

19:5-6

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

NJSA 19:5-6

Laws of 1977 Chapter 145 (Party platforms-revise dates for completion & addition.)  
Bill No. S3351

Sponsor(s) Cafiero and Merlino

Date Introduced June 27, 1977

Committee: Assembly

Senate

Amended during passage  Yes  No Substituted for A3434, which was identical

Date of passage: Assembly June 30, 1977

Senate June 27, 1977

Date of approval July 7, 1977

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement Yes  No

Committee Statement: Assembly Yes  No

Senate Yes  No

Fiscal Note Yes  No

Veto message Yes  No

Message on signing Yes  No

Following were printed:

Reports Yes  No

Hearings Yes  No

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10/4/76

SENATE, No. 3351

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 27, 1977

By Senators CAFIERO and MERLINO

(Without Reference)

AN ACT concerning elections in relation to State conventions of the political parties, and amending R. S. 19:5-6.

1 BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
2 *of New Jersey:*

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

2 19:5-6. There shall be held in each year in which all members  
3 of the General Assembly are to be elected a State convention of  
4 each of the political parties.

5 Such State convention of each party shall consist of the follow-  
6 ing members:

7 (1) The party candidates for the following officers:

8 (a) Members of the Senate or House of Representatives of  
9 the United States from this State, nominated at the party  
10 primaries held for the nomination of candidates for any of  
11 said offices immediately preceding the convention.

12 (b) State Senator nominated, in each county, at the party  
13 primaries, held for the nomination of a candidate for said  
14 office, immediately preceding the convention, and

15 (c) Members of the General Assembly, nominated in each  
16 county, at the party primaries immediately preceding the con-  
17 vention, if the convention is to be held in a year in which all  
18 of the members of the General Assembly are to be elected;  
19 or all of the party candidates for said offices, in each county,  
20 who were voted upon and were not elected at the general elec-  
21 tion held in the year immediately preceding the convention, if  
22 the convention is to be held in a year other than one in which  
23 all of the members of the General Assembly are to be elected,  
24 except that any candidates nominated for the filling of vacan-  
25 cies, in said offices, at the party primaries held in the year in  
26 which the convention is held, shall replace, to an equal number,

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

27 the candidates so voted upon and not elected at the general  
28 election held in the preceding year, who received the least  
29 number of votes in said general election;

30 (2) The candidate of the party for Governor nominated at the  
31 primaries in said year;

32 (3) Members of the State Senate and of the General Assembly  
33 belonging to the party who are holding office at the time of the  
34 State convention and whose successors are not to be chosen at the  
35 ensuing general election;

36 (4) Members of the State Committee chosen as herein provided;

37 (5) Members of the Senate and House of Representatives of the  
38 United States from this State, belonging to such party, who are  
39 holding office at the time of the holding of the State convention and  
40 whose successors are not to be chosen at the ensuing general  
41 election;

42 (6) Members of the National Committee from this State; and

43 (7) The county **[chairmen]** *chairperson and vice chairperson* of  
44 the several county committees.

45 The convention of each party shall be held at the city of Trenton  
46 on the second Thursday after the primary election for the general  
47 election in each year in which all members of the General Assembly  
48 are to be elected. When the day prescribed by law for holding  
49 State conventions of political parties, or any adjournment thereof,  
50 falls on a legal holiday, the convention or adjournment thereof, as  
51 the case may be, shall be held on the day preceding such legal  
52 holiday. The place and the hour at which the convention shall meet  
53 shall be fixed by call of the existing State Committee to be issued  
54 at least 5 days prior to the date of meeting. If no call is issued by  
55 the State Committee, any person qualified to sit in the convention  
56 may issue a call.

57 The convention of each party shall have power to adopt and  
58 promulgate a party platform for its party, and to transact such  
59 other business as may properly come before it. The convention of  
60 each political party, in this Title authorized, upon convening, shall  
61 appoint a committee on resolutions consisting of 5 members. The  
62 convention shall then be open for the reception of all proposed  
63 planks for the party platform, which planks shall be referred to  
64 the committee on resolutions, whose duty it shall be to prepare  
65 a tentative party platform and furnish to each member of the con-  
66 vention within **[1 week]** *3 weeks* thereafter a copy of the same and  
67 of all other planks submitted to it which have not been incorporated  
68 in the tentative party platform, together with the names and

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69 addresses of the delegates proposing the same. After the introduc-  
70 tion of all proposed planks and the reference thereof to the com-  
71 mittee on resolutions, the convention shall adjourn to meet again  
72 **[2]** 4 weeks later at its originally set meeting place. At the ad-  
73 journed meeting the respective conventions shall consider and  
74 may adopt the draft of the platform so prepared by the committee  
75 on resolutions with such amendments as shall be suggested and  
76 adopted in the conventions as a whole. The voting on the adoption  
77 of the party platform shall be on the entire platform as reported  
78 by the committee on resolutions, unless there be an objection to  
79 any separate plank or planks or to any amendment thereto, in  
80 which case the voting on such plank or planks or amendment shall  
81 be by the "ayes" and "nays" of the members of the convention  
82 present and voting.

83 The provisions of this section shall not preclude the holding of  
84 additional State conventions of the political parties at such times  
85 as the State Committees of the parties shall determine.

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall be retroactive  
2 to June 23, 1977.

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#### STATEMENT

This bill would extend from 1 to 3 weeks following the State party conventions the time to complete a tentative party platform and from 2 to 4 weeks after the conventions for their reconvening to act on proposed planks.

The bill would also add the county vice chairpersons as delegates to State party conventions.

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