

2023 -- S 0115

LC000353

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2023

A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- REGISTRATION OF VOTERS

Introduced By: Senators Raptakis, McKenney, Tikoian, F. Lombardi, Euer, Ciccone,
Sosnowski, DiPalma, Burke, and LaMountain

Date Introduced: February 01, 2023

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

(Secretary of State)

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 17-9.1-23 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-9.1 entitled
2 "Registration of Voters" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **17-9.1-23. Party designation.**

4 (a) Whenever any person registers to vote, that person may designate his or her party
5 affiliation, or that person may designate that he or she is not affiliated with any political party. The
6 information shall be recorded on a form prescribed by the state board of elections.

7 (b) Any person who is already registered to vote and wishes to designate his or her party
8 affiliation may do so by submitting to that person's local board of canvassers a form provided by
9 the state board designating his or her party affiliation and certifying to the fact on the form furnished
10 for that purpose.

11 ~~(c) Whenever any person participates in a party primary, that act shall serve as identifying~~
12 ~~the person as being affiliated with the party in whose primary that person has participated and the~~
13 ~~local board shall record the affiliation on the appropriate form. For the purposes of this section,~~
14 ~~"participating in a party primary" does not include the circulation or signing of nomination papers.~~

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would allow non-affiliated party voters to vote in party primaries, without
2 becoming an affiliated party voter.

3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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