1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA 2 1st Session of the 57th Legislature (2019) HOUSE BILL 1973 3 By: Ford 4 5 6 AS INTRODUCED 7 An Act relating to elections; amending 26 O.S. 2011, Section 5-126, which relates to hearing of contest of candidacy; requiring recusal of board member for 8 conflict of interest; amending 26 O.S. 2011, Section 9 5-128, which relates to declaration of candidacy; modifying time for amending of declaration; and 10 providing an effective date. 11 12 1.3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA: 14 SECTION 1. 26 O.S. 2011, Section 5-126, is AMENDATORY 15 amended to read as follows: 16 Section 5-126. The petition may be heard without formal 17 pleadings being filed in answer or reply thereto. The election 18 board with whom the petition is filed shall have the authority to 19 issue subpoenas and compel the attendance of witnesses and the 20 production of evidence. Such election board shall have the 21 authority to receive the testimony of witnesses under oath, said 22 oath to be administered by the secretary of the board. Any member 23 of the board shall recuse himself or herself from voting on any 24 matter involving a conflict of interest. At the conclusion of the

Req. No. 6927 Page 1

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    hearing, the board shall render its decision and the vote of the
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    individual members in writing. The decision of such board shall in
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    all cases be final.
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        SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 26 O.S. 2011, Section 5-128, is
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    amended to read as follows:
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        Section 5-128. If said contestee's A Declaration of Candidacy
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    may be amended or corrected to conform to law, the election board
    may order the same to be done, if the board determines such
    amendment or correction to be proper at the time of its order or
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    decision only during the filing period prescribed by Section 5-110
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    of this title.
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        SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2019.
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Req. No. 6927 Page 2