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LAW/RWH

P.L.2011, CHAPTER 180, *approved January 17, 2012*
Senate, No. 374 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning the reorganization meeting of county
2 committees of political parties and amending R.S.19:5-3.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. R.S.19:5-3 is amended to read as follows:

8 19:5-3. The members of the county committees of political
9 parties shall be elected at the primary for the general election in the
10 manner provided in this Title for the selection of party candidates to
11 be voted for at the general election by voters of a municipality at
12 such intervals as shall be provided in the bylaws of the county
13 committee. The county committee shall consist of one male and
14 one female member from each unit of representation in the county.
15 The male receiving the highest number of votes among the male
16 candidates and the female receiving the highest number of votes
17 among the female candidates shall be declared elected. Members of
18 the county committee shall actually reside in the districts or units
19 which they respectively represent. The county committee shall
20 determine by its bylaws the units into which the county shall be
21 divided for purpose of representation in the county committee.

22 The members of the county committee of each of the political
23 parties shall take office on the first Saturday following their
24 election, on which day the terms of all members of such committees
25 theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each
26 county committee shall be held on the first Tuesday following the
27 primary election, except that when such meeting day falls on a legal
28 holiday then the said meeting shall be held on the day following,
29 and when such meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff
30 election within the county then said meeting may be held on the day
31 following, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice in
32 writing to be mailed by the chairperson to each member and
33 member-elect. If the annual meeting coincides with a period of
34 religious observance, the meeting **[shall]** may **'** be held on another
35 date, and under no circumstances shall that date occur later than the
36 third Tuesday following the primary election. The members of such
37 committee shall elect some suitable person as chairperson who
38 shall be a resident of such county to hold office until a successor is
39 elected. The chairperson of the outgoing county committee shall
40 transmit, with the notice of the annual meeting, a copy of the
41 constitution and bylaws to any newly elected committee member.

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly ASG committee amendments adopted December 12, 2011.

1 The members shall also elect a vice-chairperson of the opposite sex
2 of the chairperson to hold office for 1 year or until a successor is
3 elected and the vice-chairperson shall perform all duties required
4 by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee. Any
5 person elected or appointed to membership on the county committee
6 pursuant to R.S.19:5-2 may request, in writing and by certified mail
7 to the county chairperson, such constitution or bylaws currently in
8 effect. The committee member requesting the constitution or
9 bylaws shall receive the constitution or bylaws within 48 hours of
10 the receipt of the request by the chairperson. The chairperson shall
11 preside at all meetings of the committee and shall perform all duties
12 required by law and the constitution and bylaws of such committee.

13 When a member of a county committee ceases to be a resident of
14 the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the county
15 committee shall exist. A member of a county committee of any
16 political party may resign his or her office to the committee of
17 which he or she is a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the
18 committee, a vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a
19 member of the county committee of any political party, caused by
20 death, resignation, failure to elect, or removal for cause, shall be
21 filled for the unexpired term by the municipal committee of the
22 municipality wherein the vacancy occurs, if there is such
23 committee, and if not, by the remaining members of the county
24 committee of such political party representing the territory in the
25 county in which such vacancy occurs. The chairperson of the
26 outgoing county committee shall provide a copy of the constitution
27 and bylaws to any committee member appointed pursuant to
28 R.S.19:5-2 to fill a vacancy within three business days of the
29 committee member's selection.

30 The chairperson of the county committee of the several political
31 parties shall, before April 1 in a year in which county committee
32 members are to be elected, certify to the clerk of each municipality
33 in the county the unit of representation in such municipality,
34 together with the enumeration of the election district or districts
35 embraced within such unit.

36 (cf: P.L.2009, c.135, s.2)

37

38 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

39

40

41

42

43 _____
44 Permits alternative annual reorganization meeting date for
45 county political committees if regular date coincides with period of
religious observance.

SENATE, No. 374

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator LORETTA WEINBERG

District 37 (Bergen)

Senator ROBERT M. GORDON

District 38 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Sarlo

SYNOPSIS

Provides for alternative annual reorganization meeting date for county political committees if regular date coincides with period of religious observance.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



1 AN ACT concerning the reorganization meeting of county
2 committees of political parties and amending R.S.19:5-3.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. R.S.19:5-3 is amended to read as follows:

8 19:5-3. The members of the county committees of political
9 parties shall be elected annually at the primary for the general
10 election in the manner provided in this Title for the selection of
11 party candidates to be voted for at the general election by voters of
12 a municipality. The county committee shall consist of one male
13 and one female member from each unit of representation in the
14 county. The male receiving the highest number of votes among the
15 male candidates and the female receiving the highest number of
16 votes among the female candidates shall be declared elected.
17 Members of the county committee shall actually reside in the
18 districts or units which they respectively represent. The county
19 committee shall determine by its bylaws the units into which the
20 county shall be divided for purpose of representation in the county
21 committee.

22 The members of the county committee of each of the political
23 parties shall take office on the first Saturday following their
24 election, on which day the terms of all members of such committees
25 theretofore elected shall terminate. The annual meeting of each
26 county committee shall be held on the first Tuesday following the
27 primary election, except that when such meeting day falls on a legal
28 holiday then the said meeting shall be held on the day following,
29 and when such meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff
30 election within the county then said meeting may be held on the day
31 following, at an hour and place to be designated in a notice in
32 writing to be mailed by the chairman of the outgoing county
33 committee to each member-elect[, at which]. If the annual meeting
34 coincides with a period of religious observance, the meeting shall
35 be held on another date, and under no circumstances shall that date
36 occur later than the third Tuesday following the primary election.
37 At the annual meeting the members of such committee shall elect
38 some suitable person as chairman who shall be a resident of such
39 county to hold office for 1 year, or until his successor is elected.
40 The members shall also elect a vice-chairman of the opposite sex of
41 the chairman to hold office for 1 year or until his or her successor is
42 elected and the vice-chairman shall perform all duties required of
43 him or her by law and the constitution and bylaws of such
44 committee. Such committee shall have power to adopt a

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1 constitution and bylaws for its proper government. The chairman
2 shall preside at all meetings of the committee and shall perform all
3 duties required of him by law and the constitution and bylaws of
4 such committee.

5 When a member of a county committee ceases to be a resident of
6 the district or unit from which elected, a vacancy on the county
7 committee shall exist. A member of a county committee of any
8 political party may resign his office to the committee of which he
9 is a member, and upon acceptance thereof by the committee a
10 vacancy shall exist. A vacancy in the office of a member of the
11 county committee of any political party, caused by death,
12 resignation, failure to elect or otherwise, shall be filled for the
13 unexpired term by the municipal committee of the municipality
14 wherein the vacancy occurs, if there is such committee, and if not,
15 by the remaining members of the county committee of such
16 political party representing the territory in the county in which such
17 vacancy occurs.

18 The chairman of the county committee of the several political
19 parties shall before April 1, certify to the clerk of each municipality
20 in the county the unit of representation in such municipality,
21 together with the enumeration of the election district or districts
22 embraced within such unit.

23 (cf: P.L.1980, c.105, s.3)

24

25 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

26

27

28

STATEMENT

29

30 This bill provides that in the event that the annual meeting of a
31 county committee of a political party coincides with a period of
32 religious observance, the meeting is to be held on another date, and
33 under no circumstances is that date to occur later than the third
34 Tuesday following the primary election.

35 Current law provides for the annual meeting of the county
36 committee of a political party to occur on the first Tuesday
37 following the primary election, except that when the day for such a
38 meeting falls on a legal holiday, then the meeting is to be held on
39 the following day, and when the day for such a meeting day falls on
40 the day of a municipal runoff election, the meeting may be held on
41 the following day.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, WAGERING, TOURISM &
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 374

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

The Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 374.

This bill requires that, in the event that the annual meeting of a county committee of a political party coincides with a period of religious observance, the meeting must be held on another date, and under no circumstances can that date occur later than the third Tuesday following the primary election.

Current law requires that the annual meeting of the county committee of a political party must occur on the first Tuesday following the primary election, except that when the day for such a meeting falls on a legal holiday, then the meeting must be held on the following day, and when the day for such a meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff election, the meeting may be held on the following day.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2010-2011 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.

ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 374

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 12, 2011

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate, No. 374.

As amended, this bill provides that, in the event that the annual meeting of a county committee of a political party coincides with a period of religious observance, the meeting may be held on another date, and under no circumstances can that date occur later than the third Tuesday following the primary election.

Current law requires that the annual meeting of the county committee of a political party must occur on the first Tuesday following the primary election, except that when the day for such a meeting falls on a legal holiday, then the meeting must be held on the following day, and when the day for such a meeting day falls on the day of a municipal runoff election, the meeting may be held on the following day.

Senate, No. 374 (1R) is identical to Assembly, No. 977 (1R) of 2010.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to allow, as opposed to require, the annual meeting of a county committee of a political party coinciding with a period of religious observance to be held on another date.

ASSEMBLY, No. 977

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 214th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2010 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman GARY S. SCHAER

District 36 (Bergen, Essex and Passaic)

SYNOPSIS

Provides for alternative annual reorganization meeting date for county political committees if regular date coincides with period of religious observance.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 1/25/2011)

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44 committee. Such committee shall have power to adopt a
45 constitution and bylaws for its proper government. The chairman

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