

SENATE BILL No. 918

April 26, 2016, Introduced by Senator BIEDA and referred to the Committee on Elections and Government Reform.

A bill to amend 1954 PA 116, entitled
"Michigan election law,"
by amending section 163 (MCL 168.163), as amended by 2012 PA 276.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 163. (1) To obtain the printing of the name of a person
2 as a candidate for nomination by a political party for the office
3 of state senator or representative under a particular party heading
4 upon the official primary ballots in the various election precincts
5 of a district, there shall be filed nominating petitions signed by
6 a number of qualified and registered electors residing in the
7 district as determined under section 544f. If the district
8 comprises more than 1 county, the nominating petitions shall be
9 filed with the secretary of state. If the district comprises 1

1 county or less, the nominating petitions shall be filed with the
2 county clerk of that county. Nominating petitions shall be in the
3 form prescribed in section 544c. ~~Until December 31, 2013, the~~
4 ~~secretary of state and the various county clerks shall receive~~
5 ~~nominating petitions for filing in accordance with this act up to 4~~
6 ~~p.m. of the twelfth Tuesday before the August primary. Beginning~~
7 ~~January 1, 2014, the~~ **THE** secretary of state and the various county
8 clerks shall receive nominating petitions for filing in accordance
9 with this act up to 4 p.m. of the fifteenth Tuesday before the
10 August primary.

11 (2) In lieu of filing a nominating petition, a filing fee of
12 ~~\$100.00~~ **\$500.00** may be paid to the county clerk or, for a candidate
13 in a district comprising more than 1 county, to the secretary of
14 state. Payment of the fee and certification of the name of the
15 candidate paying the fee shall be governed by the same provisions
16 as in the case of nominating petitions. The fee shall be deposited
17 in the general fund of the county and shall be refunded to
18 candidates who are nominated and to an equal number of candidates
19 who receive the next highest number of votes in the primary
20 election. If 2 or more candidates tie in having the lowest number
21 of votes allowing a refund, the sum of ~~\$100.00~~ **\$500.00** shall be
22 divided among them. A refund of a deposit shall not be made to a
23 candidate who withdraws as a candidate.

24 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days
25 after the date it is enacted into law.