

AN ACT CONCERNING NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS FOR CIRCULATORS OF NOMINATING AND PRIMARY PETITIONS

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 9-453e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage).

Each circulator of a nominating petition page shall be a United States citizen, at least eighteen years of age and [a resident of a town in this state and] shall not be on parole for conviction of a felony. Any individual proposed as a candidate in any nominating petition may serve as circulator of the pages of such nominating petition.

Sec. 2. Section 9-453j of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage).

Each page of a nominating petition submitted to the town clerk or the Secretary of the State and filed with the Secretary of the State under the provisions of sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or section 9-216 shall contain a statement as to the residency [in this state] and eligibility of the circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon, signed under penalties of false statement, by the person who circulated the same. Such statement shall set forth (1) such circulator's residence address, including the town [in this state] in which such circulator is a resident, (2) the circulator's date of birth and that the circulator is at least eighteen years of age, (3) that the circulator is a United States citizen and not on parole for conviction of a felony, [and] (4) that each person whose name appears on such page signed the same in person in the presence of such circulator and that either the circulator knows each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself to the circulator[.], and (5) if the circulator is not a resident in this state, the circulator shall submit to the jurisdiction of the State. Any false statement committed with respect to such statement shall be deemed to have been committed in the town in which the petition was circulated.

Sec. 3. Section 9-453k of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage).

(a) The town clerk or Secretary of the State shall not accept any page of a nominating petition unless the circulator thereof has signed before him or an appropriate person as provided in section 1-29, the statement as to the residency [in this state] and eligibility of the circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon required by section 9-453j.

Sec. 4. Section 9-453o of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage).

(a) The Secretary of the State may not count for purposes of determining compliance with the number of signatures required by section 9-453d the signatures certified by the town clerk on any petition page filed under sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, or 9-216 if: (1) The name of the

candidate, his address or the party designation, if any, has been omitted from the face of the petition; (2) the page does not contain a statement by the circulator as to the residency [in this state] and eligibility of the circulator and authenticity of the signatures thereon as required by section 9-453j or upon which such statement of the circulator is incomplete in any respect; or (3) the page does not contain the certifications required by sections 9-453a to 9-453s, inclusive, by the town clerk of the town in which the signers reside. The town clerk shall cure any omission on his part by signing any such page at the office of the Secretary of the State and making the necessary amendment or by filing a separate statement in this regard, which amendment shall be dated.

Sec. 5. Section 9-404b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage).

(d) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be entitled to vote and either an enrolled party member of a municipality in this state or willing to accept the jurisdiction of the State. If the circulator is an enrolled party member of a municipality in this state, each petition page shall contain a statement signed by the registrar of the municipality in which the circulator is an enrolled party member attesting that the circulator is an enrolled party member in the municipality. If the circulator is not an enrolled party member in this state, the circulator shall submit to the jurisdiction of the State in writing and the registrar shall attest to such writing. Unless such a statement by the registrar of voters appears on each page so submitted, the Secretary shall reject the page. Each separate page of the petition shall contain a statement as to the authenticity of the signatures on the page and the number of such signatures, and shall be signed under the penalties of false statement by the person who circulated the page, setting forth the circulator's address and the town in which the circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that each person whose name appears on the page signed the petition in person in the presence of the circulator, that the circulator either knows each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified himself or herself to the circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices sought and the political party involved were filled in prior to the obtaining of the signatures. Each separate page of the petition shall also be acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in section 1-29. The Secretary shall reject any page of a petition filed with the Secretary which does not contain such a statement by the circulator as to the authenticity of the signatures on the page, or upon which the statement of the circulator is incomplete in any respect, or which does not contain the certification required under this section by the registrar of the town in which the circulator is an enrolled party member. Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary petition may serve as a circulator of the pages of the petition, provided the individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of this section.

Sec. 6. Section 9-410 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective from passage).

(c) Each circulator of a primary petition page shall be entitled to vote and either an enrolled party member of a municipality in this state or willing to accept the jurisdiction of the State. If the circulator is an enrolled party member of a municipality in this state, each petition page shall contain a statement signed by the registrar of the municipality in which such circulator is an enrolled party member attesting that the circulator is an enrolled party member in such

municipality. If the circulator is not an enrolled party member in this state, the circulator shall submit to the jurisdiction of the State in writing and the registrar shall attest to such writing. Unless such a statement by the registrar appears on each page so submitted, the registrar shall reject such page. No candidate for the nomination of a party for a municipal office or the position of town committee member shall circulate any petition for another candidate or another group of candidates contained in one primary petition for the nomination of such party for the same office or position, and any petition page circulated in violation of this provision shall be rejected by the registrar. No person shall circulate petitions for more than the maximum number of candidates to be nominated by a party for the same office or position, and any petition page circulated in violation of this provision shall be rejected by the registrar. Each separate sheet of such petition shall contain a statement as to the authenticity of the signatures thereon and the number of such signatures, and shall be signed under the penalties of false statement by the person who circulated the same, setting forth such circulator's address and the town in which such circulator is an enrolled party member and attesting that each person whose name appears on such sheet signed the same in person in the presence of such circulator, that the circulator either knows each such signer or that the signer satisfactorily identified the signer to the circulator and that the spaces for candidates supported, offices or positions sought and the political party involved were filled in prior to the obtaining of the signatures. Each separate sheet of such petition shall also be acknowledged before an appropriate person as provided in section 1-29. Any sheet of a petition filed with the registrar which does not contain such a statement by the circulator as to the authenticity of the signatures thereon, or upon which the statement of the circulator is incomplete in any respect, or which does not contain the certification hereinbefore required by the registrar of the town in which the circulator is an enrolled party member, shall be rejected by the registrar. Any individual proposed as a candidate in any primary petition may serve as a circulator of the pages of such petition, provided such individual's service as circulator does not violate any provision of this section.