

By: Springer

H.B. No. 2504

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to candidates nominated by convention.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 141, Election Code, is amended by adding Section 141.041 to read as follows:

Sec. 141.041. FILING FEE OR PETITION TO APPEAR ON BALLOT FOR GENERAL ELECTION FOR STATE AND COUNTY OFFICERS. (a) In addition to any other requirements, to be eligible to be placed on the ballot for the general election for state and county officers, a candidate who is nominated by convention under Chapter 181 or 182 must:

(1) pay a filing fee to the secretary of state for a statewide or district office or the county judge for a county or precinct office; or

(2) submit to the secretary of state for a statewide or district office or the county judge for a county or precinct office a petition in lieu of a filing fee that satisfies the requirements prescribed by Subsection (e) and Section 141.062.

(b) The amount of the filing fee is the amount prescribed by Section 172.024 for a candidate for nomination for the same office in a general primary election.

(c) A filing fee received by the secretary of state shall be deposited in the state treasury to the credit of the general revenue fund.

(d) A filing fee received by the county judge shall be

1 deposited in the county treasury to the credit of the county general
2 fund.

3 (e) The minimum number of signatures that must appear on the
4 petition authorized by Subsection (a) is the number prescribed by
5 Section 172.025 to appear on a petition of a candidate for
6 nomination for the same office in a general primary election.

7 (f) The secretary of state shall adopt rules as necessary to
8 implement this section.

9 SECTION 2. Section 181.005, Election Code, is amended by
10 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

11 (c) A political party is entitled to have the names of its
12 nominees placed on the general election ballot, without qualifying
13 under Subsection (a) or (b), if the party had a nominee for a
14 statewide office who received a number of votes equal to at least
15 two percent of the total number of votes received by all candidates
16 for that office at least once in the five previous general
17 elections.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.