

**DIVISIONS:**

Archives  
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Management Services  
Notary Public  
Political Reform  
Uniform Commercial Code



**SECRETARY OF STATE**

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**ELECTIONS DIVISION**

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Summary of **QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS** for  
**PARTISAN NOMINATION**  
for the Offices of

**State Senator**

(20 Districts, Odd-Numbered)  
and

**Member of the State Assembly**

(80 Districts)  
for the

**March 7, 2000**

**Primary Election**

**I. QUALIFICATIONS**

A candidate shall:

- A. Be a U.S. citizen.<sup>1</sup> Cal. Const. Art. IV, §2(c)
- B. Be a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person. §201<sup>2</sup>
- C. Satisfy the following registration requirements:
  - 1. Be registered with the political party whose nomination he or she is seeking for not less than three months immediately prior to the time the declaration of candidacy is presented to the county elections official or, if eligible to register for less than three months, for as long as he or she has been eligible to register to vote in California.

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<sup>1</sup>Article IV, section 2(c), of the California Constitution requires one year residency in the legislative district and three years residency in California; however, it is the legal opinion of this office that these provisions violate the U.S. Constitution and are unenforceable.

<sup>2</sup>All code section references are to the California Elections Code unless stated otherwise.

2. Not have been registered as affiliated with any other qualified political party within twelve months immediately prior to the filing of the declaration of candidacy. §8001
- D. Not have served more than two terms in the State Senate since November 6, 1990, if a candidate for State Senate; not have served more than three terms in the State Assembly since November 6, 1990 if a candidate for State Assembly. Cal. Const. Art. IV, §2(a)

## II. **REQUIREMENTS**

### A. **CAMPAIGN COMMITTEE FILINGS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Any individual who intends to be a candidate for an elective office shall:

#### 1. **Statement of Intention**

File with the Secretary of State Political Reform Division a statement of intention to be a candidate for a specific office (Form 501). This statement shall be signed under penalty of perjury and filed prior to the solicitation or receipt of any contribution or loan.

Gov. Code §85200

#### 2. **Campaign Contribution Account**

Establish one campaign contribution account at an office of a financial institution located in California upon filing the statement of intention.

- a. The name of the financial institution, the location, and the account number shall be filed with the Secretary of State Political Reform Division within 10 days of establishing the account (Form 502).
- b. All contributions or loans made to the candidate, to a person on behalf of the candidate, or to the candidate's controlled committee shall be deposited in the account.
- c. Any personal funds which will be used to promote the election of the candidate shall be deposited in the account prior to expenditure.
- d. All campaign expenditures shall be made from the account.

Gov. Code §85201

3. Exceptions

- a. Parts 1 and 2, (c) and (d), above, do not apply to a candidate's payment of a filing fee and statement of qualifications fee from his or her personal funds.  
Gov. Code §§85200 & 85201(f)
- b. Part 2, above, does not apply if the candidate does not receive contributions and makes campaign expenditures from personal funds of less than \$1,000 in a calendar year, excluding payment of the filing fee and statement of qualifications fee.  
Gov. Code §85201(g)

If such candidate later spends \$1,000 or more in a calendar year, he or she must establish a campaign contribution account before the \$1,000 expenditure threshold is reached. The required account information shall be filed with the Secretary of State Political Reform Division within 5 days of establishing the account.  
Gov. Code §85201(h)

B. DECLARATION OF INTENTION

Between November 1 and November 10, 1999, a candidate must file a declaration of intention with the Secretary of State or the elections official of the county in which the candidate resides.  
§8022

If the incumbent officeholder has not filed a declaration of intention to succeed to the same office, then any person, other than the incumbent, may file such a declaration during the extension period of November 11 to November 15, 1999.  
§8022

This extension will not apply if the incumbent failed to file a declaration of intention because of the term limits set forth in the California Constitution.  
§8022, Cal. Const., Art. IV, §2(a)

C. FILING FEE OR SIGNATURES IN LIEU

*Filing Fee*

Pay a filing fee equal to 1% of the first year's salary. Currently, the filing fee for State Senator and Member of the Assembly is \$990. The filing fee must be paid at the time the candidate files the Declaration of Intention.  
§§8103 & 8105

or

*Signatures In Lieu Of Filing Fee*

Submit, by November 10, 1999, a minimum of 3,000 valid signatures for State Senator and a minimum of 1,500 valid signatures for Member of the Assembly on petitions in lieu of filing fee. §8106

The 3,000 and 1,500 in-lieu signature requirement applies only to candidates seeking the nomination of the Democratic or Republican parties. Candidates seeking the nomination of the American Independent, Green, Libertarian, Natural Law, or Reform parties may submit petitions containing signatures of 10% of the registered voters of that party in the district in which the candidate seeks nomination, or 150 signatures, whichever is less. §8106(a)(6)

1. The petitions for in-lieu signatures may be obtained from the county elections official and circulated between October 1, 1999 and November 10, 1999. §8106
2. The candidate may submit signatures to cover all or any prorated portion of the filing fee. §8106
3. Any registered voter may sign an in-lieu-of-filing-fee petition for any candidate for whom he or she is eligible to vote. However, candidates filing signatures-in-lieu pursuant to the provisions of §8106 (a)(6) are limited to members of their own party. §§8106(a)(6) & 8106(b)(1)
4. Each circulator of an in-lieu-of-filing-fee petition shall be a registered voter of the district in which the candidate is running. The circulator shall serve within the county in which he or she resides. §8106(b)(4)
5. Within 10 days after receipt of the petition, the county elections official shall notify the candidate of any deficiency. The candidate shall then, prior to the close of the nomination period, either submit a supplemental petition containing additional signatures or pay a pro rata portion of the filing fee to cover the deficiency. §8106(b)(3)
6. Signatures in lieu of the filing fee may be counted towards the nomination sponsor signature requirements if signers of the document are of the same political party as the candidate. §8106(d)

D. NOMINATION DOCUMENTS

1. Between November 15 and December 10, 1999, obtain nomination documents from the county elections official. Nomination documents include a set of nomination papers for collecting signatures and a declaration of candidacy that must be executed by the candidate. §§333 & 8020
  - a. If the incumbent has filed a declaration of intention but fails to file the nomination documents by December 10, any other person, if otherwise qualified, may obtain and file the nomination documents not later than December 15, even if the person has not filed a declaration of intention previously. §8022(b)
  - b. The declaration of candidacy shall be obtained from, and delivered to, the county elections official of the county in which the candidate resides and is a voter. §8064
  - c. Upon request of a candidate, the county elections official shall provide the candidate with a declaration of candidacy. The county elections official shall not require a candidate to sign, file, or sign and file a declaration of candidacy as a condition of receiving nomination papers. §8020(d)
  - d. The county elections official shall require all candidates filing a declaration of candidacy to execute the declaration in his or her office unless the candidate, in a written statement signed and dated by the candidate, designates a third party to obtain the declaration form from the county elections official and to deliver it to the candidate. The written statement shall state that the candidate is aware that the declaration of candidacy must be properly executed and delivered not later than December 10 to the office of the county elections official from whom it was received. §8028
2. Nomination Signatures

Secure between 40 and 60 signatures on the nomination paper prior to filing. §8062

  - a. Signatures on the in-lieu-of-filing-fee petitions may satisfy this signature requirement if the signers are members of the same political party as the candidate. §8061
  - b. All signers must be registered voters of the district and

members of the same political party as the candidate.

§8068

- c. If the candidate appoints persons to circulate the nomination paper, such appointment must be in writing. The candidate shall file appointment of circulator documents with the county elections official on or before the date the nomination paper is left for filing. §§8042 & 8065

(1) Circulators shall be voters in the district in which the candidate is seeking election. §8066

(2) Circulators shall circulate the nomination papers only in the district in which the candidate is seeking election. §8066

(3) If the district includes more than one county, the circulator shall circulate the petition only in the county in which he or she resides. §8065

- d. Between November 15 and December 10, each section of the nomination paper shall be delivered to the county elections official of the county in which the signer resides and is a voter. §§8020 & 8063

3. If only one person has declared a candidacy for a partisan nomination at the Primary Election, and that candidate dies after December 10 but on or before December 15, 1999, any person qualified under the provisions of Section 8001 may circulate and deliver nomination documents for the partisan nomination for that office to the county elections official by 5 p.m. on December 24, 1999. §8025

#### E. STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS

Each candidate must file a Statement of Economic Interests with the county elections official disclosing investments, interests in real property, and any income received during the immediately preceding 12 months pursuant to the requirements of the Political Reform Act of 1974, As Amended. Gov. Code §87201

This statement is to be filed between November 15 and December 10, 1999. It is not required if the candidate has filed such statements within the past sixty days for the same jurisdiction.

### **III. GENERAL INFORMATION**

- A. Each of the forms mentioned above is available free of charge from the county elections official.
- B. The Senate has a membership of 40 Senators elected for four-year terms, 20 to begin every two years. The Assembly has a membership of 80 members elected for two-year terms. In 2000, candidates will be elected in each of the odd-numbered Senate districts as well as in each Assembly district. The terms of office for both begin on December 4, 2000.
- C. Because of the requirements of the Political Reform Act, As Amended, a candidate should contact the Political Reform Division of the Secretary of State's Office (1500 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Sacramento, California 95814) for the most recent copy of the Information Manual on Campaign Disclosure Provisions of the Political Reform Act, which gives the filing requirements for reporting campaign contributions, and related instructions.
- D. This Information Sheet of Qualifications and Requirements is for general information only and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation or rule. In case of conflict, the law, regulation or rule will apply. The candidate should obtain the most up-to-date information available because of possible changes in law or procedure since the publication of this information.