DIGEST

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HB 900 Original   2024 Regular Session   Wyble

Abstract: For elections for U.S. senator or representative in congress, requires additional disclosures in a notice of candidacy, provides additional grounds for objection to candidacy, and to provide for certain ballot disclosures.

Present law requires the notice of candidacy for any candidate to be in writing and state the candidate's name, the office he seeks, the address of his domicile, his telephone number, his electronic mail address, and the parish, ward, and precinct where he is registered to vote. Requires the candidate to list on the notice of candidacy the name of the political party if he is registered as being affiliated with a recognized political party, "other" if he is registered as being affiliated with a political party that is not a recognized political party, or "no party" if he is registered with no political party affiliation.

Proposed law additionally requires a candidate for U.S. senator or representative in congress to include on his statement of candidacy his age as of the date of commencement of the term of office which he seeks, his citizenship as "natural born" or as "naturalized" and his date of naturalization, if applicable, and whether he is currently an inhabitant of the state and has been continuously domiciled within the state during the year prior to filing.

Present law provides for grounds for objecting to the candidacy of a person who qualified as a candidate in a primary election.

Proposed law provides as a ground for objection to candidacy of a candidate for U.S. senator or representative in congress that the candidate falsely certified in his notice of candidacy his domicile as of the date of qualifying, his domicile for the year prior to the date of qualifying, his age as of the date of commencement of the term of office which he seeks, and his citizenship as "natural born" or as "naturalized" and his date of naturalization, if applicable.

Present law prescribes the content and form of information provided on a ballot, including the title of offices, names and numbers of each candidate, and political party designation of each candidate.

Proposed law requires the ballot for primary and general elections to additionally include the following for candidates for U.S. senator or representative in congress:

(1)   The age of the candidate as of the date that he would assume office upon election shall be listed immediately following the candidate's political party designation in substantially the following form "Age: [insert age range in XX-YY format based on entire term of the office

sought] during term of office".

(2)   The citizenship designation of the candidate shall be listed immediately following the candidate's age disclosure. The citizenship designation shall shall state "Citizenship established [list birth year for natural born citizens or year of naturalization for naturalized citizens]". If the candidate is not a U.S. citizen, he shall not appear on the ballot for United States senator or representative in congress.

(3)   Information about the candidate's inhabitancy in the state during the prior year shall be listed immediately following the candidate's citizenship designation. If the candidate has been domiciled in the state for a year prior to qualifying, the words "Habitant of Louisiana during the year prior to qualifying." shall be placed after his citizenship designation. If the candidate has not been domiciled in Louisiana for the entire year prior to qualifying, the words "Not a habitant of Louisiana within the year prior to qualifying." shall be placed after his citizenship designation.

Proposed law requires the secretary of state to promulgate and adopt rules as necessary to effectuate the provisions of proposed law.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 18:463(A)(1)(a) and 551(E); Adds R.S. 18:492(A)(8) and 551(F))