



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5312

Introduced 2/10/2026, by Rep. Tracy Katz Muhl

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

60 ILCS 1/45-50

Amends the Township Code. Provides that a participant in a caucus shall not, before or after participating in a township or multi-township caucus, take part in the proceedings of more than one established political party township and multi-township caucus for the same election. Defines "same election" to mean an election in the same township office held during the same election cycle.

LRB104 20630 WRO 34126 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Township Code is amended by changing
5 Section 45-50 as follows:

6 (60 ILCS 1/45-50)

7 Sec. 45-50. Caucus procedures.

8 (a) The rules of procedure for conducting a township or
9 multi-township caucus must be approved and may be amended by a
10 majority vote of the qualified participants attending the
11 caucus. No participant shall be able to participate or vote at
12 any township or multi-township caucus if the person is or was
13 at anytime during the 12 months before the caucus any of the
14 following:

15 (1) An elected or appointed public official of another
16 established political party.

17 (2) An elected or appointed officer, director,
18 precinct committeeman or representative of the township
19 committeeman of another established political party.

20 (3) A judge of election under Article 13 or 14 of the
21 Election Code for another statewide established political
22 party.

23 (4) A voter who voted in the primary election of

1 another statewide established political party different
2 from the party holding the caucus.

3 (b) The rules of procedure shall include the following:

4 (1) No caucus shall commence earlier than 6:00 p.m.

5 (2) The caucus shall commence at the place specified
6 in the notice of caucus.

7 (3) Procedures by which qualified caucus participants
8 determine by a majority vote the duties of caucus judges
9 of election. Caucus judges of election shall be appointed
10 by a majority vote of the township or multi-township
11 central committee. No judge of the Supreme Court,
12 appellate court, or circuit court or associate judge shall
13 serve as a caucus judge of election.

14 (4) Nominations for selection as a candidate shall be
15 accepted from any qualified participant of the caucus.

16 (5) The method of voting (i.e., written ballot, voice
17 vote, show of hands, standing vote) for determining the
18 candidate or candidates selected for nomination.

19 (6) Whether candidates will be selected as a slate or
20 as individual nominees for each office.

21 (7) Whether written notice of intent to be a caucus
22 nominee is required.

23 (8) Other rules deemed necessary by the central
24 committee at the time the rules are promulgated or by the
25 majority of the qualified caucus participants when the
26 rules are being considered at their meeting.

1 (9) A participant in a caucus shall be entitled to
2 only one vote for each office for which he or she is
3 voting. A participant's vote shall not be weighted to be
4 equal to more than one vote.

5 (c) Individuals participating at an established political
6 party township or multi-township caucus shall comply with each
7 of the following:

8 (1) A participant shall be registered under Article 4,
9 5, or 6 of the Election Code.

10 (2) A participant shall be registered within the
11 territory for which the nomination is made.

12 (3) A participant shall sign an affidavit that he or
13 she is a registered voter and affiliated with the
14 established political party holding the caucus.

15 (4) A participant shall not take part in the
16 proceedings of more than one established political party
17 township and multi-township caucus for the same election.
18 This requirement also applies to the township and
19 multi-township clerks.

20 (5) A participant shall not, before or after
21 participating in a township or multi-township caucus, sign
22 a petition of nomination for an independent or new
23 political party candidate for the same election.

24 (6) A participant shall not become an independent
25 candidate or a candidate of another established political
26 party or a new political party for the same election.

1 (d) The voters participating at an established political
2 party township or multi-township caucus shall not select for
3 nomination more candidates than there are to be elected for
4 each office.

5 (e) No candidate for nomination at a township or
6 multi-township caucus shall be required to do either of the
7 following:

8 (1) Circulate and file nominating petitions to become
9 a candidate at the caucus.

10 (2) File a fee to become a candidate at the caucus.

11 (f) For purposes of this Section "same election" means an
12 election in the same township office held during the same
13 election cycle.

14 (Source: P.A. 100-219, eff. 8-18-17.)