

SENATE FILE NO. SF0160

Change in political party affiliation-2.

Sponsored by: Senator(s) Biteman, Bebout, Boner, Dockstader, Driskill, Hicks, Hutchings, James, Kinskey and Steinmetz and Representative(s) Blackburn, Edwards, Eyre, Gray, Jennings, Laursen, MacGuire, Miller and Salazar

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to elections; revising provisions relating to
2 political party affiliation changes by electors; providing
3 for rulemaking; and providing for an effective date.

4

5 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

6

7 **Section 1.** W.S. 22-1-102(a)(xxiii)(F)(IV), 22-5-212
8 and 22-5-214 are amended to read:

9

10 **22-1-102. Definitions.**

11

12 (a) The definitions contained in this chapter apply to
13 words and phrases used in this Election Code and govern the
14 construction of those words and phrases unless they are

1 specifically modified by the context in which they appear. As
2 used in this Election Code:

3

4 (xxiii) "Poll list" is the list of registered
5 voters as compiled by the clerk for use by election judges at
6 the polls. The poll list shall:

7

8 (F) Provide for the notation of:

9

10 (IV) For general elections, electors
11 who change political party affiliation at the polls.

12

13 **22-5-212. When declaration of party affiliation**
14 **required.**

15

16 An elector requesting a major party ballot must declare his
17 party affiliation, or sign an application for change of
18 affiliation, in accordance with W.S. 22-5-214, before he may
19 receive a party ballot. An elector may vote only the
20 nonpartisan ballot and if so, is not required to declare his
21 party affiliation. Requesting a partisan primary election
22 ballot constitutes a declaration of party affiliation. A
23 change in declaration of party affiliation shall conform to

1 W.S. 22-5-214 and be entered on the poll list by the election
2 judge.

3

4 **22-5-214. Change in party affiliation.**

5

6 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an
7 elector may change his party affiliation by completing an
8 application signed before a notarial officer or election
9 official, and filing it with the county clerk ~~not less than~~
10 ~~fourteen (14) days before the primary election~~ or at the polls
11 on the day of the ~~primary or~~ general election, or when
12 requesting an absentee ballot.

13

14 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this
15 section, no elector may change party affiliation between the
16 period of time beginning two (2) weeks before the first day
17 absentee ballots may be distributed under W.S. 22-9-107
18 through the day of the primary election.

19

20 (c) Upon request by a state party chairman, the
21 secretary of state shall authorize electors to change party
22 affiliation to the state party chairman's political party
23 during the period of time specified in subsection (b) of this

1 section. The state party chairman shall file the request with
2 the secretary of state before the first day nomination
3 applications may be filed as provided by law. The secretary
4 of state shall promulgate rules to implement this subsection.

5

6 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2019.

7

8

(END)