

By the Committee on Ethics and Elections; and Senator Collins

582-02345-23

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the form of candidate oath;
3 amending s. 99.021, F.S.; revising the address that
4 certain candidates must provide on the form of
5 candidate oath; amending s. 105.031, F.S.; revising
6 the address that judicial candidates must provide on
7 the form of candidate oath; providing an effective
8 date.

9
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11
12 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
13 99.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 99.021 Form of candidate oath.—

15 (1)(a)1. Each candidate, whether a party candidate, a
16 candidate with no party affiliation, or a write-in candidate, in
17 order to qualify for nomination or election to any office other
18 than a judicial office as defined in chapter 105 or a federal
19 office, shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation in
20 writing. A copy of the oath or affirmation shall be made
21 available to the candidate by the officer before whom such
22 candidate seeks to qualify and shall be substantially in the
23 following form:

24 State of Florida

25 County of....

26 Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths,
27 personally appeared ... (please print name as you wish it to
28 appear on the ballot) ..., to me well known, who, being sworn,
29 says that he or she is a candidate for the office of; that

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30 he or she is a qualified elector of County, Florida; that
 31 he or she is qualified under the Constitution and the laws of
 32 Florida to hold the office to which he or she desires to be
 33 nominated or elected; that he or she has qualified for no other
 34 public office in the state, the term of which office or any part
 35 thereof runs concurrent with that of the office he or she seeks;
 36 that he or she has resigned from any office from which he or she
 37 is required to resign pursuant to s. 99.012, Florida Statutes;
 38 and that he or she will support the Constitution of the United
 39 States and the Constitution of the State of Florida.

40 ... (Signature of candidate) ...

41 ... (Address of legal residence) ...

42 Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of,

43 ... (year) ..., at County, Florida.

44 ... (Signature and title of officer administering oath) ...

45 2. Each candidate for federal office, whether a party
 46 candidate, a candidate with no party affiliation, or a write-in
 47 candidate, in order to qualify for nomination or election to
 48 office shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation in
 49 writing. A copy of the oath or affirmation shall be made
 50 available to the candidate by the officer before whom such
 51 candidate seeks to qualify and shall be substantially in the
 52 following form:

53 State of Florida

54 County of

55 Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths,
 56 personally appeared ... (please print name as you wish it to
 57 appear on the ballot) ..., to me well known, who, being sworn,
 58 says that he or she is a candidate for the office of; that

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59 he or she is qualified under the Constitution and laws of the
 60 United States to hold the office to which he or she desires to
 61 be nominated or elected; that he or she has qualified for no
 62 other public office in the state, the term of which office or
 63 any part thereof runs concurrent with that of the office he or
 64 she seeks; and that he or she will support the Constitution of
 65 the United States.

66 ... (Signature of candidate) ...

67 ... (Address) ...

68 Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of,
 69 ... (year) ..., at County, Florida.

70 ... (Signature and title of officer administering oath) ...

71 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section
 72 105.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

73 105.031 Qualification; filing fee; candidate's oath; items
 74 required to be filed.-

75 (4) CANDIDATE'S OATH.-

76 (b) All candidates for judicial office shall subscribe to
 77 an oath or affirmation in writing to be filed with the
 78 appropriate qualifying officer upon qualifying. A printed copy
 79 of the oath or affirmation shall be furnished to the candidate
 80 by the qualifying officer and shall be in substantially the
 81 following form:

82
 83 State of Florida

84 County of

85 Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths,
 86 personally appeared ... (please print name as you wish it to
 87 appear on the ballot) ..., to me well known, who, being sworn,

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88 says he or she: is a candidate for the judicial office of;
89 that his or her legal residence is County, Florida; that he
90 or she is a qualified elector of the state and of the
91 territorial jurisdiction of the court to which he or she seeks
92 election; that he or she is qualified under the constitution and
93 laws of Florida to hold the judicial office to which he or she
94 desires to be elected or in which he or she desires to be
95 retained; that he or she has qualified for no other public
96 office in the state, the term of which office or any part
97 thereof runs concurrent to the office he or she seeks; that he
98 or she has resigned from any office which he or she is required
99 to resign pursuant to s. 99.012, Florida Statutes; and that he
100 or she will support the Constitution of the United States and
101 the Constitution of the State of Florida.

102

103 ... (Signature of candidate) ...

104 ... (Address of legal residence) ...

105

106 Sworn to and subscribed before me this day of,

107 ... (year) ..., at County, Florida.

108

109 ... (Signature and title of officer administering oath) ...

110 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.