

By Senator Wise

5-00609A-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to officers and members of political party
3 executive committees; amending s. 103.161, F.S.; providing
4 for the removal or suspension of an officer or member of
5 the state executive committee, a county executive
6 committee, or other political organization upon a majority
7 vote of the state executive committee rather than at the
8 sole discretion of the chair of the state executive
9 committee; providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Section 103.161, Florida Statutes, is amended to
14 read:

15 103.161 Removal or suspension of officers or members of
16 state executive committee or county executive committee.--

17 (1) Upon a determination by a majority vote of the state
18 executive committee that an individual has violated his or her
19 oath of office or engaged in activities described in subsection
20 (2), the chair of the state executive committee is empowered to
21 remove or suspend from an office within the chair's political
22 party any officer, state committeeman, state committeewoman,
23 county committeeman, county committeewoman, precinct
24 committeeman, precinct committeewoman, or other member of a state
25 executive committee, county executive committee, political party
26 club, or other organization using the political party name as
27 provided in s. 103.081 ~~for a violation of the oath of office~~
28 ~~taken by such individual or for engaging in other activities~~
29 ~~described in this section.~~

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30 (2) Such violation may include engaging in activities that
31 have or could have injured the name or status of the political
32 party or interfered with the activities of the political party.
33 ~~The chair has sole discretion to determine if a violation~~
34 ~~occurred.~~

35 (3) Upon a ~~the chair's~~ determination that a violation of
36 the oath of office occurred or that an individual engaged in
37 ~~other~~ activities described in subsection (2) ~~this section~~, the
38 chair may remove or suspend the individual from his or her
39 office. If the chair removes the individual from office, the
40 office shall be deemed vacant upon the delivery of the chair's
41 written order of removal to the individual. When a vacancy in
42 office is created, the chair shall appoint an individual to serve
43 through the end of the term of the office. If the chair suspends
44 the individual, the chair shall determine the length of the
45 suspension.

46 (4) An individual removed from office by the chair shall
47 not be eligible to serve on the state executive committee or any
48 county executive committee of the political party for a period of
49 no less than 4 years from the effective date of the removal.

50 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.