



# LIBERTARIAN PARTY of ILLINOIS

PO BOX 5324  
Bloomington, IL 61702  
[www.LPillinois.org](http://www.LPillinois.org)

Minimum Government - Maximum Freedom

A RESOLUTION ENDORSING ILLINOIS SENATE BILL 141 AND ILLINOIS HOUSE BILL 3535 TO AMEND THE ILLINOIS ELECTION CODE

WHEREAS, the Libertarian Party of Illinois supports competitive elections and encourages the people of Illinois to get involved in their Government; and

WHEREAS, the current Illinois election law prevents competitive elections and magnifies the impacts of gerrymandering, as recently demonstrated by 46% of the Illinois General Assembly being elected via uncontested races in the 2018 General Election; and

WHEREAS, the current Illinois election law discourages qualified Illinois citizens from running for office who do not align with either of the two old political parties or are unable to navigate the intentionally complex election system that the two old parties created for themselves; and

WHEREAS, the current Illinois election law prevents innovation and compromise in public policy by limiting debate to only voices that align with the platforms of the two old political parties; and

WHEREAS, Illinois House Bill 3535 amends the Illinois Election Code and changes signature requirements for new political parties and independent candidates so the amounts are equal to those required for established political parties, irrespective of party affiliation; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Senate Bill 141 amends the Illinois Election Code and provides that petitions to constitute a “new political party” (the Illinois Election Code refers to parties without established party status as “new parties”) in the State and nomination petitions for independent candidates must be signed by a number of qualified voters at least equal to the minimum petition signature requirement for a Statewide office candidate of an established political party (instead of 1% of the number of voters who voted at the next preceding Statewide general election or 25,000 qualified voters, whichever is less); and

WHEREAS, Illinois Senate Bill 141 provides that petitions to form a new political party within any district or political subdivision less than the entire State shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or political subdivision equaling in number not less than the minimum petition signature requirement for the office on the slate with the highest minimum petition signature requirement (instead of 5% of the number of voters who voted at the next preceding regular election in that district or subdivision); and

WHEREAS, Illinois Senate Bill 141 provides that the signature requirement for nomination petitions for independent candidates for public offices other than Statewide offices is the same as the signature requirement for established political parties; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Senate Bill 141 provides that, if the signature requirement for established political party candidates also includes a limit on the number of signatures that may be filed, then that limitation shall also apply to new political party candidates for that office; and

WHEREAS, Illinois Senate Bill 141 aligns with the Libertarian Party’s support for competitive elections, innovation in policymaking, proper representation, and more accountable elected officials;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, on this 5th day of March, 2019 that the Libertarian Party of Illinois fully endorses Illinois Senate Bill 141 and Illinois House Bill 3535 and encourages the General Assembly and the Governor of Illinois to pass and sign this legislation.