

HB472 INTRODUCED



1 HB472
2 XDY2BE7-1
3 By Representatives Mooney, Bolton, Easterbrook, Fincher,
4 Starnes, Stubbs
5 RFD: Ethics and Campaign Finance
6 First Read: 17-Feb-26



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SYNOPSIS:

State ethics law requires a candidate to file a statement of economic interests with the State Ethics Commission for the previous year within five days after the individual qualifies as a candidate, but does not require an additional statement if a statement is already on file with the commission. However, the law does require a candidate who has already filed a statement to provide proof to the commission of the previous filing.

This bill would eliminate the requirement that a candidate who has already filed a statement of economic interests notify the State Ethics Commission of this fact upon qualifying for candidacy.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to ethics, to amend Section 36-25-15, Code of Alabama 1975, to eliminate a requirement that a candidate who has already filed a statement of economic interests notify the State Ethics Commission of this fact.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:



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29 Section 1. Section 36-25-15, Code of Alabama 1975, as
30 last amended by Act 2025-282 of the 2025 Regular Session, is
31 amended to read as follows:

32 "§36-25-15

33 (a) Candidates at every level of government shall file
34 a completed statement of economic interests for the previous
35 calendar year with the State Ethics Commission: (i) not more
36 than five days after the deadline to file a declaration of
37 candidacy as provided in Section 17-13-5, or in the case of an
38 independent candidate, not more than five days after the date
39 of the first primary election; or (ii) for a candidate for
40 municipal office, not more than five days after the deadline
41 for the candidate to file his or her qualifying papers with
42 the appropriate election official. Nothing in this section
43 shall be deemed to require a second filing of the individual's
44 statement of economic interests if a current statement of
45 economic interests is on file with the commission. ~~If a
46 candidate has already filed a current statement of economic
47 interests for a reason other than his or her candidacy, the
48 candidate, by the deadline provided by this subsection, shall
49 provide proof to the commission that a current statement has
50 already been submitted or file a new or amended statement.~~

51 (b) Each election official who receives a declaration
52 of candidacy or petition to appear on the ballot for election
53 from a candidate, within five days of the receipt, shall
54 notify the commission of the name of the candidate, as defined
55 in this chapter, and the date on which the individual became a
56 candidate. The commission, within five business days of the



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57 filing deadline described in subsection (a), shall notify the
58 election official whether the candidate has complied with this
59 section. If the commission's notification indicates the
60 candidate has not complied with this section, the election
61 official shall immediately notify the candidate, and the
62 candidate shall have five additional days to provide evidence
63 to the election official that the candidate has filed a
64 statement of economic interests in compliance with this
65 section.

66 (c) Other provisions of the law notwithstanding, if a
67 candidate does not submit a statement of economic interests or
68 when applicable, an amended statement of economic interests in
69 accordance with the requirements of this chapter, the name of
70 the individual shall not appear on the ballot and the
71 candidate shall be deemed not qualified as a candidate in that
72 election. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the commission, for
73 good cause shown, may allow the candidate an additional five
74 days to file the statement of economic interests. If a
75 candidate is deemed not qualified, the appropriate election
76 official shall remove the name of the candidate from the
77 ballot."

78 Section 2. This act shall become effective immediately.