

NOMINATION REFORM BILL (PROPOSED)

Whereas Citizens reserve the natural right to peaceably assemble into existing political associations commonly known as Political Parties; two of which are predominate in the State of Arizona and as such are known as “Major Parties”, those being the “Democratic Party” and “Republican Party”; another of which being less predominate but sufficiently significant so as to also be considered a Major Party, that being the “Libertarian Party”; and others being so much less predominate as to be considered “Minor Parties”, examples of which being the “Green Party” and “Union Party”;

Whereas Citizens reserve the natural right to create new political associations in which to peaceably assemble and in the State of Arizona that is a relatively easy process;

Whereas by implication, Citizens also reserve the right to remain independent of political associations if that is their inclination, they being politically known as “Voters with No Party Designation” or “Political Independents” or simply “Independents”.

Whereas current Arizona Election Law violates the natural right of association for two of the three Major Parties in Arizona, the Democratic and Republican Parties, such violation being the forcing of those two parties to accept interference in their doings from Minor Parties and Independents;

Whereas current Arizona Election Law violates Citizens Natural Right of Equal Treatment under the Law, when it treats one of the three Major Parties differently than the other two; such being the Court enforced exception which grants the Libertarian Party its Right of Association, while at the same time withholding that right to the Democratic and Republican Parties.

Therefore be it enacted by the Arizona Legislature that ARS Title 16 Election Law, Chapter 3, Article 5.1, be revised to add clause 16-349 entitled NOMINATION BY MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY CAUCUS, as follows:

NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER LAW:

- 1. A QUALIFIED POLITICAL PARTY MAY NOMINATE ITS CANDIDATES WHO ARE TO APPEAR ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT FOR FEDERAL, STATE, COUNTY, AND MUNICIPAL PARTISAN POLITICAL OFFICES EITHER BY POLITICAL PARTY CAUCUS PRESCRIBED BY THIS SECTION OR BY THE PETITION/PRIMARY METHOD PRESCRIBED BY SECTIONS 16-311 AND 16-314.***
- 2. A QUALIFIED POLITICAL PARTY SHALL ESTABLISH ITS OWN PROCEDURES FOR NOMINATING CANDIDATES AT THAT POLITICAL PARTY'S CAUCUS AND EACH PARTY'S NOMINEES FROM THAT PARTY'S POLITICAL PARTY CAUCUS SHALL APPEAR ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT AS THE CANDIDATES FOR THAT PARTY.***
- 3. A QUALIFIED POLITICAL PARTY MAY CHOOSE WHICH NOMINATION METHOD IT USES (EITHER PETITION/PRIMARY OR CAUCUS) FOR ANY, OR ALL, OR ANY COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING ELECTIONS: A) FEDERAL PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION, B) ELECTION OF THE ARIZONA STATE DELEGATION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (SENATORS), C) ELECTION OF THE ARIZONA CITIZEN DELEGATION TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT (REPRESENTATIVES), D) ELECTION OF STATEWIDE ELECTED OFFICIALS, E) ELECTION OF COUNTYWIDE ELECTED OFFICIALS, F) ELECTION OF STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES, AND/OR G) ELECTION OF MUNICIPAL ELECTED OFFICIALS.***
- 4. CANDIDATES FOR NONPARTISAN POLITICAL OFFICES AND CANDIDATES FOR PRECINCT COMMITTEEMEN SHALL BE DETERMINED AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW.***

###

160124 DUANE ENGDAHL

Key Words: "partisan political offices"; "petition nomination"; "caucus nomination"; primary

Title: Nomination Reform Bill

Spearheaded by: Chris Herring, Republican Executive Committee

House Bill Sponsor: Representative Kern

Co-sponsors: