

By Senator Wilson

33-00068-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to elections; amending s. 99.092, F.S.;

3 requiring a write-in candidate who seeks to qualify for

4 nomination or election to any office to pay a qualifying

5 fee equal to a specified percentage of the annual salary

6 for the office sought; providing an effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. Section 99.092, Florida Statutes, is amended to

11 read:

12 99.092 Qualifying fee of candidate; notification of

13 Department of State.--

14 (1) (a) Each person seeking to qualify for nomination or

15 election to any office, except a person seeking to qualify by the

16 petition process pursuant to s. 99.095 and except a person

17 seeking to qualify as a write-in candidate, shall pay a

18 qualifying fee, which shall consist of a filing fee and election

19 assessment, to the officer with whom the person qualifies, and

20 any party assessment levied, and shall attach the original or

21 signed duplicate of the receipt for his or her party assessment

22 or pay the same, in accordance with ~~the provisions of~~ s. 103.121,

23 at the time of filing his or her other qualifying papers. The

24 amount of the filing fee is 3 percent of the annual salary of the

25 office. The amount of the election assessment is 1 percent of the

26 annual salary of the office sought. The election assessment shall

27 be deposited into the Elections Commission Trust Fund. The amount

28 of the party assessment is 2 percent of the annual salary. The

29 annual salary of the office for purposes of computing the filing

33-00068-08

2008134\_\_

30 fee, election assessment, and party assessment shall be computed  
31 by multiplying 12 times the monthly salary, excluding any special  
32 qualification pay, authorized for such office as of July 1  
33 immediately preceding the first day of qualifying.

34 (b) Each person seeking to qualify for nomination or  
35 election to any office as a write-in candidate, except a person  
36 seeking to qualify by the petition process pursuant to s. 99.095,  
37 shall pay a qualifying fee that is 3 percent of the annual salary  
38 for the office sought.

39 (c) A ~~Ne~~ qualifying fee may not ~~shall~~ be returned to the  
40 candidate unless the candidate withdraws his or her candidacy  
41 before the last date to qualify. If a candidate dies before ~~prior~~  
42 ~~to~~ an election and has not withdrawn his or her candidacy before  
43 the last date to qualify, the candidate's qualifying fee shall be  
44 returned to his or her designated beneficiary, and, if the filing  
45 fee or any portion thereof has been transferred to the political  
46 party of the candidate, the Secretary of State shall direct the  
47 party to return that portion to the designated beneficiary of the  
48 candidate.

49 (2) The supervisor of elections shall, immediately after  
50 the last day for qualifying, submit to the Department of State a  
51 list containing the names, party affiliations, and addresses of  
52 all candidates and the offices for which they qualified.

53 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.