deposited into the Campaign Sign Recycling Fund. Monies in the fund shall be appropriated to the secretary of state for the recycling of political campaign signs.

Proposed law authorizes the secretary of state to promulgate rules necessary for the implementation of a program to recycle political campaign signs.

Effective in part upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action; effective in part Jan. 1, 2026 (see Act No. 1 of the 2024 1st E.S.).

(Amends R.S. 18:1254(A) and 1280.22(A); adds R.S. 18:454 and 464(B)(5))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

1. Exempt candidates for school board and political party committee from the requirement to pay the additional qualifying fee.
2. Provide for the additional qualifying fee to be paid by candidates qualifying on and after Aug. 1, 2025.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Senate and Governmental Affairs to the engrossed bill

1. Technical Amendments.