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HOUSE BILL NO. 956

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
(Proposed by the House Committee on Privileges and Elections
on January 24, 2014)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Delegate Chafin)

A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 24.2-502, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, and 24.2-509 of the Code of Virginia, relating to filings by candidates and political parties; efficiency reforms.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 24.2-502, as it is currently effective and as it shall become effective, and 24.2-509 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 24.2-502. (Effective until July 1, 2014) Statement of economic interests as requirement of candidacy.

It shall be a requirement of candidacy that a written statement of economic interests shall be filed by (i) a candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, (ii) a candidate for Senate or House of Delegates with the clerk of the appropriate house, (iii) a candidate for a constitutional office with the general registrar for the county or city, and (iv) a candidate for member of the governing body or elected school board of any county, city, or town with a population in excess of 3,500 persons with the general registrar for the county or city. The statement of economic interests shall be that specified in § 30-111 for candidates for the General Assembly and in § 2.2-3117 for all other candidates. The foregoing requirement shall not apply to a candidate for reelection to the same office who has met the requirement of annually filing a statement pursuant to § 2.2-3114, § 2.2-3115, or § 30-110.

The Secretary of the Commonwealth, ~~and the clerks of the Senate and House of Delegates, the general registrar, and the clerk of the local governing body~~ shall transmit to the State Board, immediately after the filing deadline, a list of the candidates who have filed initial or annual statements of economic interests. ~~The Secretary of the State Board general registrar, the clerk of the local governing body, and the clerk of the school board shall notify the appropriate~~ transmit to the local electoral boards of the filings board, immediately after the filing deadline, a list of the candidates who have filed initial or annual statements of economic interests.

§ 24.2-502. (Effective July 1, 2014) Statement of economic interests as requirement of candidacy.

It shall be a requirement of candidacy that a written statement of economic interests shall be filed by (i) a candidate for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or Attorney General with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, (ii) a candidate for Senate or House of Delegates with the clerk of the appropriate house, (iii) a candidate for a constitutional office with the general registrar for the county or city, and (iv) a candidate for member of the governing body or elected school board of any county, city, or town with a population in excess of 3,500 persons with the general registrar for the county or city. The statement of economic interests shall be that specified in § 30-111 for candidates for the General Assembly and in § 2.2-3117 for all other candidates. The foregoing requirement shall not apply to a candidate for reelection to the same office who has met the requirement of annually filing a statement pursuant to § 2.2-3114, 2.2-3115, or 30-110.

The Secretary of the Commonwealth, ~~and the clerks of the Senate and House of Delegates, the general registrar, and the clerk of the local governing body~~ shall transmit to the State Board, immediately after the filing deadline, a list of the candidates who have filed initial or annual statements of economic interests. ~~The Commissioner of Elections general registrar, the clerk of the local governing body, and the clerk of the school board shall notify the appropriate~~ transmit to the local electoral boards of the filings board, immediately after the filing deadline, a list of the candidates who have filed initial or annual statements of economic interests.

§ 24.2-509. Party to determine method of nominating its candidates for office; exceptions.

A. The duly constituted authorities of the state political party shall have the right to determine the method by which a party nomination for a member of the United States Senate or for any statewide office shall be made. *When a nonfederal statewide office is to be nominated by any method other than a primary, the chair of the state party shall notify the State Board of Elections of the names of the candidates seeking the nomination and the date, time, and method of nomination.*

The duly constituted authorities of the political party for the district, county, city, or town in which any other office is to be filled shall have the right to determine the method by which a party nomination for that office shall be made. *When a nonfederal district office or the office in a county, city, or town is to be nominated by any method other than primary, the chair of the political party for that district,*

60 *county, city, or town shall notify the State Board of Elections of the names of the candidates seeking the*
61 *nomination and the date, time, and method of nomination.*

62 B. Notwithstanding subsection A, the following provisions shall apply to the determination of the
63 method of making party nominations. A party shall nominate its candidate for election for a General
64 Assembly district where there is only one incumbent of that party for the district by the method
65 designated by that incumbent, or absent any designation by him by the method of nomination
66 determined by the party. A party shall nominate its candidates for election for a General Assembly
67 district where there is more than one incumbent of that party for the district by a primary unless all the
68 incumbents consent to a different method of nomination. A party, whose candidate at the immediately
69 preceding election for a particular office other than the General Assembly (i) was nominated by a
70 primary or filed for a primary but was not opposed and (ii) was elected at the general election, shall
71 nominate a candidate for the next election for that office by a primary unless all incumbents of that
72 party for that office consent to a different method.

73 When, under any of the foregoing provisions, no incumbents offer as candidates for reelection to the
74 same office, the method of nomination shall be determined by the political party.

75 For the purposes of this subsection, any officeholder who offers for reelection to the same office
76 shall be deemed an incumbent notwithstanding that the district which he represents differs in part from
77 that for which he offers for election.