

SENATE, No. 1974

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 22, 2018

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District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

Senator NILSA CRUZ-PEREZ

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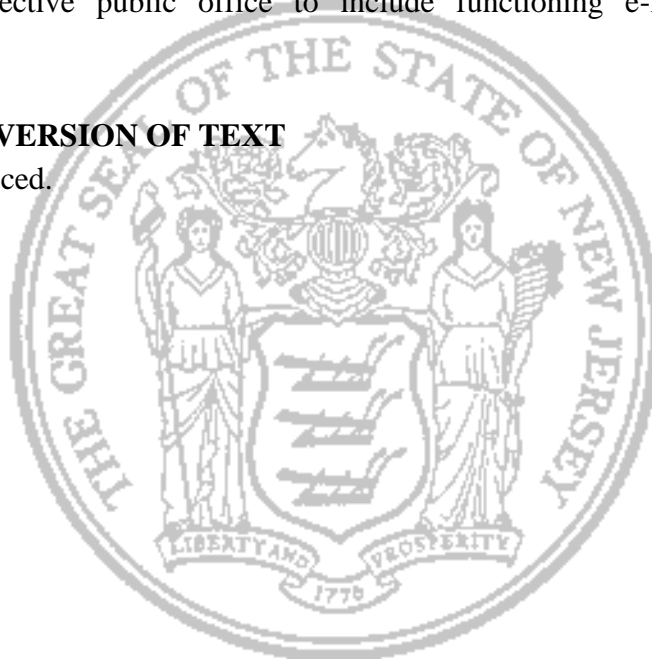
**Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblyman Chiaravalloti and
Assemblywoman Mosquera**

SYNOPSIS

Requires petitions of nomination of candidates for State, county, school, or municipal elective public office to include functioning e-mail addresses therefor.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/8/2018)

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2

1 AN ACT concerning petitions of nomination for certain candidates
2 seeking elective public office and amending various parts of the
3 statutory law.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:

7
8 1. R.S.19:13-4 is amended to read as follows:

9 19:13-4. Such petition shall set forth the names, places of
10 residence and post-office addresses of the candidates for the offices
11 to be filled, the title of the office for which each candidate is
12 named, that the petitioners are legally qualified to vote for such
13 candidates and pledge themselves to support and vote for the
14 persons named in such petition and that they have not signed any
15 other petition of nomination for the primary or for the general
16 election for such office. The petitions of a candidate for any State,
17 county, or municipal elective public office shall also include a
18 functioning campaign e-mail address for the candidate.

19 In the case of a petition or petitions nominating electors of
20 president and vice president of the United States, the names of the
21 candidates for president and vice president for whom such electors
22 are to vote may be included in the petition or petitions, but the
23 petition or petitions shall not include the names of any candidates
24 for president or vice president who have been nominated at a
25 convention of a political party, as defined by this title.

26 The petition shall also state in not more than three words the
27 designation of the party or principles which the candidates therein
28 named represent, but such designation shall not contain the
29 designation name, derivative, or any part thereof as a noun or an
30 adjective of any political party entitled to participate in the primary
31 election.

32 The petition shall also include the request that the names of the
33 candidates and their designations of party or principles be printed
34 upon the ballots to be used at the ensuing general election.

35 No such petition shall undertake to nominate any candidate who
36 has accepted the nomination for the primary for such position.

37 Each petition shall be arranged to contain double spacing
38 between the signature lines of the petition, so that each signer
39 thereof is afforded sufficient space to provide his or her printed
40 name, address and signature.

41 Any form of a petition of nomination, other than petitions for
42 federal office, which is provided to candidates by the Secretary of
43 State, the county clerk, or the municipal clerk shall contain the
44 following notice: "Notice: All candidates are required by law to

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 comply with the provisions of the 'New Jersey Campaign
2 Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act.' For further
3 information, please call (insert phone number of the Election Law
4 Enforcement Commission)."
5 (cf: P.L.1994, c.77, s.5)

6
7 2. R.S.19:23-7 is amended to read as follows:

8 19:23-7. Each such petition shall set forth that the signers
9 thereof are qualified voters of the State, congressional district,
10 county, or county election district, municipality, ward or election
11 district, as the case may be, in which they reside and for which they
12 desire to nominate candidates; that they are members of a political
13 party (naming the same), and that they intend to affiliate with that
14 political party at the ensuing election; that they indorse the person
15 or persons named in their petition as candidate or candidates for
16 nomination for the office or offices therein named, and that they
17 request that the name of the person or persons therein mentioned be
18 printed upon the official primary ballots of their political party as
19 the candidate or candidates for such nomination. The petition shall
20 further state the residence and post-office address of each person so
21 indorsed, and shall certify that the person or persons so indorsed is
22 or are legally qualified under the laws of this State to be nominated,
23 and is or are a member or members of the political party named in
24 the petition. The petitions of a candidate for any State, county, or
25 municipal elective public office shall also include a functioning e-
26 mail address for the candidate.

27 Accompanying the petition, each person indorsed therein shall
28 file a certificate, stating that he is qualified for the office mentioned
29 in the petition, that he is a member of the political party named
30 therein, that he consents to stand as a candidate for nomination at
31 the ensuing primary election of such political party, and that, if
32 nominated, he consents to accept the nomination, to which shall be
33 annexed the oath of allegiance prescribed in R.S.41:1-1, duly taken
34 and subscribed by him before an officer authorized to take oaths in
35 this State.

36 Each petition shall be arranged to contain double spacing
37 between the signature lines of the petition, so that each signer
38 thereof is afforded sufficient space to provide his or her printed
39 name, address and signature.

40 Any form of a petition of nomination, other than petitions for
41 federal office, which is provided to candidates by the Secretary of
42 State, the county clerk, or the municipal clerk shall contain the
43 following notice: "Notice: All candidates are required by law to
44 comply with the provisions of the 'New Jersey Campaign
45 Contributions and Expenditures Reporting Act.' For further
46 information, please call (insert phone number of the Election Law
47 Enforcement Commission)."
48 (cf: P.L.1994, c.77, s.9)

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1 3. Section 7 of P.L.1995, c.278 (C.19:60-7) is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 7. Each candidate to be voted upon at a school election shall be
4 nominated directly by petition, and the procedures for such
5 nomination shall, to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions
6 of P.L.1995, c.278 (C.19:60-1 et al.), conform to the procedure for
7 nominating candidates by direct petition under chapter 13 of Title
8 19 of the Revised Statutes. Notwithstanding the provisions of
9 R.S.19:13-5, however, a petition of nomination for such office shall
10 be signed by at least 10 persons, one of whom may be the
11 candidate, and filed with the secretary of the board of education on
12 or before four p.m. of the 50th day preceding the date of the April
13 school election or with the county clerk on or before four p.m. of
14 the last Monday in July preceding the November school election, as
15 applicable. The signatures need not all appear upon a single petition
16 and any number of petitions may be filed on behalf of any candidate
17 but no petition shall contain the endorsement of more than one
18 candidate. The petitions of a candidate for member of a board of
19 education shall also include a functioning e-mail address for the
20 candidate.

21 Any candidate may withdraw as a candidate in a school election
22 by filing a notice in writing, signed by the candidate, of such
23 withdrawal with the secretary of the board of education before the
24 44th day before the date of the April election or with the county
25 clerk on the 60th day before the date of the November election, as
26 applicable, and thereupon the name of that candidate shall be
27 withdrawn by the secretary of the board of education and shall not
28 be printed on the ballot.

29 A vacancy created by a declination of nomination or withdrawal
30 by, or death of, a nominee, or in any other manner, shall be filled
31 under the provisions of R.S.19:13-19.

32 Whenever written objection to a petition of nomination
33 hereunder shall have been made and timely filed with the secretary
34 of the board of education or with the county clerk, as may be
35 appropriate, the board of education shall file its determination of the
36 objection on or before the 44th day preceding the April school
37 election or the county clerk shall file the clerk's determination of
38 the objection on or before the 10th day after the last day for the
39 filing of petitions for candidates seeking election as a member of a
40 board of education at the November school election, as applicable.
41 The last day upon which a candidate may file with the Superior
42 Court a verified complaint setting forth any invasion or threatened
43 invasion of the candidate's rights under the candidate's petition of
44 nomination shall be the 46th day before the April election or the
45 12th day after the last day for the filing of petitions for candidates
46 seeking election as a member of a board of education at the
47 November election, as applicable. The last day upon which a
48 candidate whose petition of nomination or any affidavit thereto is

1 defective may amend such petition or affidavit shall be the 44th day
2 before the April election or the 10th day after the last day for the
3 filing of petitions for candidates seeking election as a member of a
4 board of education at the November election, as applicable.

5 In each school district in which candidates for the office of
6 member of a board of education will seek election at the November
7 school election, the school business administrator thereof shall
8 certify to the county clerk no later than the day of the holding of the
9 primary election for the general election next occurring a statement
10 designating the public offices to be filled at such election, and the
11 number of such offices to be filled.

12 (cf: P.L.2013, c.172, s.1)

13

14 4. Section 4 of P.L.1981, c.379 (C.40:45-8) is amended to read
15 as follows:

16 4. On or before the 64th day prior to a regular municipal
17 election, the names of candidates for all elective offices shall be
18 filed with the municipal clerk, in the following manner and form
19 and subject to the following conditions:

20 a. The petition of nomination shall consist of individual
21 certificates, equal in number to at least 1%, but in no event less than
22 25, of the registered voters of the municipality or the ward, as the
23 case may be, and shall read substantially as follows:

24 "I, the undersigned, a registered voter of the municipality of
25, residing at certify that I do
26 hereby join in a petition of the nomination of
27 whose residence is at for the office
28 of mayor (or councilman-at-large, or ward councilman of the
29 ward, or commissioner, or village trustee, as the case may
30 be) to be voted for at the election to be held in the municipality on
31 the, 20....., and I further certify that I know this candidate
32 to be a registered voter, for the period required by law, of the
33 municipality (and the ward, in the case of ward councilman) and a
34 person of good moral character, and qualified, in my judgment, to
35 perform the duties of the office, and I further certify that I have not
36 signed more petitions or certificates of nomination than there are
37 places to be filled for the above office.

38 Signed"

39 The petition of nomination shall also include a functioning e-
40 mail address for the candidate.

41 Any such petition of nomination which is provided to candidates
42 by the municipal clerk shall contain the following notice: "Notice:
43 All candidates are required by law to comply with the provisions of
44 the 'New Jersey Campaign Contributions and Expenditures
45 Reporting Act.' For further information, please call (insert phone
46 number of the Election Law Enforcement Commission)."

47 b. Each petition signature shall be on a separate sheet of paper
48 and shall bear the name and address of the petitioner. The

1 candidate for office and his campaign manager shall make an oath
2 before an officer competent to administer oaths that the statements
3 made therein are true, and that each signature to the papers
4 appended thereto is the genuine signature of the person whose name
5 it purports to be, to their best knowledge and belief. The oath,
6 signed by the candidate, shall constitute his acceptance of
7 nomination and shall be annexed to the petition, together with the
8 oath of his campaign manager, at the time the petition is submitted.

9 c. The municipal clerk shall immediately provide the Election
10 Law Enforcement Commission with official certification of the
11 filing or withdrawal of a petition of nomination.

12 d. A candidate shall be permitted to sign or circulate, or both
13 sign and circulate, the petition required to nominate that candidate
14 for elective public office in any municipality holding regular
15 municipal elections.

16 (cf: P.L.2011, c.37, s.32)

17

18 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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20

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STATEMENT

22

23 This bill requires that a petition of nomination of a candidate for
24 any State, county, school, or municipal elective public office must
25 include a functioning e-mail address for the candidate.

26 This addition to the nominating petitions of such candidates
27 would enhance the voters' access to those candidates, particularly
28 first-time candidates, and allow voters and organizations to contact
29 candidates' campaign.