

1 AN ACT relating to elections.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 118.165 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) Except as provided in KRS Chapters 116 to 121, candidates for offices to be voted  
5 for by the electors of one (1) county or of a district less than one (1) county, except  
6 members of Congress and members of the General Assembly, shall file their  
7 nomination papers with the county clerk of the county not earlier than the first  
8 Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the year the  
9 office will appear on the ballot and not later than the last Tuesday in January  
10 preceding the day fixed by law for holding the primary. Candidates for offices to be  
11 voted for by the electors of more than one (1) county, and for members of Congress  
12 and members of the General Assembly, shall file their nomination papers with the  
13 Secretary of State not earlier than the first Wednesday after the first Monday in  
14 November of the year preceding the year the office will appear on the ballot and not  
15 later than the last Tuesday in January preceding the day fixed by law for holding the  
16 primary. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed on the document to  
17 be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in November of the year  
18 preceding the year in which the office will appear on the ballot. All nomination  
19 papers shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time at the place of filing when filed  
20 on the last date on which the papers may be filed.

21 (2) ***If a candidate who is an incumbent in the office sought has filed nomination***  
22 ***papers with the Secretary of State and withdraws his or her nomination papers***  
23 ***ninety-six (96) hours or less before the deadline on which nomination papers are***  
24 ***permitted to be filed, the time for filing nomination papers for that office shall be***  
25 ***extended for a period of seven (7) days. All nomination papers filed under this***  
26 ***subsection shall be filed no later than 4 p.m. local time.***

27 (3) The Secretary of State or the county clerk shall examine the notification and

1 declaration form of each candidate to determine whether it is regular on its face. If  
2 there is an error, the proper officer shall notify the candidate by certified mail within  
3 twenty-four (24) hours of filing.

4 ~~(4)~~~~(3)~~ A judge who elected to retire as a Senior Status Special Judge in accordance  
5 with KRS 21.580 shall not become a candidate or a nominee for any elected office  
6 during the five (5) year term prescribed in KRS 21.580(1)(a)1., regardless of the  
7 number of days served by the judge acting as a Senior Status Special Judge.

8 ➔Section 2. KRS 118.225 is amended to read as follows:

9 (1) For the purpose of determining the order in which the names of candidates or slates  
10 of candidates to be voted for by the electors of the entire state shall be certified and  
11 printed on the ballots with the designation of the respective offices, the Secretary of  
12 State shall prepare lists of the counties of each congressional district of the state. He  
13 or she shall arrange the surnames of all candidates or slates of candidates for each  
14 office in alphabetical order for the First Congressional District, and the names shall  
15 be certified in this order to the county clerks of all the counties comprising that  
16 district. For each succeeding congressional district, taken in numerical order, the  
17 name appearing first for each office in the last preceding district shall be placed last,  
18 and the name appearing second in the last preceding district shall be placed first,  
19 and each other name shall be moved up one (1) place. The lists shall be certified  
20 accordingly.

21 (2) For all other offices for which nomination papers and petitions are filed with the  
22 Secretary of State, the order of names of candidates for each office shall be  
23 determined by lot at a public drawing to be held in the office of the Secretary of  
24 State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the last Tuesday in  
25 January preceding the primary or the Thursday following the second Tuesday in  
26 August preceding the general election.

27 (3) For all offices for which nomination papers and petitions are filed in the office of

1 the county clerk, the order in which the names of candidates for each office are to  
2 be printed on the ballot shall be determined by lot at a public drawing in the office  
3 of the county clerk at 2 p.m., standard time, on the Thursday following the last  
4 Tuesday in January before the primary or the Thursday following the second  
5 Tuesday in August preceding the general election.

6 **(4) For all offices for which the deadline for filing nomination papers has been**  
7 **extended due to the withdrawal of an incumbent candidate under subsection (2)**  
8 **of Section 1 of this Act, the order in which the names of the candidates for each**  
9 **office are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by lot at a public**  
10 **drawing in the office of the Secretary of State at 2 p.m., standard time, on the**  
11 **Thursday following the extended filing deadline.**

12 **(5)**~~(4)~~ If the number of certified candidates or slates of candidates cannot be placed  
13 on a ballot which can be accommodated on voting machines currently in use in the  
14 county, the county clerk shall notify the State Board of Elections, as provided in  
15 KRS 118.215.