

# State of South Dakota

NINETY-THIRD SESSION  
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2018

481Z0660

## SENATE STATE AFFAIRS ENGROSSED NO. **SB 144** - 2/5/2018

Introduced by: Senators Curd, Bolin, Ewing, Greenfield (Brock), Langer, Maher, Netherton, Novstrup, and Soholt and Representatives Peterson (Kent), Beal, DiSanto, Haugaard, Latterell, Qualm, and Rhoden

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions related to party affiliation on  
2 voter registration cards.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

4 Section 1. That § 12-1-3 be amended to read:

5 12-1-3. Terms used in this title mean:

6 (1) "Candidate," a person whose name is on the ballot or who is entitled to be on the  
7 ballot to be voted upon for nomination or election at any election;

8 (2) "Election," any election held under the laws of this state;

9 (3) "Election officials," state and local officials charged with the duty of conducting  
10 elections and the canvass of returns;

11 (4) "Elector," a person qualified to register as a voter, whether or not the person is  
12 registered;

13 ~~(4A)~~(5) "Electronic pollbook," an electronic system containing both the registration list  
14 and pollbook;



1       ~~(5)~~(6) "General election," the vote required to be taken in each voting precinct of the state  
2               on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year;

3       ~~(5A)~~(7)       "Paid circulator," any person who receives money or anything of value for  
4               collecting signatures for a petition;

5       ~~(6)~~(8) "Party office," an office of a political party organization as distinct from a public  
6               office;

7       ~~(7)~~(9) "Person in charge of an election," or "person charged with the conduct of an  
8               election," the county auditor in all cases except local elections for a municipality,  
9               school district, township, or other political subdivision, in which case it is the officer  
10              having the position comparable to the auditor in that unit of government if not  
11              specifically designated by law;

12       ~~(8)~~(10)       "Petition," a form prescribed by the State Board of Elections, which contains  
13              the question or candidacy being petitioned, the declaration of candidacy if  
14              required and the verification of the circulator. If multiple sheets of paper are  
15              necessary to obtain the required number of signatures, each sheet shall be self-  
16              contained and separately verified by the circulator;

17       ~~(9)~~(11)       "Petition circulator," a resident of the State of South Dakota who is at least  
18              eighteen years of age who circulates nominating petitions or other petitions for  
19              the purpose of placing candidates or issues on any election ballot;

20       ~~(10)~~(12)       "Political party," a party whose candidate for any statewide office at the last  
21              preceding general election received at least two and one-half percent of the  
22              total votes cast for that statewide office;

23       ~~(10A)~~(13)       "Pollbook" or "poll list," a list containing in numerical order the names of all  
24              persons voting at the election and type of ballot voted;



1 Section 2. That § 12-4-15 be amended to read:

2 12-4-15. ~~Any~~ A person desiring to may designate or change that person's party affiliation,  
3 name, or address ~~may do so~~ by completing a new registration card. For any registration card  
4 completed by a person changing that person's party affiliation, name, or address, if the field for  
5 party affiliation is left blank, the person's party affiliation shall be the most recent party  
6 affiliation registered for that person. For any registration card completed by a person who is  
7 registering to vote for the first time in this state, if the field for party affiliation is left blank, the  
8 party affiliation shall be registered as independent or no party affiliation.

9 Section 3. This Act is effective July 1, 2019.