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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 460  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

[Click here for H.B. 460's Fiscal Note](#)

**Version:** As Reported by House State and Local Government

**Primary Sponsors:** Reps. Hambley and Skindell

Ben Fogle, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- Allows a partisan judicial candidate to appear on the general election ballot with a political party designation.
- Allows for a candidate for a judicial office to request that no political party designation appear under the candidate's name on the ballot at a general election.
- Requires the Secretary of State to prescribe a version of the declaration of candidacy form and petition, nominating petition, and written certification of acceptance to be used by a candidate for judicial office that includes an option to request that no political party designation appear under the candidate's name on the general election ballot.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

The bill allows a partisan judicial candidate to appear on the general election ballot with a political party designation. The bill applies to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, any justice of the Supreme Court, court of appeals judges, court of common pleas judges, county court judges, and municipal court judges.

Under continuing law, most judicial candidates are required to be nominated either at a party primary or, in the case of an independent candidate, by nominating petition. Some municipal judges are nominated only by petition or at a nonpartisan primary election, depending on the size of the municipal corporation and any applicable charter provisions. Under current law, however, after nomination, all candidates for judicial offices appear on a nonpartisan ballot at the general election, with no party designation.

Additionally, the bill allows for a candidate for a judicial office to request that no political party designation appear under the candidate's name on the ballot at a general election. The Secretary of State must prescribe a version of the form of declaration of candidacy and petition, nominating petition, and written acceptance of a certification to be used by a

candidate for judicial office that includes an option to request that no political party designation appear under the candidate's name on the general election ballot.<sup>1</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	12-27-19
Reported, H. State & Local Gov't	12-08-20

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H0460-RH-133/ts

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<sup>1</sup> R.C. 1901.07, 3501.01, 3505.03, 3505.04, 3513.07, 3513.257, 3513.31, and 3517.012. See also R.C. 3513.08 and 3513.251, not in the bill.