

ASSEMBLY, No. 2501

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 14, 1996

By Assemblyman KRAMER

1 AN ACT concerning the placement of candidates for freeholder on
2 general election and primary election ballots and amending
3 R.S.19:14-8, R.S.19:14-10 and R.S.19:23-24.

4
5 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
6 *of New Jersey:*

7
8 1. R.S.19:14-8 is amended to read as follows:
9 19:14-8. In the columns of each of the political parties which made
10 nominations at the next preceding primary election and in the personal
11 choice column, within the space between the two-point hair line rules,
12 there shall be printed the title of each office to be filled at such
13 election, except as hereinafter provided.

14 Such titles of office shall be arranged in the following order:
15 electors of President and Vice-President of the United States; member
16 of the United States Senate; Governor; member of the House of
17 Representatives; member of the State Senate; members of the General
18 Assembly; county executive, in counties that have adopted the county
19 executive plan of the "Optional County Charter Law," P.L.1972, c.154
20 (C.40:41A-1 et seq.); members of the board of chosen freeholders;
21 sheriff; county clerk; surrogate; register of deeds and mortgages;
22 county supervisor; [members of the board of chosen freeholders;
23 coroners;] mayor and members of municipal governing bodies, and any
24 other titles of office. Above each of such titles of office, except the
25 one at the top, shall be printed a two-point diagram rule in place of the
26 two-point hair line rule. Below the titles of such offices shall be
27 printed the names of the candidates for the offices.

28 The arrangement of the names of candidates for any office for
29 which more than one are to be elected shall be determined in the
30 manner hereinafter provided, as in the case of candidates nominated by
31 petition.

32 When no nomination for an office has been made the words "No
33 Nomination Made" in type large enough to fill the entire space or
34 spaces below the title of office shall be printed upon the ballot.

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 Immediately to the left of the name of each candidate, at the
2 extreme left of each column, including the personal choice column,
3 shall be printed a square, one-quarter of an inch in size, formed by
4 two-point diagram rules. In the personal choice column no names of
5 candidates shall be printed.

6 To the right of the title of each office in the party columns and the
7 personal choice column shall be printed the words "Vote for ,"
8 inserting in words the number of persons to be elected to such office.
9 (cf: P.L.1995, c.191, s.1)

10

11 2. R.S.19:14-10 is amended to read as follows:

12 19:14-10 In the column or columns designated as nominations by
13 petition, within the space between the two-point hair line rules, there
14 shall be printed the title of each office for which nominations by
15 petition have been made.

16 Such titles of office shall be arranged in the following order:
17 electors of President and Vice-President of the United States; member
18 of the United States Senate; Governor; member of the House of
19 Representatives; member of the State Senate; members of the General
20 Assembly; county executive, in counties that have adopted the county
21 executive plan of the "Optional County Charter Law," P.L.1972, c.154
22 (C.40:41A-1 et seq.); members of the board of chosen freeholders;
23 sheriff; county clerk; surrogate; register of deeds and mortgages;
24 county supervisor; [members of the board of chosen freeholders;
25 coroners;] mayor and members of municipal governing bodies, and
26 any other titles of office.

27 Above each of the titles of office, except the one on the top, shall
28 be printed a two-point diagram rule in place of the two-point hair line
29 rule. Below the titles of each of the offices shall be printed the names
30 of each of the candidates for each of such offices followed by the
31 designation or designations mentioned in the petitions filed.

32 Immediately to the left of the name of each candidate, at the
33 extreme left of the column, shall be printed a square, one-quarter of an
34 inch in size formed by two-point diagram rules.

35 The names of candidates for any office for which more than one are
36 to be elected shall be arranged in groups as presented in the several
37 certificates of nominations or petitions, which groups shall be
38 separated from other groups and candidates by two two-point hair line
39 rules.

40 To the right of the title of each office shall be printed the words
41 "Vote for " inserting in words the number of candidates to be elected
42 to such office.

43 (cf: P.L.1995, c.191, s.2)

44

45 3. R.S.19:23-24 is amended to read as follows:

46 19:23-24. The position which the candidates and bracketed groups

1 of names of candidates for the primary for the general election shall
2 have upon the primary election ballots, in the case of candidates for
3 nomination for members of the United States Senate, Governor,
4 members of the House of Representatives, members of the State
5 Senate, members of the General Assembly, choice for President,
6 delegates and alternates-at-large to the national conventions of
7 political parties, district delegates and alternates to conventions of
8 political parties, candidates for party positions, and county offices or
9 party positions which are to be voted for by the voters of the entire
10 county or a portion thereof greater than a single municipality,
11 including a congressional district which is wholly within a single
12 municipality, shall be determined by the county clerks in their
13 respective counties; and, excepting in counties where R.S.19:49-2
14 applies, the position on the primary ballots in the case of candidates
15 for nomination for office or party position wherein the candidates for
16 office or party position to be filled are to be voted for by the voters of
17 a municipality only, or a subdivision thereof (excepting in the case of
18 members of the House of Representatives) shall be determined by the
19 municipal clerk in such municipalities, in the following manner: The
20 county clerk, or his deputy, or the municipal clerk or his deputy, as the
21 case may be, shall at his office on the 47th day prior to the primary
22 election at three o'clock in the afternoon draw from the box, as
23 hereinafter described, each card separately without knowledge on his
24 part as to which card he is drawing. Any legal voter of the county or
25 municipality, as the case may be, shall have the privilege of witnessing
26 such drawing. The person making the drawing shall make public
27 announcement at the drawing of each name, the order in which same
28 is drawn, and the office for which the drawing is made. When there
29 is to be but one person nominated for the office, the names of the
30 several candidates who have filed petitions for such office shall be
31 written upon cards (one name on a card) of the same size, substance
32 and thickness. The cards shall be deposited in a box with an aperture
33 in the cover of sufficient size to admit a man's hand. The box shall be
34 well shaken and turned over to thoroughly mix the cards, and the cards
35 shall then be withdrawn one at a time. The first name drawn shall have
36 first place, the second name drawn, second place, and so on; the order
37 of the withdrawal of the cards from the box determining the order of
38 arrangement in which the names shall appear upon the primary election
39 ballot. Where there is more than one person to be nominated to an
40 office where petitions have designated that certain candidates shall be
41 bracketed, the position of such bracketed names on the ballot (each
42 bracket to be treated as a single name), together with individuals who
43 have filed petitions for nomination for such office, shall be determined
44 as above described. Where there is more than one person to be
45 nominated for an office and there are more candidates who have filed
46 petitions than there are persons to be nominated, the order of the

1 printing of such names upon the primary election ballots shall be
2 determined as above described.

3 The county clerk in certifying to the municipal clerk the offices to
4 be filled and the names of candidates to be printed upon the primary
5 election ballots, shall certify them in the order as drawn in accordance
6 with the above described procedure, and the municipal clerk shall print
7 the names upon the ballots as so certified and in addition shall print the
8 names of such candidates as have filed petitions with him in the order
9 as determined as a result of the drawing as above described.
10 Candidates for the office of the county executive in counties that have
11 adopted the county executive plan of the "Optional County Charter
12 Law," P.L.1972, c.154 (C.40:41A-1 et seq.), shall precede the
13 candidates for other county offices for which there are candidates on
14 the primary election ballot. Candidates for members of the board of
15 chosen freeholders shall appear immediately after candidates for the
16 offices of county executive, if applicable, and shall in any case precede
17 the candidates for other county offices for which there are candidates
18 on the primary election ballot.

19 (cf: P.L.1995, c.191, s.3)

20

21 4. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to the
22 primary or general election occurring not less than 90 days after the
23 effective date of this act.

24

25

26

STATEMENT

27

28 This bill would require that, on both general election ballots and
29 primary election ballots, candidates for membership to the board of
30 chosen freeholders must be placed immediately after candidates for the
31 office of the county executive in counties that have adopted the county
32 executive plan of the "Optional County Charter Law," P.L.1972, c.154
33 (C.40:41A-1 et seq.) and must be placed before candidates for any
34 other county office.

35 Under current law, with respect to general election ballots, the
36 candidates for the office of freeholder appear at the end of the list of
37 county offices for which there are candidates for election. For the
38 primary election ballots, the placement of candidates for the office of
39 freeholder is determined by the county clerk as the result of a random
40 drawing to establish the placement on the ballot of all candidates for
41 all offices other than candidates for the office of county executive.

42 This bill would also delete references to the ballot placement of
43 candidates for the office of coroner, which office was abolished by
44 P.L.1967, c.234 (C.52:17B-93).

1

2

3 Establishes placement of candidates for office of freeholder on general
4 election and primary ballots.