

ADVISORY 2024-02

June 3, 2024

To: All County Board of Elections
Directors, Deputy Directors, and Board Members

Re: H.B. 2, Presidential Candidates (135th General Assembly – Special Session)

BACKGROUND

The Ohio General Assembly passed House Bill 2 on May 31, 2024 in Special Session. Governor Mike DeWine signed the bill into law on June 2, 2024. This Advisory alerts boards of elections to temporary changes in the administration of the 2024 general election resulting from the passage of this legislation.

SUMMARY

The Act takes effect on August 31, 2024¹ and provides for the following temporary changes:

Delayed certification for Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates

Delays the deadline for major political parties to certify presidential and vice-presidential candidates to the Secretary of State for the 2024 general election by moving the deadline from 90 days (August 7) before the day of the general election to 65 days (September 1) beforehand.

Certification transmission method

Allows a political party to transmit the certification to the Secretary of State by any reasonably reliable method that, under the circumstances, ensures the Secretary of State will receive it by the deadline.

Delayed certification of forms for the 2024 general

Delays the deadline for the Secretary of State to certify the forms of the official ballots to be used at the 2024 general election from the 70th day (August 27) to not later than the 60th day (September 6) before the 2024 general election.

EXPLANATION

Delayed certification of Presidential and Vice-Presidential candidates and forms for 2024

The act delays the deadline for major political parties to certify presidential and vice-presidential candidates to the Secretary of State for the 2024 general election (from 90 days to 65 days prior). This is a temporary provision that applies only to 2024. Under continuing law, for future presidential general elections, major political parties must certify the names of the presidential and

¹ [Art. 2 §1c of the Ohio Constitution.](#)

vice-presidential candidates to the Secretary of State for placement on the ballot on or before the 90th day before the day of the general election.²

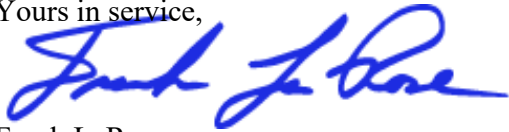
The act also provides that a political party may transmit the certification to the Secretary of State by any reasonably reliable method ensuring delivery by the deadline, including:

- (a) Hand delivery;
- (b) Certified, express, or ordinary mail delivery by the United States Postal Service;
- (c) Commercial Carrier services;
- (d) Facsimile transmission; or
- (e) Electronic mail.

Additionally, the act delays the deadline by which the Secretary of State is required to certify to the boards of elections the forms of the official ballots to be used for the 2024 general election (from 70 days to not later than 60 days prior). This provision applies only to the 2024 general election. Under continuing law, for future presidential general elections, the Secretary must certify the forms of the official ballots to be used at a general election on the 70th day before a general election in future years.³

If you have any questions concerning this Advisory, please contact the Secretary of State's elections counsel at (614) 728-8789.

Yours in service,



Frank LaRose
Ohio Secretary of State

² [R.C. 3505.10\(B\)\(1\)](#)

³ [R.C. 3505.10\(B\)\(1\)](#)