

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fifth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 25-0857.02 Caroline Martin x5902

HOUSE BILL 25-1315

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING VACANCIES IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, AND, IN**
102 **CONNECTION THEREWITH, MAKING AN APPROPRIATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

Sections 1 and 2 of the bill change the number of committeepersons elected at a political party's precinct caucus from 2 to 4.

Current law requires the political party central committee of most jurisdictions to select a vacancy committee to fill vacancies in the central committee and in the district and state offices held by members of the

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

political party. Current law also requires a vacancy committee to consist of, at a minimum, the members of the central committee of a jurisdiction. **Section 2** requires that a vacancy committee selected by a state senatorial central committee or state representative central committee to fill a vacancy also consist of, at a minimum, any county commissioners who are members of the political party and reside within the state senatorial or state representative district. **Section 2** also provides that if a vacancy in the office of precinct committee person is filled, the new appointee shall not participate in the vacancy committee process to fill a vacancy in the general assembly until, at the earliest, 91 days after appointment.

Current law provides that vacancies in the general assembly are filled by vacancy committee selection until the next general election after the vacancy occurs, when the vacancy is filled by election. **Section 4** modifies the way that vacancies are filled by election when the vacating member of the general assembly is affiliated with a major political party by requiring that, if the vacancy occurs on or after July 31 of an even-numbered year and before July 31 of an odd-numbered year, the vacancy must be filled by vacancy committee selection until the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November of the odd-numbered year following the vacancy, when the vacancy must be filled by a major political party at the odd-year November election (major political party vacancy election). The candidate elected in the major political party vacancy election serves until the next general election. If a vacancy in the general assembly occurs on or after July 31 of an odd-numbered year and before July 31 of an even-numbered year and the vacating member is affiliated with a major political party, the vacancy is filled pursuant to current law.

The only candidates who may run in a major political party vacancy election are candidates who are members of the same political party and of the same representative or senatorial district represented by the former member of the general assembly whose seat is vacant. The only voters who may vote in the major political party vacancy election are voters who are unaffiliated or are members of the same political party as the former member of the general assembly whose seat is vacant and who reside in the same representative or senatorial district represented by the former member of the general assembly whose seat is vacant.

A candidate must be placed on the ballot for a major political party vacancy election if the candidate:

- Files a nominating statement signed by 30% of the district vacancy committee members with the secretary of state and the candidate's major political party before 5p.m. on the seventieth day preceding the major political party vacancy election; or
- Submits to the secretary of state, at least 75 days prior to the major political party vacancy election, a notarized

candidate's statement of intent and a petition signed by at least 200 electors who are affiliated with the same major political party as the candidate and are eligible to vote in the district for which the candidate is to be elected.

No other candidates are placed on the ballot. If a vacancy committee member signs a nominating statement after having signed another nominating statement filed for the same office in the same major political party election, the vacancy committee member's later signature does not count towards the thirty percent of applicable vacancy committee member signatures required. If an eligible elector signs a petition after having signed another petition submitted for the same office in the same major political party election, the elector's later signature does not count towards the two hundred elector signatures required.

Section 4 also requires vacancy committee meetings to fill vacancies in the general assembly to be accessible in real time by live streaming video or audio that is recorded and accessible to the public. **Section 3** provides that a political party may, by vote of the party's state central committee, forego a major political party election and choose to nominate a candidate by assembly or convention instead.

Section 5 defines a vacancy contender for the purpose of campaign finance regulations as any person who seeks to be selected by a vacancy committee to fill a vacancy in the general assembly (vacancy contender) and adds vacancy contenders to the definition of candidate.

Section 6 establishes contribution limits for a candidate committee established in the name of a candidate who is a vacancy contender and provides deadlines by which a candidate committee established in the name of a vacancy contender may expend contributions.

Section 7 requires disclosures for contributions related to vacancy contenders and requires those disclosures to be filed on the Monday of each week during the period in which the vacancy committee is selecting a vacancy contender to fill the vacancy in the general assembly.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-3-103, **amend** (1)(a), (12), and (13); and **add** (14) and (15) as follows:

1-3-103. Party committees. (1) (a) At its own precinct caucus, each political party shall elect **two** committeepersons for each election precinct as provided in section 1-3-102. Each committeeperson shall hold

1 the position for a term of two years after the date of the election, and each
2 shall serve until a successor is duly elected or appointed and commences
3 the term of office. In case of a vacancy in the office of precinct
4 committeeperson, the vacancy may be filled by the members of the county
5 central committee vacancy committee. If the county central committee
6 vacancy committee does not fill the vacancy within thirty days of the
7 vacancy occurring, the vacancy may be filled by the recommendation of
8 the county chair, subject to ratification by the county central committee.
9 If the county chair does not fill the vacancy within sixty days of the
10 vacancy occurring, the vacancy may be filled by recommendation of the
11 state chair, subject to ratification by the county central committee. The
12 person selected must be a resident of the precinct in which the vacancy
13 occurred. WHEN A VACANCY IN THE OFFICE OF PRECINCT
14 COMMITTEEPERSON IS FILLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION, THE
15 NEWLY APPOINTED PRECINCT COMMITTEEPERSON SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE
16 IN THE VACANCY COMMITTEE PROCESS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1-12-203 TO
17 FILL A VACANCY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY UNTIL, AT THE EARLIEST,
18 NINETY-ONE DAYS AFTER THE NEWLY APPOINTED PRECINCT
19 COMMITTEEPERSON WAS APPOINTED.

20 (12) If a JURISDICTION'S central committee ~~of a jurisdiction~~ THAT
21 IS NOT A STATE SENATORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR STATE
22 REPRESENTATIVE CENTRAL COMMITTEE fails to select a vacancy
23 committee, the central committee of the jurisdiction serves as the vacancy
24 committee.

25 (13) In selecting the members of a vacancy committee authorized
26 to fill vacancies in office pursuant to this section, the JURISDICTION'S
27 central committee ~~of a jurisdiction~~ THAT IS NOT A STATE SENATORIAL

1 CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR STATE REPRESENTATIVE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
2 shall select, at a minimum, the members of the jurisdiction's central
3 committee.

4 (14) IF A STATE SENATORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR STATE
5 REPRESENTATIVE CENTRAL COMMITTEE FAILS TO SELECT A VACANCY
6 COMMITTEE, THE VACANCY COMMITTEE IS COMPRISED OF THE STATE
7 SENATORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR STATE REPRESENTATIVE CENTRAL
8 COMMITTEE AND ANY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHO ARE MEMBERS OF
9 THE POLITICAL PARTY AND RESIDE WITHIN THE STATE SENATORIAL OR
10 STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

11 (15) IN SELECTING THE MEMBERS OF A VACANCY COMMITTEE
12 AUTHORIZED TO FILL VACANCIES IN OFFICE PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION,
13 THE STATE SENATORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
14 CENTRAL COMMITTEE SHALL SELECT, AT A MINIMUM, THE MEMBERS OF
15 THE STATE SENATORIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OR STATE REPRESENTATIVE
16 CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND ANY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHO ARE
17 MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL PARTY AND RESIDE WITHIN THE STATE
18 SENATORIAL OR STATE REPRESENTATIVE DISTRICT.

19 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-702, **amend** (1)
20 and (3) as follows:

21 **1-4-702. Nominations of candidates for general election by**
22 **convention.** (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a political
23 party may choose to change from the nomination of candidates by
24 primary election OR BY THE PROCESS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1-12-203 IN
25 THE CASE OF A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION to the
26 nomination of candidates by assembly or convention for all offices
27 including, but not limited to, United States senator, representative in

1 congress, all elective state, district, and county officers, and members of
2 the general assembly if at least three-fourths of the total VOTING
3 membership of the party's state central committee votes ARE CAST IN THE
4 AFFIRMATIVE to use the assembly or convention nomination process;
5 except that nominations by major political parties for candidates for
6 lieutenant governor shall be made by the party's candidate for governor
7 pursuant to section 1-4-502 (3). Such vote of the party central committee
8 shall occur no later than October 1 of the year preceding the year in which
9 an assembly or convention nominating process is to be used. FOR
10 PURPOSES OF THIS VOTE, MEMBERS OF THE STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE
11 SHALL NOT VOTE BY PROXY.

12 (3) Whichever method of candidate selection is chosen by a major
13 political party as between primary election, assembly or convention, all
14 of the candidates for that party at any level of office in that election year
15 must be selected by such method, except that the requirements of this
16 provision shall not apply to a primary for president of the United States
17 if such an election is held OR TO CANDIDATES FOR A MAJOR POLITICAL
18 PARTY VACANCY ELECTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203.

19 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-5-505.5, **add** (1)(d)
20 as follows:

21 **1-5-505.5. State reimbursement to counties for elections with**
22 **state certified ballot content.** (1) (d) (I) FOR A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY
23 VACANCY ELECTION, AS DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1-12-203 (1.5), HELD AS
24 PART OF AN ODD-YEAR NOVEMBER ELECTION FOR WHICH THE STATE
25 CERTIFIES ANY BALLOT CONTENT, THE STATE SHALL REIMBURSE EACH
26 COUNTY AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

27 (II) FOR A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION, AS

1 DESCRIBED IN SECTION 1-12-203 (1.5), HELD AS PART OF AN ODD-YEAR
2 NOVEMBER ELECTION FOR WHICH THE STATE DOES NOT CERTIFY ANY
3 BALLOT CONTENT, THE COSTS THAT THE COUNTY INCURS IN CONDUCTING
4 THE VACANCY ELECTION ARE BORNE BY THE COUNTY.

5 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-12-203, **amend** (1)
6 and (3)(a); and **add** (1.5) as follows:

7 **1-12-203. Vacancies in general assembly.** (1) In the event of a
8 vacancy in the general assembly caused by the death or resignation of a
9 member who has been sworn into office, caused by the death or
10 resignation of a member who has been elected to a seat but who has not
11 yet been sworn into office, or caused by a person not taking the oath of
12 office as provided in ~~paragraph (b) of subsection (3)~~ SUBSECTION (3)(b)
13 of this section, the vacancy shall be filled by the appropriate vacancy
14 committee, if any, as provided in section 1-3-103 (1)(d), of the same
15 political party and of the same representative or senatorial district
16 represented by the former member whose seat is vacant. If the member
17 was affiliated with a minor political party, then the vacancy ~~shall~~ MUST
18 be filled by the vacancy committee designated in the constitution or
19 bylaws of the minor political party. If the member was unaffiliated with
20 a political party, then the vacancy ~~shall~~ MUST be filled by the vacancy
21 committee designated on the petition for nomination pursuant to section
22 1-4-802 (1)(e); EXCEPT THAT, IF THE MEMBER HAS NO VACANCY
23 COMMITTEE, THE VACANCY MUST BE FILLED BY THE GOVERNOR. EXCEPT
24 AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (1.5) OF THIS SECTION, the
25 vacancy ~~shall~~ MUST be filled until the next general election after the
26 vacancy occurs, when the vacancy ~~shall~~ MUST be filled by election.

27 (1.5) (a) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1-12-208, IF A VACANCY

1 IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OCCURS ON OR AFTER JULY 31 OF AN
2 ODD-NUMBERED YEAR AND BEFORE JULY 31 OF THE NEXT
3 EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR AND THE FORMER MEMBER WHOSE SEAT IS
4 VACANT WAS AFFILIATED WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY, THE VACANCY
5 MUST BE FILLED BY A VACANCY COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1)
6 OR (5) OF THIS SECTION UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION AFTER THE
7 VACANCY OCCURS, WHEN THE VACANCY MUST BE FILLED BY ELECTION.

8 (b) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1-12-208, IF A VACANCY IN
9 THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OCCURS ON OR AFTER JULY 31 OF AN
10 EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR AND BEFORE JULY 31 OF THE NEXT
11 ODD-NUMBERED YEAR AND THE FORMER MEMBER WHOSE SEAT IS VACANT
12 WAS AFFILIATED WITH A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY, THE VACANCY MUST BE
13 FILLED BY A VACANCY COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1) OR (5)
14 OF THIS SECTION UNTIL THE NEXT ODD-NUMBERED YEAR COORDINATED
15 ELECTION, OR IF THERE IS NO COORDINATED ELECTION SCHEDULED FOR
16 THE ODD-NUMBERED YEAR FOLLOWING THE VACANCY, UNTIL THE
17 TUESDAY SUCCEEDING THE FIRST MONDAY OF NOVEMBER OF THE
18 ODD-NUMBERED YEAR FOLLOWING THE VACANCY, WHEN THE VACANCY
19 MUST BE FILLED BY A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION;
20 EXCEPT THAT, IF THE VACANCY OCCURS ON OR AFTER JULY 31 OF AN
21 EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR BUT BEFORE BALLOT CONTENT IS CERTIFIED FOR
22 THE GENERAL ELECTION HELD IN THAT EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR AND THE
23 VACANT SEAT IS SCHEDULED TO BE ON THE BALLOT AT THE GENERAL
24 ELECTION HELD IN THAT EVEN-NUMBERED YEAR, THE VACANCY IS FILLED
25 AT THAT GENERAL ELECTION ACCORDING TO LAW. THE CANDIDATE
26 ELECTED IN THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION SHALL
27 SERVE UNTIL THE NEXT GENERAL ELECTION, WHEN THE VACANCY MUST BE

1 FILLED BY ELECTION.

2 (c) THE ONLY CANDIDATES WHO MAY RUN IN A MAJOR POLITICAL
3 PARTY VACANCY ELECTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1.5)(b) OF THIS
4 SECTION ARE CANDIDATES WHO, AS OF ONE YEAR PRIOR TO THE DATE OF
5 THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION, ARE MEMBERS OF THE
6 SAME POLITICAL PARTY AND OF THE SAME REPRESENTATIVE OR
7 SENATORIAL DISTRICT AS THE FORMER MEMBER WHOSE SEAT IS VACANT.
8 THE ONLY VOTERS WHO MAY VOTE IN THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY
9 VACANCY ELECTION ARE VOTERS WHO:

10 (I) ARE UNAFFILIATED OR ARE MEMBERS OF THE SAME POLITICAL
11 PARTY AS THE FORMER MEMBER WHOSE SEAT IS VACANT; AND

12 (II) RESIDE IN THE SAME REPRESENTATIVE OR SENATORIAL
13 DISTRICT REPRESENTED BY THE FORMER MEMBER WHOSE SEAT IS VACANT.

14 (d) A CANDIDATE MUST BE PLACED ON THE BALLOT FOR A MAJOR
15 POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1.5)(b)
16 OF THIS SECTION IF THE CANDIDATE:

17 (I) FILES A NOMINATING STATEMENT ON A FORM CREATED BY THE
18 CANDIDATE'S POLITICAL PARTY THAT IS SIGNED BY THIRTY PERCENT OF
19 THE APPLICABLE VACANCY COMMITTEE MEMBERS WITH THE SECRETARY
20 OF STATE AND THE CANDIDATE'S POLITICAL PARTY BEFORE 5 P.M. ON THE
21 SEVENTIETH DAY PRECEDING THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY
22 ELECTION; OR

23 (II) SUBMITS TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NO LATER THAN
24 THIRTY DAYS AFTER THEIR PETITION FORMAT HAS BEEN APPROVED OR
25 EIGHTY-FIVE DAYS PRIOR TO THE MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY
26 ELECTION, WHICHEVER IS SOONER, A NOTARIZED CANDIDATE'S
27 STATEMENT OF INTENT AND A PETITION SIGNED BY AT LEAST TWO

1 HUNDRED ELECTORS WHO ARE AFFILIATED WITH THE SAME POLITICAL
2 PARTY AS THE CANDIDATE AND ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THE DISTRICT
3 FOR WHICH THE CANDIDATE IS TO BE ELECTED. PART 9 OF ARTICLE 4 OF
4 THIS TITLE 1 APPLIES TO PETITIONS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS
5 SECTION; EXCEPT THAT THE PROVISIONS OF PART 9 OF ARTICLE 4 OF THIS
6 TITLE 1 THAT CONFLICT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OR TIMELINE DESCRIBED
7 IN THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO PETITIONS SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO
8 THIS SECTION. PETITIONS MUST NOT BE CIRCULATED AND SIGNATURES
9 MUST NOT BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO THE FIRST BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE
10 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE VACANCY. A PETITION MUST NOT BE CIRCULATED
11 UNTIL IT HAS BEEN APPROVED AS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION
12 1-4-904 AS TO FORM. THE SECRETARY OF STATE SHALL APPROVE OR
13 DISAPPROVE A PETITION AS TO FORM NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF THE
14 SECOND BUSINESS DAY FOLLOWING SUBMISSION OF THE PROPOSED
15 PETITION.

16 (e) If a VACANCY COMMITTEE MEMBER SIGNS A NOMINATING
17 STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (1.5)(d)(I) OF THIS
18 SECTION AFTER HAVING SIGNED ANOTHER NOMINATING STATEMENT FILED
19 FOR THE SAME OFFICE IN THE SAME MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY ELECTION,
20 THE VACANCY COMMITTEE MEMBER'S SIGNATURE ONLY COUNTS TOWARDS
21 THE THIRTY PERCENT OF APPLICABLE VACANCY COMMITTEE MEMBER
22 SIGNATURES REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (1.5)(d)(I) OF THIS
23 SECTION ON THE FIRST NOMINATING STATEMENT SUBMITTED THAT
24 CONTAINS THE SIGNATURE.

25 (f) If an ELIGIBLE ELECTOR SIGNS A PETITION IN ACCORDANCE
26 WITH SUBSECTION (1.5)(d)(II) OF THIS SECTION AFTER HAVING SIGNED
27 ANOTHER PETITION SUBMITTED FOR THE SAME OFFICE IN THE SAME MAJOR

1 POLITICAL PARTY ELECTION, THE ELECTOR'S SIGNATURE ONLY COUNTS
2 TOWARDS THE TWO HUNDREDELECTOR SIGNATURES REQUIRED PURSUANT
3 TO SUBSECTION (1.5)(d)(II) OF THIS SECTION ON THE FIRST PETITION
4 SUBMITTED THAT CONTAINS THE SIGNATURE.

5 (g) THE CANDIDATE'S POLITICAL PARTY SHALL VERIFY THAT A
6 NOMINATING STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SATISFIES
7 SUBSECTIONS (1.5)(d)(I) AND (1.5)(e) OF THIS SECTION. THE SECRETARY
8 OF STATE SHALL VERIFY THAT A PETITION SUBMITTED PURSUANT TO THIS
9 SECTION SATISFIES SUBSECTIONS (1.5)(d)(II) AND (1.5)(f) OF THIS
10 SECTION.

11 (h) THE ONLY CANDIDATES WHO ARE PLACED ON THE BALLOT FOR
12 A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION ARE THOSE DESCRIBED IN
13 SUBSECTIONS (1.5)(d)(I) AND (1.5)(d)(II) OF THIS SECTION.

14 (i) A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY ELECTION MUST BE CERTIFIED BY
15 THE SECRETARY OF STATE IN THE SAME MANNER AS AN ODD-YEAR
16 NOVEMBER ELECTION IS CERTIFIED PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-5-203 (1),

17 (j) EXCEPT WHERE THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLES 1 TO 13 OF THIS
18 TITLE 1 CONFLICT WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OR TIMELINE DESCRIBED IN
19 THIS SECTION, ARTICLES 1 TO 13 OF THIS TITLE 1 APPLY TO A MAJOR
20 POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION, AND A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY
21 ELECTION MUST BE CONDUCTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES 1 TO 13
22 OF THIS TITLE 1.

23 (3) (a) The vacancy committee, by a majority vote of its members
24 present and voting at a meeting called for that purpose and open to the
25 public, shall select a person who possesses the constitutional
26 qualifications for a member of the general assembly and who is affiliated
27 with the same political party or minor political party, if any, shown in the

1 statewide voter registration system as the former member whose seat is
2 vacant. No vacancy committee meeting shall be held until a quorum is
3 present consisting of not less than one-half of the voting membership of
4 the vacancy committee. No member of the vacancy committee may vote
5 by proxy. ALL VACANCY COMMITTEE MEETINGS MUST BE ACCESSIBLE IN
6 REAL TIME BY LIVE STREAMING VIDEO OR AUDIO THAT IS RECORDED AND
7 ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC. The committee shall certify the selection to
8 the secretary of state within thirty days from the date the vacancy occurs;
9 except that, in the case of a vacancy filled pursuant to section 1-4-1006,
10 the committee shall certify the selection within thirty days after the date
11 of the general election affected by the vacancy. If the vacancy committee
12 fails to certify a selection within thirty days in accordance with this
13 subsection (3), the governor, within five days, shall fill the vacancy by
14 appointing a person having the qualifications set forth in this subsection
15 (3). The name of the person selected or appointed must be certified to the
16 secretary of state.

17 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-45-103, **amend** (2)
18 **and** (8); and **add** (19) as follows:

19 **1-45-103. Definitions.** As used in this article 45, unless the
20 context otherwise requires:

21 (2) "Candidate" ~~shall have~~ HAS the same meaning as set forth in
22 section 2 (2) of article XXVIII of the state constitution; EXCEPT THAT
23 "CANDIDATE" ALSO INCLUDES A CANDIDATE FOR A MAJOR POLITICAL
24 PARTY VACANCY ELECTION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203
25 (1.5) AND A VACANCY CONTENDER WHO HAS PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED AN
26 INTENTION TO BE SELECTED BY A VACANCY COMMITTEE TO FILL A
27 VACANCY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THEREAFTER HAS RECEIVED A

1 CONTRIBUTION OR MADE AN EXPENDITURE IN SUPPORT OF THE
2 CANDIDACY. A VACANCY CONTENDER REMAINS A CANDIDATE FOR
3 PURPOSES OF THIS ARTICLE 45 SO LONG AS THE VACANCY CONTENDER
4 MAINTAINS A REGISTERED CANDIDATE COMMITTEE. A VACANCY
5 CONTENDER WHO MAINTAINS A CANDIDATE COMMITTEE AFTER A
6 VACANCY COMMITTEE HAS FILLED THE APPLICABLE VACANCY IN THE
7 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, BUT WHO HAS NOT PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED AN
8 INTENTION TO SEEK ELECTION TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN THE NEXT OR
9 ANY SUBSEQUENT ELECTION CYCLE, IS A CANDIDATE FOR PURPOSES OF
10 THIS ARTICLE 45.

11 (8) "Election cycle" ~~shall have~~ HAS the same meaning as set forth
12 in section 2 (6) of article XXVIII of the state constitution; EXCEPT THAT:

13 (a) FOR A VACANCY COMMITTEE SELECTION PROCESS USED TO FILL
14 A VACANCY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203,
15 "ELECTION CYCLE" MEANS THE PERIOD BEGINNING ON THE EFFECTIVE
16 DATE OF THE VACANCY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ENDING THIRTY
17 DAYS FOLLOWING THE DATE UPON WHICH THE VACANCY COMMITTEE
18 SELECTS AN INDIVIDUAL TO FILL THE VACANCY; AND

19 (b) FOR MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTIONS HELD
20 PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203 (1.5), "ELECTION CYCLE" MEANS THE
21 PERIOD BEGINNING ON THE DATE UPON WHICH A VACANCY COMMITTEE
22 SELECTS A MEMBER TO FILL THE VACANCY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
23 PURSUANT TO 1-12-203, AND ENDING THIRTY DAYS FOLLOWING THE
24 MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION.

25 (19) "VACANCY CONTENDER" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO SEEKS TO
26 BE SELECTED BY A VACANCY COMMITTEE TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE
27 GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203.

1 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-45-103.7, **add** (4.7)
2 as follows:

3 **1-45-103.7. Contribution limits - county offices - school district**
4 **director - treatment of independent expenditure committees -**
5 **contributions from limited liability companies - voter instructions on**
6 **spending limits - definitions.** (4.7) (a) A CANDIDATE COMMITTEE
7 ESTABLISHED IN THE NAME OF A VACANCY CONTENDER MAY ACCEPT FROM
8 ANY ONE PERSON THE AGGREGATE CONTRIBUTION LIMIT SPECIFIED IN
9 SECTION 3 (1) OF ARTICLE XXVIII OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION
10 APPLICABLE TO THE OFFICE THE VACANCY CONTENDER IS SEEKING AT ANY
11 POINT DURING THE ELECTION CYCLE FOR THE VACANCY COMMITTEE
12 SELECTION PROCESS USED TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
13 PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203.

14 (b) A CANDIDATE COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED IN THE NAME OF A
15 CANDIDATE WHO IS RUNNING FOR A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY
16 ELECTION MAY ACCEPT FROM ANY ONE PERSON THE AGGREGATE
17 CONTRIBUTION LIMIT SPECIFIED IN SECTION 3 (1) OF ARTICLE XXVIII OF
18 THE STATE CONSTITUTION APPLICABLE TO THE OFFICE THE CANDIDATE IS
19 SEEKING AT ANY POINT DURING THE ELECTION CYCLE FOR THE MAJOR
20 POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION HELD PURSUANT TO SECTION
21 1-12-203 (1.5).

22 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-45-108, **amend**
23 (2)(a)(I) introductory portion, (2)(a)(I)(C), (2)(a)(I)(D), and (2)(a)(I)(F);
24 and **add** (2)(a)(VI) as follows:

25 **1-45-108. Disclosure - definitions - repeal.** (2) (a) (I) Except as
26 provided in subsections (2)(a)(V), **(2)(a)(VI)**, (2.1), (2.5), (2.7), and (6)
27 of this section, such reports that are required to be filed with the secretary

1 of state must be filed:

2 (C) On the first day of each month beginning the sixth full month
3 before the major election; except that no monthly report shall be required
4 on the first day of the month in which the major election OR MAJOR
5 POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION
6 1-12-203 (1.5) is held;

7 (D) On the first Monday in September and on each Monday every
8 two weeks thereafter before the major election OR MAJOR POLITICAL
9 PARTY VACANCY ELECTION CONDUCTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203
10 (1.5);

11 (F) Fourteen days before and thirty days after a special legislative
12 election OR MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY VACANCY ELECTION CONDUCTED
13 PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203 (1.5) held in an off-election year.

14 (VI) SUCH REPORTS THAT ARE REQUIRED TO BE FILED WITH THE
15 SECRETARY OF STATE FOR CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED AND EXPENDITURES
16 MADE RELATED TO VACANCY CONTENDERS MUST BE FILED ON THE
17 MONDAY OF EACH WEEK DURING THE ELECTION CYCLE FOR THE VACANCY
18 COMMITTEE SELECTION PROCESS USED TO FILL A VACANCY IN THE
19 GENERAL ASSEMBLY PURSUANT TO SECTION 1-12-203.

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21 **SECTION 8. Appropriation.** (1) For the 2025-26 state fiscal
22 year, \$338,415 is appropriated to the department of state. This
23 appropriation is from the department of state cash fund created in section
24 24-21-104 (3)(b), C.R.S. To implement this act, the department may use
25 this appropriation as follows:

26 (a) \$320,240 for use by the information technology division for
27 personal services;

1 (b) \$1,050 for use by the elections division for document
2 management; and

3 (c) \$17,125 for the purchase of document management services.

4 (2) For the 2025-26 state fiscal year, \$17,125 is appropriated to
5 the department of personnel. This appropriation is from reappropriated
6 funds received from the department of state under subsection (1)(c) of
7 this section. To implement this act, the department of personnel may use
8 this appropriation to provide document management services for the
9 department of state.

10 **SECTION 9. Safety clause.** The general assembly finds,
11 determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
12 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for
13 the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state
14 institutions.