

AMENDMENTS TO LB85

Introduced by Government, Military and Veterans Affairs.

1           1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new  
2 sections:

3           Section 1. Section 32-602, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
4 amended to read:

5           32-602 (1) Any person seeking an elective office shall be a  
6 registered voter at the time of filing for the office pursuant to section  
7 32-606 or 32-611.

8           (2) Any person filing for office shall meet the constitutional and  
9 statutory requirements of the office for which he or she is filing. If a  
10 person is filing for a partisan office, he or she shall be a registered  
11 voter affiliated with the appropriate political party if required  
12 pursuant to section 32-702. If the person is required to sign a contract  
13 or comply with a bonding or equivalent commercial insurance policy  
14 requirement prior to holding such office, he or she shall be at least  
15 nineteen years of age at the time of filing for the office.

16           (3) A person shall not be eligible to file for an office if he or  
17 she holds the office and his or her term of office expires after the  
18 beginning of the term of office for which he or she would be filing. This  
19 subsection does not apply to filing for an office to represent a  
20 different district, ward, subdistrict, or subdivision of the same  
21 governmental entity as the office held at the time of filing.

22           (4)(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b) of this subsection, a  
23 person shall not be eligible to file for an office until he or she has  
24 paid any outstanding civil penalties and interest imposed pursuant to the  
25 Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act. The filing officer  
26 shall determine such eligibility before accepting a filing. The Nebraska  
27 Accountability and Disclosure Commission shall provide the filing

1 officers with current information or the most current list of such  
2 outstanding civil penalties and interest owed pursuant to subdivision  
3 (13) of section 49-14,123.

4 (b) A person owing a civil penalty to the commission shall be  
5 eligible to file for an office if:

6 (i) The matter in which the civil penalty was assessed is pending on  
7 appeal before a state court; and

8 (ii) The person files with the commission a surety bond running in  
9 favor of the State of Nebraska with surety by a corporate bonding company  
10 authorized to do business in this state and conditioned upon the payment  
11 of the civil penalty imposed under the Nebraska Political Accountability  
12 and Disclosure Act.

13 (5) {4} The governing body of the political subdivision swearing in  
14 the officer shall determine whether the person meets all requirements  
15 prior to swearing in the officer.

16 Sec. 2. Section 32-607, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
17 amended to read:

18 32-607 All candidate filing forms shall contain the following  
19 statement: I hereby swear that I will abide by the laws of the State of  
20 Nebraska regarding the results of the primary and general elections, that  
21 I am a registered voter and qualified to be elected, and that I will  
22 serve if elected. Candidate filing forms shall also contain the following  
23 information regarding the candidate: Name ~~candidate's name~~; residence  
24 address; mailing address if different from the residence address;  
25 telephone number; office sought; ~~and~~ party affiliation if the office  
26 sought is a partisan office; a statement as to whether or not civil  
27 penalties are owed pursuant to the Nebraska Political Accountability and  
28 Disclosure Act; and, if civil penalties are owed, whether or not a surety  
29 bond has been filed pursuant to subdivision (4)(b) of section 32-602.

30 Candidate filing forms shall be filed with the following filing officers:

31 (1) For candidates for national, state, or congressional office,

1 directors of public power and irrigation districts, directors of  
2 reclamation districts, directors of natural resources districts, members  
3 of the boards of educational service units, members of governing boards  
4 of community colleges, delegates to national conventions, and other  
5 offices filled by election held in more than one county and judges  
6 desiring retention, in the office of the Secretary of State;

7 (2) For officers elected within a county, in the office of the  
8 election commissioner or county clerk;

9 (3) For officers in school districts which include land in adjoining  
10 counties, in the office of the election commissioner or county clerk of  
11 the county in which the greatest number of registered voters entitled to  
12 vote for the officers reside; and

13 (4) For city or village officers, in the office of the election  
14 commissioner or county clerk.

15 Sec. 3. Section 49-1401, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
16 amended to read:

17 49-1401 Sections 49-1401 to 49-14,141 and section 4 of this act  
18 shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Political Accountability  
19 and Disclosure Act.

20 Sec. 4. No person shall be appointed to any elective or appointive  
21 office specified in section 49-1493 until he or she has first paid any  
22 outstanding civil penalties and interest imposed pursuant to the Nebraska  
23 Political Accountability and Disclosure Act.

24 Sec. 5. Section 49-14,123, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
25 2016, is amended to read:

26 49-14,123 In addition to any other duties prescribed by law, the  
27 commission shall:

28 (1) Adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the  
29 Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act pursuant to the  
30 Administrative Procedure Act;

31 (2) Prescribe forms for statements and reports required to be filed

1 pursuant to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act and  
2 furnish such forms to persons required to file such statements and  
3 reports;

4 (3) Prepare and publish one or more manuals explaining the duties of  
5 all persons and other entities required to file statements and reports by  
6 the act and setting forth recommended uniform methods of accounting and  
7 reporting for such filings;

8 (4) Accept and file any reasonable amount of information voluntarily  
9 supplied that exceeds the requirements of the act;

10 (5) Make statements and reports filed with the commission available  
11 for public inspection and copying during regular office hours and make  
12 copying facilities available at a cost of not more than fifty cents per  
13 page;

14 (6) Compile and maintain an index of all reports and statements  
15 filed with the commission to facilitate public access to such reports and  
16 statements;

17 (7) Prepare and publish summaries of statements and reports filed  
18 with the commission and special reports and technical studies to further  
19 the purposes of the act;

20 (8) Review all statements and reports filed with the commission in  
21 order to ascertain whether any person has failed to file a required  
22 statement or has filed a deficient statement;

23 (9) Preserve statements and reports filed with the commission for a  
24 period of not less than five years from the date of receipt;

25 (10) Issue and publish advisory opinions on the requirements of the  
26 act upon the request of a person or government body directly covered or  
27 affected by the act. Any such opinion rendered by the commission, until  
28 amended or revoked, shall be binding on the commission in any subsequent  
29 charges concerning the person or government body who requested the  
30 opinion and who acted in reliance on it in good faith unless material  
31 facts were omitted or misstated by the person or government body in the

1 request for the opinion;

2 (11) Act as the primary civil enforcement agency for violations of  
3 the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act and the rules or  
4 regulations adopted and promulgated thereunder;

5 (12) Receive all late filing fees, civil penalties, and interest  
6 imposed pursuant to the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure  
7 Act and remit all such funds to the State Treasurer for credit to the  
8 Nebraska Accountability and Disclosure Commission Cash Fund;~~and~~

9 (13) Provide current information or a list of persons owing civil  
10 penalties and interest to filing officers to determine compliance with  
11 subsection (4) of section 32-602. The commission shall provide the  
12 current information or list to each filing officer on December 1 prior to  
13 a statewide primary election, shall continuously update the information  
14 or list through March 1 prior to the statewide primary election, and  
15 shall update such information or list at other times upon request of a  
16 filing officer; and

17 (14) (13) Prepare and distribute to the appropriate local officials  
18 statements of financial interest, campaign committee organization forms,  
19 filing instructions and forms, and such other forms as the commission may  
20 deem appropriate.

21 Sec. 6. Original sections 32-602, 32,607, and 49-1401, Reissue  
22 Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and section 49-14,123, Revised Statutes  
23 Cumulative Supplement, 2016, are repealed.