GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2001

S SENATE BILL 1468

Short Title:	Nonpartisan DA Election.	(Public)		
Sponsors:	Senator Thomas.			
Referred to:	Judiciary II.			
	June 18, 2002			
AN ACT ATTORN	A BILL TO BE ENTITLED TO PROVIDE FOR NONPARTISAN ELECTION OF NEYS.	DISTRICT		
The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:				
SECTION 1. The title of Subchapter X and Article 25 of Chapter 163 of the				
General Statutes reads as rewritten:				
"SUBCHAF	PTER X. ELECTION OF SUPERIOR AND DISTRICT COURT	` JUDGES.		
	JUDGES AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.			
Article 25.				
Nomman	ion and Election of Superior and District Court Judges. Judges and Attorneys."	1 District		
SI	ECTION 2. G.S. 163-321 reads as rewritten:			
	Applicability.			
	nination and election of superior and district court judges of t	the General		
	stice and district attorneys shall be as provided by this Article."			
SI	ECTION 3. G.S. 163-323(b) reads as rewritten:			
"(b) Ti	ime for Filing Notice of Candidacy Candidates seeking elec-	ction to the		
following offices shall file their notice of candidacy with the State Board of Elections				
no earlier than 12:00 noon on the second Monday in February and no later than 12:00				
	last business day in February preceding the election:			
•	of the superior courts.			
Judges of	of the district courts.			

District attorneys."

"(b) Requirements of Petition; Deadline for Filing. – If the candidate is seeking the office of superior or district court judge, or district attorney, that individual shall file a written petition with the State Board of Elections no later than 12:00 noon on Monday preceding the filing deadline before the primary. The petition shall be signed by ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of the election area in which the office will be

SECTION 4. G.S. 163-325(b) reads as rewritten:

voted for. The board of elections shall verify the names on the petition, and if the petition and notice of candidacy are found to be sufficient, the candidate's name shall be printed on the appropriate ballot. Petitions must be presented to the county board of elections for verification at least 15 days before the petition is due to be filed with the State Board of Elections. The State Board of Elections may adopt rules to implement this section and to provide standard petition forms."

SECTION 5. G.S. 163-326(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Notification of Local Boards. – No later than 10 days after the time for filing notices of candidacy under the provisions of G.S. 163-323(b) has expired, the chairman of the State Board of Elections shall certify to the chairman of the county board of elections in each county in the appropriate district the names of candidates for nomination to the offices of superior and district court judge and district attorney who have filed the required notice and paid the required filing fee or presented the required petition to the State Board of Elections, so that their names may be printed on the official judicial ballot for superior and district court.ballot."

SECTION 6. G.S. 163-327(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Death, Disqualification, or Resignation of Official After Election. – If a person elected to the office of superior or district court judge <u>or district attorney</u> dies, becomes disqualified, or resigns on or after election day and before he has qualified by taking the oath of office, the office shall be deemed vacant and shall be filled as provided by law."

SECTION 7. G.S. 163-332(b) reads as rewritten:

"(b) Ballots to Be Furnished by County Board of Elections. - It shall be the duty of the county board of elections to print official ballots for the following offices to be voted for in the primary:

Superior court judge.

District court judge.

District attorney.

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In printing ballots, the county board of elections shall be governed by instructions of the State Board of Elections with regard to width, color, kind of paper, form, and size of type."

SECTION 8. G.S. 163-106(c) reads as rewritten:

"(c) Time for Filing Notice of Candidacy. – Candidates seeking party primary nominations for the following offices shall file their notice of candidacy with the State Board of Elections no earlier than 12:00 noon on the second Monday in February and no later than 12:00 noon on the last business day in February preceding the primary:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- 39 All State executive officers
- 40 United States Senators
- 41 Members of the House of Representatives of the United States
- 42 District attorneys

Candidates seeking party primary nominations for the following offices shall file their notice of candidacy with the county board of elections no earlier than 12:00 noon

1	on the second Monday in February and no later than 12:00 noon on the last business day				
2	in February preceding the primary:				
3	State Senators				
4	Members of the State House of Representatives				
5	All county offices."				
6	SECTION 9. G.S. 163-107(a) reads as rewritten:				
7		ng a notice of candidacy, each candidate			
8	shall pay to the board of elections with which he files under the provisions of G.S.				
9	163-106 a filing fee for the office he seeks i	-			
10	tabulation:				
11	Office Sought	Amount of Filing			
12	Governor	One percent (1%) of the annual			
13		salary of the office sought			
14	Lieutenant Governor	One percent (1%) of the annual			
15		salary of the office sought			
16	All State executive offices	One percent (1%) of the annual			
17		salary of the office sought			
18	All Justices, Justices and Judges, Judges	One percent (1%) of the annual			
19	and DistrictAttorneys of	salary of the office sought			
20	the General Court of Justice other	Ç			
21	than superior and district court judge				
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23	United States Senator	One percent (1%) of the annual			
24		salary of the office sought			
25	Members of the United States House of	One percent (1%) of the annual			
26	Representatives	salary of the office sought			
27	State Senator	One percent (1%) of the annual			
28		salary of the office sought			
29	Member of the State House of	One percent (1%) of the annual			
30	Representatives	salary of the office sought			
31	All county offices not compensated by	One percent (1%) of the annual			
32	fees	salary of the office sought			
33	County commissioners, if compensated	Ten dollars (\$10.00)			
34	entirely by fees				
35	Members of county board of education,	Five dollars (\$5.00)			
36	if compensated entirely by fees				
37	Sheriff, if compensated entirely by fees	Forty dollars (\$40.00), plus one			
38		percent (1%) of the income of the			
39		office above four thousand			
40		dollars (\$4,000)			
41	Clerk of superior court, if compensated				
42	entirely by fees	Forty dollars (\$40.00), plus one			
43		percent (1%) of the income of the			

1 2		office above four thousand dollars (\$4,000)
3	Register of deeds, if compensated	ασπαίο (ψ4,000)
4	entirely by fees	Forty dollars (\$40.00), plus one
5	enthery by rees	percent (1%) of the income of the
6		office above four thousand
7		dollars (\$4,000)
8	Any other county office, if compensated	ασπαιό (ψ4,000)
9	entirely by fees	Twenty dollars (\$20.00), plus one
10	onthery by rees	percent (1%) of the income of
11		the office above two thousand
12		dollars (\$2,000)
13	All county offices compensated partly	donars (\$2,000)
14	by salary and partly by fees	One percent (1%) of the first annual
15	by satary and partry by ices	salary to be received (exclusive
16		of fees)"
17	SECTION 10. G.S. 163-111(c)(1) r	·
18		ly entitled to demand a second primary,
19	= =	sults, for one of the offices listed below,
20		file a request for a second primary in
21		the Executive Director of the State Board
22		2:00 noon on the seventh day (including
23		wing the date on which the primary was
24	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	shall be subject to the certification of the
25	_	oard of Elections. If the vote certification
26	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	ons determines that a candidate who was
27	•	eligible to call for a second primary is in
28	- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	and primary, the Executive Director of the
29		l immediately notify such candidate and
30		ptions available to him within a 48-hour
31	period following the notificati	
32	Governor,	on.
33	Lieutenant Governor,	
34	All State executive offi	cers
35		strict Attorneys Justice and Judges of the
36		of Justice, other than superior and district
37	court judges,	r sustice, other than superior and district
38	United States Senators,	
39		States House of Representatives,
40		-county senatorial districts, and
41		House of Representatives in multi-county
42	representative d	
43	SECTION 11. G.S. 163-107.1(c) re	

County, Municipal and District Primaries. – If the candidate is seeking one of 1 2 the offices set forth in G.S. 163-106(c) but which is not listed in subsection (b) of this 3 section, or a municipal or any other office requiring a partisan primary which is not set 4 forth in G.S. 163-106(c) or (d), he shall file a written petition with the appropriate board 5 of elections no later than 12:00 noon on Monday preceding the filing deadline before 6 the primary. The petition shall be signed by ten percent (10%) of the registered voters of 7 the election area in which the office will be voted for, who are affiliated with the same 8 political party in whose primary the candidate desires to run, or in the alternative, the 9 petition shall be signed by no less than 200 registered voters regardless of said voter's 10 political party affiliation, whichever requirement is greater. The board of elections shall verify the names on the petition, and if the petition is found to be sufficient, the 11 12 candidate's name shall be printed on the appropriate primary ballot. Petitions for 13 candidates for member of the U.S. House of Representatives, District Attorney, 14 Representatives and members of the State House of Representatives from multi-county 15 districts or members of the State Senate from multi-county districts must be presented to 16 the county board of elections for verification at least 15 days before the petition is due 17 to be filed with the State Board of Elections, and such petition must be filed with the 18 State Board of Elections no later than 12:00 noon on Monday preceding the filing 19 deadline. The State Board of Elections may adopt rules to implement this section and to 20 provide standard petition forms." 21

SECTION 12. G.S. 163-114 reads as rewritten:

"§ 163-114. Filling vacancies among party nominees occurring after nomination and before election.

If any person nominated as a candidate of a political party for one of the offices listed below (either in a primary or convention or by virtue of having no opposition in a primary) dies, resigns, or for any reason becomes ineligible or disqualified before the date of the ensuing general election, the vacancy shall be filled by appointment according to the following instructions:

29	Position	
30	President	Vacancy is to be filled by
31		appointment
32	Vice President	of national executive committee
33		of political party in which
34		vacancy occurs
35	Presidential elector or alternate elector	Vacancy is to be filled by
36		appointment
37	Any elective State office	of State executive committee of
38	United States Senator	political party in which vacancy
39		occurs
40	A district office, including:	Appropriate district executive
41	Member of the United States House of	committee of political party in
42	Representatives	which vacancy occurs
43	District Attorney	·
44	State Senator in a multi-county	

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senatorial district 1 2 Member of State House of 3 Representatives in a multi-county 4 representative district 5 6 State Senator in a single-county County executive committee of 7 senatorial district political party in which vacancy 8 Member of State House of occurs, provided, in the case of Representatives in a single-county 9 the 10 representative district State Senator or State Any elective county office Representative in a single-county 11 12 district where not all the county is 13 located in that district, then in 14 voting, only those members of the 15 county executive committee who 16 reside within the district shall vote 17

The party executive making a nomination in accordance with the provisions of this section shall certify the name of its nominee to the chairman of the board of elections, State or county, charged with the duty of printing the ballots on which the name is to appear. If at the time a nomination is made under this section the general election ballots have already been printed, the provisions of G.S. 163-165.3(c) shall apply. If a vacancy occurs in a nomination of a political party and that vacancy arises from a cause other than death and the vacancy in nomination occurs more than 120 days before the general election, the vacancy in nomination may be filled under this section only if the appropriate executive committee certifies the name of the nominee in accordance with this paragraph at least 75 days before the general election.

In a county not all of which is located in one congressional district, in choosing the congressional district executive committee member or members from that area of the county, only the county convention delegates or county executive committee members who reside within the area of the county which is within the congressional district may vote.

In a county which is partly in a multi-county senatorial district or which is partly in a multi-county House of Representatives district, in choosing that county's member or members of the senatorial district executive committee or House of Representatives district executive committee for the multi-county district, only the county convention delegates or county executive committee members who reside within the area of the county which is within that multi-county district may vote."

SECTION 13. This act becomes effective with respect to elections held on or after January 1, 2003.

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