

First Regular Session
Sixty-ninth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 13-0710.01 Bob Lackner x4350

HOUSE BILL 13-1207

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Murray,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

House Committees
State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

Senate Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY TO
102 PAY THE EXPENSES INCURRED IN CONNECTION WITH HOLDING A
103 PRIMARY ELECTION IN WHICH THERE ARE NO CONTESTED RACES
104 INVOLVING THE POLITICAL PARTY ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION
105 BALLOT.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Under current law, all expenses incurred in the preparation or

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

conduct of the primary election are out of the treasury of the county or state, as the case may be, in the same manner as for general elections. Under the bill, where there are no contested races on the primary election ballot of a particular major political party and the political party chooses to proceed with holding a primary election for all such races on the ballot, the political party is required to pay its proportionate share of the total expenses incurred by the county in preparing for or conducting the primary election.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-101, **amend** (5)
3 as follows:

4 **1-4-101. Primary election nominations made - expenses of**
5 **holding the primary election.** (5) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN
6 SECTION 1-4-104.5(1), all expenses incurred in the preparation or conduct
7 of the primary election shall be paid out of the treasury of the county or
8 state, as the case may be, in the same manner as for general elections.

9 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-104.5, **amend** (1)
10 as follows:

11 **1-4-104.5. No contested races on primary election ballot -**
12 **expenses.** (1) If, at the close of business on the sixtieth day before the
13 primary election, there is not more than one candidate for any political
14 party who has been nominated in accordance with this article or who has
15 filed a write-in candidate affidavit of intent pursuant to section 1-4-1101
16 for any office on the primary election ballot, the designated election
17 official ~~may cancel the primary election and~~ SHALL declare each candidate
18 the party nominee for that office at the general election. For purposes of
19 other applicable law, such nominee shall be deemed a candidate in and
20 the winner of the primary election. The name of each nominee shall be
21 printed on the official ballot prepared for the ensuing general election.

1 WHERE THERE ARE NO CONTESTED RACES ON THE PRIMARY ELECTION
2 BALLOT OF A PARTICULAR MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY, AND THE POLITICAL
3 PARTY CHOOSES TO PROCEED WITH HOLDING A PRIMARY ELECTION FOR
4 ALL SUCH RACES ON THE BALLOT, THE POLITICAL PARTY MUST PAY ITS
5 PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE TOTAL EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE
6 COUNTY IN PREPARING FOR OR CONDUCTING THE PRIMARY ELECTION.

7 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date -**
8 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following
9 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the
10 general assembly (August 7, 2013, if adjournment sine die is on May 8,
11 2013); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1
12 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,
13 or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part
14 will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election
15 to be held in November 2014 and, in such case, will take effect on the
16 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

17 (2) This act applies to primary elections held on or after the
18 applicable effective date of this act.