Session of 2012

Substitute for HOUSE BILL No. 2782

By Committee on Elections

3-20

AN ACT concerning elections; relating to persons running for public office in Kansas.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any person running for public office shall have the same qualifications as a qualified elector in Kansas, as set forth in section 1 of article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas. Such qualifications are that such person:

(1) Be 18 years of age or older;

(2) be a resident of the voting area in which such person seeks to vote, except that where a person does not meet the requirements of a qualified voter at the time of filing but shall be duly registered to vote by the time such person would take office if elected, such person may file for office; and

(3) be a citizen of the United States.

Proof of citizenship shall be provided to the applicable filing office when the person files as a candidate for office by providing a document or a photocopy of such document listed in paragraphs (1) through (13) of K.S.A. 25-2309(l), and amendments thereto, to the secretary of state, or by seeking an assessment of evidence of United States citizenship by the state election board pursuant to K.S.A. 25-2309(m), and amendments thereto.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit an applicant from providing, or the secretary of state or county election officer from obtaining satisfactory evidence of United States citizenship, as described in paragraphs (1) through (13) of K.S.A. 25-2309(l), and amendments thereto, at a different time or in a different manner than when a person files to run for office, as long as the applicant's eligibility can be adequately assessed by the secretary of state or county election officer as required by this section.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.