

CHAPTER 94.

[S. B. 111.]

MINOR POLITICAL PARTIES.

AN ACT relating to elections, providing for an exclusive method by which minor parties may nominate candidates for public office, and repealing sections 5167 to 5170, inclusive, and sections 5225 to 5249, inclusive, and section 5211, and sections 5250 to 5268, inclusive, of Remington's Revised Statutes.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:

SECTION 1. Any new party or existing political organization not entitled to participate in a primary election may nominate in convention candidates for public office in the manner hereafter set forth.

New or
minor
parties.

SEC. 2. A "convention" for the purposes of this act, is an organized assemblage of at least twenty-five registered voters representing a political party, organization or principle.

"Conven-
tion."

SEC. 3. Any party or organization desiring to hold a convention under this act must, at least ten days before the date of the regular primary election, give notice thereof to the public by publication of a written notice in a newspaper of general circulation in this state published in the county wherein such convention is to be held. Such notice shall contain a statement of the date, hour and place of the calling of the convention and a general statement of the purposes or principles of such party or organization.

Notice of
convention.

SEC. 4. Such convention must take place on the day of the regular primary election and must have a presiding officer and secretary.

Date.

SEC. 5. All nominations made by such convention, shall be certified, as follows: The certificate of nomination, which shall be in writing, shall con-

Certificate of
nomination.

tain the name of each person nominated, his residence, his business, and the office for which he is named, and shall designate, in not more than five words, the party or principle which such convention represents and shall contain proof of publication of the notice of the calling of the convention. It shall be verified by the oath of the presiding officer and secretary of such convention, and signed by at least twenty-five of those present who must be registered voters, and all signers shall add their voting addresses to such certificate for the information of the secretary of state. No person signing such certificate may vote in the primary election held on the day of such convention and his signature shall be invalid if he does so.

Secretary of state to check signatures.

SEC. 6. Upon the receipt of the certificate of nomination provided for in this act, the secretary of state shall check from the records the required signatures thereto to ascertain if the signers are registered voters and whether said signers voted at the primary election held on the same day as said convention. If the secretary of state finds that such certificate is defective or does not comply with this law he shall refuse to file the same and any declarations of candidacy of candidates nominated by such convention.

Declaration of candidacy.

SEC. 7. If the certificate be valid, each candidate nominated by such convention may file with the secretary of state a declaration of candidacy as nearly as possible in the form prescribed for candidates subject to primary election, and each candidate must at the time of filing such declaration pay to the secretary of state the fee prescribed by law for candidates subject to primary election.

Fee.

Candidates to file forty days before general election.

SEC. 8. The certificate of nominations made by such convention, and the declarations of candidacy of the individual candidates nominated may be filed

with the secretary of state at any time after said convention is held, but such filing must be complete forty days before the date of the general election for which such nominations were made.

SEC. 9. If any nominations made by such convention are intended for county, district or other local offices and valid declarations of candidacy have been filed, the secretary of state shall transmit the same to the appropriate county officers for printing upon the official ballot at the same time and in the same manner as nominations for other offices are transmitted, and shall at the same time transmit the filing fees of such county, district or local candidates to the respective county treasurers.

County
offices.

SEC. 10. This act is the exclusive method by which candidates of minor parties, organizations or groups may be nominated and become entitled to a place upon the ballot at the general election.

Exclusive
method.

SEC. 11. Sections 5167 to 5170, inclusive, and sections 5225 to 5249, inclusive, and section 5211, and sections 5250 to 5268, inclusive, of Remington's Revised Statutes be and the same are hereby repealed.

Statutes
repealed.

Passed the Senate February 2, 1937.

Passed the House March 4, 1937.

Approved by the Governor March 13, 1937.