

2012 -- H 7089 SUBSTITUTE A

=====
LC00359/SUB A
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

—————
A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- POLITICAL PARTY DESIGNATION

Introduced By: Representatives Brien, Marcello, O'Neill, Baldelli-Hunt, and Lally

Date Introduced: January 11, 2012

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Sections 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.** -- (a) Whenever any person registers to vote, that person
4 may designate his or her party affiliation, or that person may designate that he or she is not
5 affiliated with any political party. The information shall be recorded on a form prescribed by the
6 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 voluntarily presenting himself or herself to that person's local board of
9 canvassers and designating his or her party affiliation and certifying to the fact on the form
10 furnished for that purpose.

11 (c) Whenever any unaffiliated person participates in a party primary, that act shall serve
12 as identifying the person as being affiliated with the party in whose primary that person has
13 participated and the local board shall record the affiliation on the appropriate form. Provided
14 however, if immediately after voting, that person executes at the poll, an affidavit changing his or
15 her party designation back to unaffiliated, pursuant 17-19.1-24, that disaffiliation shall be
16 effective immediately. For the purposes of this section, "participating in a party primary" does not
17 include the circulation or signing of nomination papers.

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

=====
LC00359/SUB A
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO ELECTIONS -- POLITICAL PARTY DESIGNATION

- 1 This act would allow an unaffiliated voter to vote in a party primary and effective
- 2 immediately disaffiliate at the polling place.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC00359/SUB A
=====