

## CHAPTER 211

**AN ACT** concerning petitions used in certain elections, amending R.S.19:23-14, R.S.19:24-4 and 19:25-3, and supplementing chapter 5 of Title 1 of the Revised Statutes.

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

1. R.S.19:23-14 is amended to read as follows:

Certification by municipal clerk.

19:23-14. Petitions addressed to the Attorney General, the county clerks, or the municipal clerks shall be filed with such officers, respectively, before 4:00 p.m. of the 57th day next preceding the day of the holding of the primary election for the general election.

Not later than the close of business of the 48th day preceding the primary election for the general election, the municipal clerk shall certify to the county clerk the full and correct names and addresses of all candidates for nomination for public and party office and the name of the political party of which such persons are candidates together with their slogan and designation. The county clerk shall transmit this information to the Election Law Enforcement Commission in the form and manner prescribed by the commission and shall notify the commission immediately upon the withdrawal of a petition of nomination.

2. R.S.19:24-4 is amended to read as follows:

National convention delegates.

19:24-4. Not less than 100 members of each such political party may file with the Attorney General at least 57 days prior to the primary election for the general election in any year of a national convention a petition requesting that the name of a person therein indorsed shall be printed on the primary ticket of such political party as candidate for the position of delegate-at-large or alternate-at-large, to be chosen by the party voters throughout the State to the national convention of that party, or as a delegate or alternate to be chosen to that convention by the voters of any congressional district.

The signers to the petition for any delegate-at-large or alternate-at-large shall be legal voters resident in the State; and the signers for any delegate or alternate from any Congressional district shall be voters of such district.

The Attorney General shall not later than the 48th day preceding the primary election for the general election certify to each county clerk and county board such nominations for delegates and alternates-at-large and the nominations for delegate or alternate for any Congressional district.

3. R.S.19:25-3 is amended to read as follows:

Presidential candidates.

19:25-3. Not less than one thousand voters of any political party may file a petition with the Attorney General on or before the 57th day before a primary election in any year in which a President of the United States is to be chosen, requesting that the name of the person indorsed therein as a candidate of such party for the office of President of the United States shall be printed upon the official primary ballot of that party for the then ensuing election for delegates and alternates to the national convention of such party.

The petition shall be prepared and filed in the form and manner herein required for the indorsement of candidates to be voted for at the primary election for the general election, except that the candidate shall not be permitted to have a designation or slogan following his name, and that it shall not be necessary to have the consent of such candidate for President indorsed on the petition.

C.1:5-3 Format of petition for referendum.

4. a. Whenever a petition is circulated within a county, municipality, school district, or special district for the purpose of gathering the signatures of registered voters in order to place a referendum question on the ballot in any election, each page of the petition shall be arranged to contain, in addition to such other content relative thereto required by law, double spacing

between the signature lines of the petition so that each signer thereof is afforded sufficient space to provide his or her printed name, address and signature.

b. Upon the enactment of this act, the Attorney General shall notify in writing each county and municipal clerk and the secretary of the board of education of each school district in the State of the provisions of subsection a. of this section and thereafter shall repeat such notification as periodically as the Attorney General deems necessary.

5. This act shall take effect immediately, but subsection a. of section 4 shall be inoperative until January 1 following enactment.

Approved August 15, 2001.