

Restricting Political Party Changes for Primary Elections

An ACT relating to elections; revising provisions relating to political party affiliation changes by electors; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED by the People of the State of Wyoming:

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

22-1-102. Definitions.

(a) The definitions contained in this chapter apply to words and phrases used in this Election Code and govern the construction of those words and phrases unless they are specifically modified by the context in which they appear. As used in this Election Code:

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

(F) Provide for the notation of:

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

22-5-212. When declaration of party affiliation required.

An elector requesting a major party ballot must declare his party affiliation, or sign an application for change of affiliation, in accordance with W.S. 22-5-214, before he may receive a party ballot. An elector may vote only the nonpartisan ballot and if so, is not required to declare his party affiliation. Requesting a partisan primary election ballot constitutes a declaration of party affiliation. A change in declaration of party affiliation shall conform to W.S. 22-5-214 and be entered on the poll list by the election judge.

22-5-214. Change in party affiliation.

Except as otherwise provided in this section, an elector may change his party affiliation by completing an application signed before a notarial officer or election official, and filing it with the county clerk ~~not less than fourteen (14) days before the primary election~~ or at the polls on the day of the ~~primary or~~ general election, or when requesting an absentee ballot. No elector may change party affiliation during the period of time beginning on the first day of May in an election year through the day of the primary election.