

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 338

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MUNZLINGER.

Read 1st time January 28, 2015, and ordered printed.

ADRIANE D. CROUSE, Secretary.

1285S.03I

AN ACT

To repeal sections 115.607, 115.609, 115.619, and 115.621, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof four new sections relating to political party committees.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 115.607, 115.609, 115.619, and 115.621, RSMo, are
2 repealed and four new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections
3 115.607, 115.609, 115.619, and 115.621, to read as follows:

115.607. 1. No person shall be elected or shall serve as a member of a
2 county committee who is not, for one year next before the person's election, both
3 a registered voter of and a resident of the county and the committee district from
4 which the person is elected if such district shall have been so long established,
5 and if not, then of the district or districts from which the same shall have been
6 taken. Except as provided in subsections 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this section, the
7 membership of a county committee of each established political party shall consist
8 of a man and a woman elected from each township or ward in the county. **Votes**
9 **for write-in candidates shall not be counted in the election of members**
10 **to the county committees.**

11 2. In each county of the first classification containing the major portion
12 of a city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants, two members of the
13 committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each ward in the city. Any
14 township entirely contained in the city shall have no additional representation
15 on the county committee. The election authority for the county shall, not later
16 than six months after the decennial census has been reported to the President of
17 the United States, divide the most populous township outside the city into eight
18 subdistricts of contiguous and compact territory and as nearly equal in population

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

19 as practicable. The subdistricts shall be numbered from one upward
20 consecutively, which numbers shall, insofar as practicable, be retained upon
21 reapportionment. Two members of the county committee, a man and a woman,
22 shall be elected from each such subdistrict. Six members of the committee, three
23 men and three women, shall be elected from the second and third most populous
24 townships outside the city. Four members of the committee, two men and two
25 women, shall be elected from the other townships outside the city.

26 3. In any city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants, the
27 major portion of which is located in a county with a charter form of government,
28 for the portion of the city located within such county and notwithstanding section
29 82.110, it shall be the duty of the election authority, not later than six months
30 after the decennial census has been reported to the President of the United
31 States, to divide such cities into not less than twenty-four nor more than
32 twenty-five wards after each decennial census. Wards shall be so divided that the
33 number of inhabitants in any ward shall not exceed any other ward of the city
34 and within the same county, by more than five percent, measured by the number
35 of the inhabitants determined at the preceding decennial census.

36 4. In each county of the first classification containing a portion, but not
37 the major portion, of a city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants,
38 ten members of the committee, five men and five women, shall be elected from the
39 district of each state representative wholly contained in the county in the
40 following manner: within six months after each legislative reapportionment, the
41 election authority shall divide each legislative district wholly contained in the
42 county into five committee districts of contiguous territory as compact and as
43 nearly equal in population as may be; two members of the committee, a man and
44 a woman, shall be elected from each committee district. The election authority
45 shall divide the area of the county located within legislative districts not wholly
46 contained in the county into similar committee districts; two members of the
47 committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each committee district.

48 5. In each city not situated in a county, two members of the committee,
49 a man and a woman, shall be elected from each ward.

50 6. In all counties with a charter form of government and a population of
51 over nine hundred thousand inhabitants, the county committee persons shall be
52 elected from each township. Within ninety days after August 28, 2002, and
53 within six months after each decennial census has been reported to the President
54 of the United States, the election authority shall divide the county into

55 twenty-eight compact and contiguous townships containing populations as nearly
56 equal in population to each other as is practical.

57 7. If any election authority has failed to adopt a reapportionment plan by
58 the deadline set forth in this section, the county commission, sitting as a
59 reapportionment commission, shall within sixty days after the deadline, adopt a
60 reapportionment plan. Changes of township, ward, or precinct lines shall not
61 affect the terms of office of incumbent party committee members elected from
62 districts as constituted at the time of their election.

115.609. [In each city not situated in a county and in each county which
2 has over nine hundred thousand inhabitants, all members of the county
3 committee shall be elected at the primary election immediately preceding each
4 gubernatorial election and shall hold office until their successors are elected and
5 qualified.] In each [other] county **and each city not situated in a county**, all
6 members of the county committee shall be elected at each primary election and
7 shall hold office until their successors are elected and qualified.

115.619. 1. The membership of a legislative district committee shall
2 consist of all county committee members within the legislative district, except as
3 provided in subsections 4 and 5 of this section. In all counties of this state which
4 are wholly contained within a legislative district, or in which there are two or
5 more whole legislative districts, or one whole legislative district and part of
6 another legislative district, or parts of two or more legislative districts, there
7 shall be elected from the membership of each legislative district committee a
8 chairman and a vice chairman, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom
9 shall be a man, and each legislative district at the same time shall elect a
10 secretary and a treasurer, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall
11 be a man, but who may or may not be members of the legislative district
12 committee. **A person may only be elected chair or vice-chair of a
13 legislative district committee for a district in which that person is
14 legally permitted to vote on election day. In no event shall any person
15 serve as a chair or vice-chair for more than one legislative district
16 committee.** Party state committees may provide for voting by proxy and for
17 weighted or fractional voting. **Votes for write-in candidates shall not be
18 counted in the election of members to legislative district committees.**

19 2. If a legislative district and a county are coextensive, the chairman, vice
20 chairman, secretary and treasurer of the county committee shall be the chairman,
21 vice chairman, secretary and treasurer of the legislative committee.

22 3. Except as provided in subsections 4 and 5 of this section, the
23 congressional, senatorial or judicial district committee shall consist of the
24 chairman and vice chairman of each of the legislative districts in the
25 congressional, senatorial, or judicial districts and the chairman and vice
26 chairman of each of the county committees within the districts. Party state
27 committees may provide for voting by proxy and may provide for weighted or
28 fractional voting.

29 4. The congressional, senatorial or judicial district committee of a district
30 coextensive with one county shall be the county committee.

31 5. The congressional, senatorial or judicial district committee of a district
32 which is composed in whole or in part of a part of a city or part of a county shall
33 consist of the ward or township committeemen and committeewomen from such
34 wards or townships included in whole or in part in such part of a city or part of
35 a county forming the whole or a part of such district. Party state committees may
36 provide for voting by proxy and may provide for weighted or fractional voting.

115.621. 1. The members of each congressional district committee shall
2 meet at some place within the district, to be designated by the current chair of
3 the committee, on the last Tuesday in August after each primary election. The
4 county courthouse in counties of the first, second and third classification in which
5 the meeting is to take place, as designated by the chair, shall be made available
6 for such meeting and any other congressional district political party committee
7 meeting at no charge to the committee. At the meeting, the committee shall
8 organize by electing one of its members as chair and one of its members as vice
9 chair, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall be a man, and a
10 secretary and a treasurer, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom shall
11 be a man, who may or may not be members of the committee.

12 2. The members of each legislative district committee shall meet at some
13 place within the legislative district or within one of the counties in which the
14 legislative district exists, to be designated by the current chair of the committee,
15 on the third Wednesday after each August primary election. The county
16 courthouse in counties of the first, second and third classification in which the
17 meeting is to take place, as designated by the chair, shall be made available for
18 such meeting and any other legislative district political party committee meeting
19 at no charge to the committee. At the meeting, the committee shall organize
20 pursuant to subsection 1 of section 115.619.

21 3. The members of each senatorial district committee shall meet at some

22 place within the district, to be designated by the current chair of the committee,
23 if there is one, and if not, by the chair of the congressional district in which the
24 senatorial district is principally located, on the third Saturday after each August
25 primary election. The county courthouse in counties of the first, second and third
26 classification in which the meeting is to take place, as so designated pursuant to
27 this subsection, shall be made available for such meeting and any other senatorial
28 district political party committee meeting at no charge to the committee. At the
29 meeting, the committee shall organize by electing one of its members as chair and
30 one of its members as vice chair, one of whom shall be a woman and one of whom
31 shall be a man, and a secretary and a treasurer, one of whom shall be a woman
32 and one of whom shall be a man, who may or may not be members of the
33 committee. The members of each senatorial district shall also meet at some place
34 within the district, to be designated by the current chair of the committee, if
35 there is one, and if not, by the chair of the congressional district in which the
36 senatorial district is principally located, on the Saturday after the third Tuesday
37 in November after each general election. At the meeting, the committee shall
38 proceed to elect two registered voters of the district, one man and one woman, as
39 members of the party's state committee. **However, in counties not wholly**
40 **contained within one senatorial district, only committee members from**
41 **a precinct, ward, or township contained within the senatorial district**
42 **are eligible to vote for the members of the party's state committee.**

43 4. The members of each judicial district may meet at some place within
44 the judicial district or within one of the counties in which the judicial district
45 exists, to be designated by the current chair of the committee or the chair of the
46 congressional district committee, on the first Tuesday in September after each
47 primary election, or at another time designated by the chairmen of the
48 committees. The county courthouse in counties of the first, second and third
49 classification in which the meeting is to take place, as so designated pursuant to
50 this subsection, shall be made available for such meeting and any other judicial
51 district political party committee meeting at no charge to the committee. At the
52 meeting, the committee shall organize pursuant to subsection 1 of section
53 115.619.

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