

By Senator Smith

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to political parties; amending s.
 3 103.091, F.S.; authorizing certain political parties
 4 to conduct elections for members of their state or
 5 county executive committees independent of a county;
 6 requiring that a person qualify with the qualifying
 7 officer for the party in order to be a candidate in
 8 such elections; providing an effective date.

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

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 12 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 103.091, Florida
 13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14 103.091 Political parties.—

15 (4) A ~~Any~~ political party other than a minor political
 16 party may by rule provide for the membership of its state or
 17 county executive committee to be elected at an election
 18 conducted by and for the political party, which election is
 19 independent of the county. The election shall be held for 4-year
 20 terms at the primary election in August of each year that a
 21 presidential election is held. The members of an executive
 22 committee shall be elected to 4-year terms commencing shall
 23 ~~commence~~ on the first day of the month following the each
 24 ~~presidential general election; but the names of candidates for~~
 25 ~~political party offices shall not be placed on the ballot at any~~
 26 ~~other election.~~ The results of such election shall be determined
 27 by a plurality of the votes cast. ~~In such event,~~ Electors
 28 seeking to qualify for such office shall do so with the
 29 qualifying officer for the party ~~Department of State or~~

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30 ~~supervisor of elections~~ not earlier than noon of the 71st day,
31 or later than noon of the 67th day, preceding the ~~primary~~
32 election. The outgoing chair of each county executive committee
33 shall, within 30 days after the committee members take office,
34 hold an organizational meeting of all newly elected members for
35 the purpose of electing officers. The chair of each state
36 executive committee shall, within 60 days after the committee
37 members take office, hold an organizational meeting of all newly
38 elected members for the purpose of electing officers.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.