

**NO FISCAL IMPACT**

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**Drafting Number:** LLS 10-0748**Date:** February 16, 2010**Prime Sponsor(s):** Rep. Curry**Bill Status:** House Judiciary**Fiscal Analyst:** Bill Zepernick (303-866-4777)

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**TITLE:** CONCERNING THE REGISTRATION DATE FOR ELIGIBILITY OF A PERSON SEEKING TO BE PLACED IN NOMINATION AS A CANDIDATE FOR A PARTISAN OFFICE.**Summary of Legislation**

For partisan elections, House Bill 10-1271 shortens the length of time that:

- a person must be affiliated with a political party to seek the party's nomination; and
- a person must be unaffiliated from any party or affiliated with a minor party to seek a place on the ballot through the petition process.

Under current law, a person must be affiliated with a political party for at least 1 year to seek nomination for a partisan office or be unaffiliated for 1 year to seek ballot access an unaffiliated candidate. The bill changes this 1-year standard, and instead requires that a person be affiliated or unaffiliated as of the January 1 immediately preceding the primary or general election to which they are seeking the party nomination or ballot access.

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or becoming law without his signature. It applies to the November 2012 general election and subsequent general elections and congressional vacancy elections.

**Assessment**

The bill is not expected to impact costs or workload in any state agency or for the county clerks. The shortened time period could result in an increase in the number of unaffiliated or minor party candidates seeking a place on the ballot through the petition process. This number is expected to be minimal and the costs of petition review can be absorbed by the Department of State.

**Departments Contacted**

State