# 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY <br> State of Illinois <br> 2007 and 2008 

HB5111

by Rep. Paul D. Froehlich

## SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

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10 ILCS 5/7-10
10 ILCS 5/7-59
10 ILCS 5/28-6
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> from Ch. 46 , par. $7-10$
> from Ch. 46 , par. $7-59$
> from Ch. 46 , par. $28-6$

Amends the Election Code. Removes the greater nominating petition signature requirement for county offices in DuPage County (from 1.5\% to $0.5 \%$ of qualified primary voters). Requires the filing of a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate on a primary ballot no later than 7 (now, 61) days before the primary in order for votes for that write-in candidate to be counted. Makes the minimum petition signature requirement for local public questions $8 \%$ of the total votes cast for all gubernatorial candidates at the most recent gubernatorial election by the voters of the political subdivision (now, with respect to questions at elections in 2009 and later, $11 \%$ of the total ballots cast by voters in the political subdivision at the most recent regular election).

LRB095 17311 JAM 43380 b

## A BILL FOR

AN ACT concerning elections.

# Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly: 

Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing Sections 7-10, 7-59, and 28-6 as follows:
(10 ILCS 5/7-10) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-10)
Sec. 7-10. Form of petition for nomination. The name of no candidate for nomination, or State central committeeman, or township committeeman, or precinct committeeman, or ward committeeman or candidate for delegate or alternate delegate to national nominating conventions, shall be printed upon the primary ballot unless a petition for nomination has been filed in his behalf as provided in this Article in substantially the following form:

We, the undersigned, members of and affiliated with the .... party and qualified primary electors of the .... party, in the .... of ...., in the county of .... and State of Illinois, do hereby petition that the following named person or persons shall be a candidate or candidates of the .... party for the nomination for (or in case of committeemen for election to) the office or offices hereinafter specified, to be voted for at the primary election to be held on (insert date).

John Jones
Thomas Smith
Governor
Belvidere, Ill.
Attorney General Oakland, Ill.

Name
Address

State of Illinois)
) ss.

County of........)
I, ...., do hereby certify that $I$ reside at No. .... street, in the .... of ...., county of ...., and State of ....., that $I$ am 18 years of age or older, that $I$ am a citizen of the United States, and that the signatures on this sheet were signed in my presence, and are genuine, and that to the best of my knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at the time of signing the petitions qualified voters of the .... party, and that their respective residences are correctly stated, as above set forth.

Subscribed and sworn to before me on (insert date).
$\qquad$

Each sheet of the petition other than the statement of candidacy and candidate's statement shall be of uniform size and shall contain above the space for signatures an appropriate heading giving the information as to name of candidate or
candidates, in whose behalf such petition is signed; the office, the political party represented and place of residence; and the heading of each sheet shall be the same.

Such petition shall be signed by qualified primary electors residing in the political division for which the nomination is sought in their own proper persons only and opposite the signature of each signer, his residence address shall be written or printed. The residence address required to be written or printed opposite each qualified primary elector's name shall include the street address or rural route number of the signer, as the case may be, as well as the signer's county, and city, village or town, and state. However the county or city, village or town, and state of residence of the electors may be printed on the petition forms where all of the electors signing the petition reside in the same county or city, village or town, and state. Standard abbreviations may be used in writing the residence address, including street number, if any. At the bottom of each sheet of such petition shall be added a circulator statement signed by a person 18 years of age or older who is a citizen of the United States, stating the street address or rural route number, as the case may be, as well as the county, city, village or town, and state; and certifying that the signatures on that sheet of the petition were signed in his or her presence and certifying that the signatures are genuine; and either (1) indicating the dates on which that sheet was circulated, or (2) indicating the first and last
dates on which the sheet was circulated, or (3) certifying that none of the signatures on the sheet were signed more than 90 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petition and certifying that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at the time of signing the petitions qualified voters of the political party for which a nomination is sought. Such statement shall be sworn to before some officer authorized to administer oaths in this State.

No petition sheet shall be circulated more than 90 days preceding the last day provided in Section 7-12 for the filing of such petition.

The person circulating the petition, or the candidate on whose behalf the petition is circulated, may strike any signature from the petition, provided that:
(1) the person striking the signature shall initial the petition at the place where the signature is struck; and
(2) the person striking the signature shall sign a certification listing the page number and line number of each signature struck from the petition. Such certification shall be filed as a part of the petition. Such sheets before being filed shall be neatly fastened together in book form, by placing the sheets in a pile and fastening them together at one edge in a secure and suitable manner, and the sheets shall then be numbered consecutively. The sheets shall not be fastened by pasting them together end to end, so as to form a continuous strip or roll. All petition
sheets which are filed with the proper local election officials, election authorities or the State Board of Elections shall be the original sheets which have been signed by the voters and by the circulator thereof, and not photocopies or duplicates of such sheets. Each petition must include as a part thereof, a statement of candidacy for each of the candidates filing, or in whose behalf the petition is filed. This statement shall set out the address of such candidate, the office for which he is a candidate, shall state that the candidate is a qualified primary voter of the party to which the petition relates and is qualified for the office specified (in the case of a candidate for State's Attorney it shall state that the candidate is at the time of filing such statement a licensed attorney-at-law of this State), shall state that he has filed (or will file before the close of the petition filing period) a statement of economic interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act, shall request that the candidate's name be placed upon the official ballot, and shall be subscribed and sworn to by such candidate before some officer authorized to take acknowledgment of deeds in the State and shall be in substantially the following form:

Statement of Candidacy

| Name | Address | Office | District | Party |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| John Jones | 102 Main St. Governor | Statewide Republican |  |  |
| Belvidere, |  |  |  |  |

Illinois

State of Illinois)
) ss.

County of .......)
I, ...., being first duly sworn, say that $I$ reside at .... Street in the city (or village) of ...., in the county of ...., State of Illinois; that I am a qualified voter therein and am a qualified primary voter of the .... party; that $I$ am $a$ candidate for nomination (for election in the case of committeeman and delegates and alternate delegates) to the office of .... to be voted upon at the primary election to be held on (insert date); that $I$ am legally qualified (including being the holder of any license that may be an eligibility requirement for the office $I$ seek the nomination for) to hold such office and that $I$ have filed (or I will file before the close of the petition filing period) a statement of economic interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act and I hereby request that my name be printed upon the official primary ballot for nomination for (or election to in the case of committeemen and delegates and alternate delegates) such office.
$\qquad$
Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me by ...., who is to me personally known, on (insert date).

Signed
(Official Character)
(Seal, if officer has one.)

The petitions, when filed, shall not be withdrawn or added to, and no signatures shall be revoked except by revocation filed in writing with the State Board of Elections, election authority or local election official with whom the petition is required to be filed, and before the filing of such petition. Whoever forges the name of a signer upon any petition required by this Article is deemed guilty of a forgery and on conviction thereof shall be punished accordingly.

A candidate for the offices listed in this Section must obtain the number of signatures specified in this Section on his or her petition for nomination.
(a) Statewide office or delegate to a national nominating convention. If a candidate seeks to run for statewide office or as a delegate or alternate delegate to a national nominating convention elected from the state at-large, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 5,000 but not more than 10,000 signatures.
(b) Congressional office or congressional delegate to a national nominating convention. If a candidate seeks to run for United States Congress or as a congressional delegate or alternate congressional delegate to a national nominating convention elected from a congressional district, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified primary
electors of his or her party in his or her congressional district. In the first primary election following a redistricting of congressional districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 600 signatures of qualified primary electors of the candidate's political party in his or her congressional district.
(c) County office. If a candidate seeks to run for any countywide office, including but not limited to county board chairperson or county board member, elected on an at-large basis, in a county other than cook County, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified electors of his or her party who cast votes at the last preceding general election in his or her county for $1.5 \%$ if the eounty is Durage county). If a candidate seeks to run for county board member elected from a county board district, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified primary electors of his or her party in the county board district for $1.5 \%$ if the eounty is Durage founty). In the first primary election following a redistricting of county board districts or the initial establishment of county board districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified electors of his or her party in the entire county who cast votes at the last preceding general election divided by the total number of
county board districts comprising the county board for $1.5 \%$ if the eounty is Durage county; provided that in no event shall the number of signatures be less than 25.
(d) County office; Cook County only.
(1) If a candidate seeks to run for countywide office in Cook County, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified electors of his or her party who cast votes at the last preceding general election in Cook County.
(2) If a candidate seeks to run for Cook County Board Commissioner, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified primary electors of his or her party in his or her county board district. In the first primary election following a redistricting of Cook County Board of Commissioners districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified electors of his or her party in the entire county who cast votes at the last preceding general election divided by the total number of county board districts comprising the county board; provided that in no event shall the number of signatures be less than 25.
(3) If a candidate seeks to run for Cook County Board of Review Commissioner, which is elected from a district pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 5-5 of the Property

Tax Code, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the total number of registered voters in his or her board of review district in the last general election at which a commissioner was regularly scheduled to be elected from that board of review district. In no event shall the number of signatures required be greater than the requisite number for a candidate who seeks countywide office in Cook County under subsection (d) (1) of this Section. In the first primary election following a redistricting of Cook County Board of Review districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 4,000 signatures or at least the number of signatures required for a countywide candidate in cook County, whichever is less, of the qualified electors of his or her party in the district.
(e) Municipal or township office. If a candidate seeks to run for municipal or township office, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified primary electors of his or her party in the municipality or township. If a candidate seeks to run for alderman of a municipality, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the qualified primary electors of his or her party of the ward. In the first primary election following redistricting of aldermanic wards or trustee districts of a municipality or the initial
establishment of wards or districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to at least $0.5 \%$ of the total number of votes cast for the candidate of that political party who received the highest number of votes in the entire municipality at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from the entire municipality, divided by the number of wards or districts. In no event shall the number of signatures be less than 25.
(f) State central committeeperson. If a candidate seeks to run for state central committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 100 signatures of the primary electors of his or her party of his or her congressional district.
(g) Sanitary district trustee. If a candidate seeks to run for trustee of a sanitary district in which trustees are not elected from wards, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the primary electors of his or her party from the sanitary district. If a candidate seeks to run for trustee of a sanitary district in which trustees are elected from wards, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the primary electors of his or her party in the ward of that sanitary district. In the first primary election following redistricting of sanitary districts elected from wards, a
candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the signatures of 150 qualified primary electors of his or her ward of that sanitary district.
(h) Judicial office. If a candidate seeks to run for judicial office in a district, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to $0.4 \%$ of the number of votes cast in that district for the candidate for his or her political party for the office of Governor at the last general election at which a Governor was elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. If a candidate seeks to run for judicial office in a circuit or subcircuit, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to $0.25 \%$ of the number of votes cast for the judicial candidate of his or her political party who received the highest number of votes at the last general election at which a judicial officer from the same circuit or subcircuit was regularly scheduled to be elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures.
(i) Precinct, ward, and township committeeperson. If a candidate seeks to run for precinct committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 10 signatures of the primary electors of his or her party for the precinct. If a candidate seeks to run for ward committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain no less than the number of signatures equal to $10 \%$ of the primary electors of his or her party of the ward, but no more than $16 \%$
of those same electors; provided that the maximum number of signatures may be 50 more than the minimum number, whichever is greater. If a candidate seeks to run for township committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain no less than the number of signatures equal to $5 \%$ of the primary electors of his or her party of the township, but no more than $8 \%$ of those same electors; provided that the maximum number of signatures may be 50 more than the minimum number, whichever is greater.
(j) State's attorney or regional superintendent of schools for multiple counties. If a candidate seeks to run for State's attorney or regional Superintendent of Schools who serves more than one county, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the primary electors of his or her party in the territory comprising the counties.
(k) Any other office. If a candidate seeks any other office, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to $0.5 \%$ of the registered voters of the political subdivision, district, or division for which the nomination is made or 25 signatures, whichever is greater.

For purposes of this Section the number of primary electors shall be determined by taking the total vote cast, in the applicable district, for the candidate for that political party who received the highest number of votes, statewide, at the
last general election in the State at which electors for President of the United States were elected. For political subdivisions, the number of primary electors shall be determined by taking the total vote cast for the candidate for that political party who received the highest number of votes in the political subdivision at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that subdivision. For wards or districts of political subdivisions, the number of primary electors shall be determined by taking the total vote cast for the candidate for that political party who received the highest number of votes in the ward or district at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that ward or district.

A "qualified primary elector" of a party may not sign petitions for or be a candidate in the primary of more than one party.

The changes made to this Section of this amendatory Act of the $93 r$ General Assembly are declarative of existing law, except for item (3) of subsection (d).

Petitions of candidates for nomination for offices herein specified, to be filed with the same officer, may contain the names of 2 or more candidates of the same political party for the same or different offices.
(Source: P.A. 94-645, eff. 8-22-05; 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)
(10 ILCS 5/7-59) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-59)
Sec. 7-59. (a) The person receiving the highest number of votes at a primary as a candidate of a party for the nomination for an office shall be the candidate of that party for such office, and his name as such candidate shall be placed on the official ballot at the election then next ensuing; provided, that where there are two or more persons to be nominated for the same office or board, the requisite number of persons receiving the highest number of votes shall be nominated and their names shall be placed on the official ballot at the following election.

Except as otherwise provided by Section 7-8 of this Act, the person receiving the highest number of votes of his party for State central committeeman of his congressional district shall be declared elected State central committeeman from said congressional district.

Unless a national political party specifies that delegates and alternate delegates to a National nominating convention be allocated by proportional selection representation according to the results of a Presidential preference primary, the requisite number of persons receiving the highest number of votes of their party for delegates and alternate delegates to National nominating conventions from the State at large, and the requisite number of persons receiving the highest number of votes of their party for delegates and alternate delegates to National nominating conventions in their respective
congressional districts shall be declared elected delegates and alternate delegates to the National nominating conventions of their party.

A political party which elects the members to its State Central Committee by Alternative $B$ under paragraph (a) of Section $7-8$ shall select its congressional district delegates and alternate delegates to its national nominating convention by proportional selection representation according to the results of a Presidential preference primary in each congressional district in the manner provided by the rules of the national political party and the State Central Committee, when the rules and policies of the national political party so require.

A political party which elects the members to its State Central Committee by Alternative $B$ under paragraph (a) of Section 7-8 shall select its at large delegates and alternate delegates to its national nominating convention by proportional selection representation according to the results of a Presidential preference primary in the whole State in the manner provided by the rules of the national political party and the State Central Committee, when the rules and policies of the national political party so require.

The person receiving the highest number of votes of his party for precinct committeeman of his precinct shall be declared elected precinct committeeman from said precinct.

The person receiving the highest number of votes of his
party for township committeeman of his township or part of a township as the case may be, shall be declared elected township committeeman from said township or part of a township as the case may be. In cities where ward committeemen are elected, the person receiving the highest number of votes of his party for ward committeeman of his ward shall be declared elected ward committeeman from said ward.

When two or more persons receive an equal and the highest number of votes for the nomination for the same office or for committeeman of the same political party, or where more than one person of the same political party is to be nominated as a candidate for office or committeeman, if it appears that more than the number of persons to be nominated for an office or elected committeeman have the highest and an equal number of votes for the nomination for the same office or for election as committeeman, the election authority by which the returns of the primary are canvassed shall decide by lot which of said persons shall be nominated or elected, as the case may be. In such case the election authority shall issue notice in writing to such persons of such tie vote stating therein the place, the day (which shall not be more than 5 days thereafter) and the hour when such nomination or election shall be so determined.
(b) Write-in votes shall be counted only for persons who have filed notarized declarations of intent to be write-in candidates with the proper election authority or authorities not later than $\underline{7}$ days prior to the primary. Her,


Forms for the declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate shall be supplied by the election authorities. Such declaration shall specify the office for which the person seeks nomination or election as a write-in candidate.

The election authority or authorities shall deliver a list of all persons who have filed such declarations to the election judges in the appropriate precincts prior to the primary.
(c) (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Section, where the number of candidates whose names have been printed on a party's ballot for nomination for or election to an office at a primary is less than the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate for or elect to the office at the primary, a person whose name was not printed on the party's primary ballot as a candidate for nomination for or election to the office, is not nominated for or elected to that office as a result of a write-in vote at the primary unless the number of votes he received equals or exceeds the number of signatures required on a petition for nomination for that office; or unless the number of votes he receives exceeds the number of
votes received by at least one of the candidates whose names were printed on the primary ballot for nomination for or election to the same office.
(2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply where the number of candidates whose names have been printed on the party's ballot for nomination for or election to the office at the primary equals or exceeds the number of persons the party is entitled to nominate for or elect to the office at the primary.
(Source: P.A. 94-647, eff. 1-1-06; 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)
(10 ILCS 5/28-6) (from Ch. 46, par. 28-6)
Sec. 28-6. Petitions; filing.
(a) On a written petition signed by a number of voters equal to (i) through the general election in 2008, at least $8 \%$ of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election by the registered voters of the municipality, township, county or school district (ii) beginning with elections in 2009 and thereafter, at least $11 \%$ of the total ballots cast by the registered votexs of the municipality, township, county, or school district in the last regular election eondueted in the municipality, towship, eunty, or school district, it shall be the duty of the proper election officers to submit any question of public policy so petitioned for, to the electors of such political subdivision at any regular election named in the petition at which an
election is scheduled to be held throughout such political subdivision under Article 2A. Such petitions shall be filed with the local election official of the political subdivision or election authority, as the case may be. Where such a question is to be submitted to the voters of a municipality which has adopted Article 6, or a township or school district located entirely within the jurisdiction of a municipal board of election commissioners, such petitions shall be filed with the board of election commissioners having jurisdiction over the political subdivision.
(b) In a municipality with more than 1,000,000 inhabitants, when $a$ question of public policy exclusively concerning a contiguous territory included entirely within but not coextensive with the municipality is initiated by resolution or ordinance of the corporate authorities of the municipality, or by a petition which may be signed by registered voters who reside in any part of any precinct all or part of which includes all or part of the territory and who equal in number (i) throug the genexal election in 2008 at least $8 \%$ of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election by the voters of the precinct or precincts in the territory where the question is to be submitted to the voters and (ii) beginning with elections in zoog and thereafter, at least $11 \%$ of the total ballots east at
the last regular election conducted in the precinct of precincts in the territory where the question is to be
submitted to the voters, it shall be the duty of the election authority having jurisdiction over such municipality to submit such question to the electors throughout each precinct all or part of which includes all or part of the territory at the regular election specified in the resolution, ordinance or petition initiating the public question. A petition initiating a public question described in this subsection shall be filed with the election authority having jurisdiction over the municipality. A resolution, ordinance or petition initiating a public question described in this subsection shall specify the election at which the question is to be submitted.
(c) Local questions of public policy authorized by this Section and statewide questions of public policy authorized by Section 28-9 shall be advisory public questions, and no legal effects shall result from the adoption or rejection of such propositions.
(d) This Section does not apply to a petition filed pursuant to Article IX of the Liquor Control Act of 1934. (Source: P.A. 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)

