

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2017**

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**SENATE BILL 181*
State and Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 4/25/17**

Short Title: Amend W-S Charter/Certain Candidates. (Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 7, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CHARTER OF THE CITY OF WINSTON-SALEM TO
3 ESTABLISH A UNIFORM PROCESS FOR THE ELECTION OF INDEPENDENT OR
4 NONPARTISAN CANDIDATES IN MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Paragraph 6 of Section 12A of the Charter of the City of
7 Winston-Salem, being Chapter 232 of the Private Laws of 1927, as amended by Chapter 13 of
8 the 1965 Session Laws and by Ordinance dated January 6, 2003, reads as rewritten:

9 "Sec. 12A. Generally.

10 ...

11 6. Independent or nonpartisan candidates; petition; affidavit of candidates; filing of petition;
12 rules and regulations governing petitions. ~~The Forsyth County Board of Elections shall include~~
13 ~~among the candidates for municipal office, as independent or nonpartisan candidates, the name~~
14 ~~of any qualified voter who has been requested to be a candidate for office by written petitions~~
15 ~~signed by at least twenty five percent (25%) of those entitled to vote for a candidate for such~~
16 ~~office according to the vote cast in the last municipal election for the particular office, when~~
17 ~~such petition is accompanied by an affidavit from such proposed candidate that he seeks to~~
18 ~~become an independent or nonpartisan candidate and does not affiliate with any political party;~~
19 ~~provided, such petition is filed with the secretary of the board of elections on or before twelve~~
20 ~~o'clock Noon on the third Friday preceding the general municipal election for such~~
21 ~~office.~~The Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for municipal office shall comply with
22 the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes, provided the Forsyth
23 County board of elections may prescribe rules and regulations covering governing the
24 following:

- 25 (1) Setting the date and time completed petitions must be timely submitted for
26 verification.
27 (2) Stating the information that shall be set out in the petition to be signed by the
28 voters requesting a person to be a candidate for any such office, such as the
29 giving of the full name of every such voter, the street address of such voter
30 and any other pertinent information required to facilitate the checking of
31 such petition against the registration books."

32 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

