

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 665

101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE BARINGER.

1160H.011

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To repeal section 115.306, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to qualifications of candidates for public office.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 115.306, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 115.306, to read as follows:

115.306. 1. No person shall qualify as a candidate for elective public office in the state of Missouri who has been found guilty of or pled guilty to a felony under the federal laws of the United States of America or to a felony under the laws of this state or an offense committed in another state that would be considered a felony in this state.

2. (1) Any person who files as a candidate for election to a public office shall be disqualified from participation in the election for which the candidate has filed if such person is delinquent in the payment of any state income taxes, personal property taxes, municipal taxes, real property taxes on the place of residence, as stated on the declaration of candidacy, or if the person is a past or present corporate officer of any fee office that owes any taxes to the state.

(2) Each potential candidate for election to a public office, except candidates for a county or city committee of a political party, shall file an affidavit with the department of revenue and include a copy of the affidavit with the declaration of candidacy required under section 115.349. Such affidavit shall be in substantially the following form:

AFFIRMATION OF TAX PAYMENTS AND BONDING REQUIREMENTS:

I hereby declare under penalties of perjury that I am not currently aware of any delinquency in the filing or payment of any state income taxes, personal property taxes, municipal taxes, real property taxes on the place of residence, as stated on the declaration of

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 candidacy, or that I am a past or present corporate officer of any fee office that owes any taxes
19 to the state, other than those taxes which may be in dispute. I declare under penalties of perjury
20 that I am not aware of any information that would prohibit me from fulfilling any bonding
21 requirements for the office for which I am filing.

22 Candidate's Signature

23 Printed Name of Candidate

24 (3) Upon receipt of a complaint alleging a delinquency of the candidate in the filing or
25 payment of any state income taxes, personal property taxes, municipal taxes, real property taxes
26 on the place of residence, as stated on the declaration of candidacy, or if the person is a past or
27 present corporate officer of any fee office that owes any taxes to the state, the department of
28 revenue shall investigate such potential candidate to verify the claim contained in the complaint.
29 If the department of revenue finds a positive affirmation to be false, the department shall contact
30 the secretary of state, or the election official who accepted such candidate's declaration of
31 candidacy, and the potential candidate. The department shall notify the candidate of the
32 outstanding tax owed and give the candidate thirty days to remit any such outstanding taxes owed
33 which are not the subject of dispute between the department and the candidate. If the candidate
34 fails to remit such amounts in full within thirty days, the candidate shall be disqualified from
35 participating in the current election and barred from refileing for an entire election cycle even if
36 the individual pays all of the outstanding taxes that were the subject of the complaint.

37 **(4) Any person who files as a candidate for election to a public office that performs**
38 **county functions in a city not within a county shall provide appropriate copies of paid tax**
39 **receipts or no tax due statements for each tax listed in subdivision (1) of this subsection**
40 **that indicate the person has paid all taxes due and is not delinquent in any tax. If**
41 **available, the election authority shall utilize online databases to verify the candidate's taxes**
42 **instead of the paper copies provided by the candidate. The election authority shall review**
43 **such documentation and the affirmation of tax payments required under subdivision (2)**
44 **of this subsection. The election authority may file a complaint with the department of**
45 **revenue if there appears to be any delinquency. In addition to the above review, the**
46 **election authority shall verify there is no ethics complaint filed under section 105.472 with**
47 **the Missouri ethics commission for this person. If such a complaint has been filed against**
48 **the person, the election authority shall not allow the person's name to be placed on a ballot**
49 **until the ethics complaint has been resolved. This subdivision shall apply only to a city not**
50 **within a county's offices that perform county functions.**

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