

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 19-0411.01 Nicole Myers x4326

**HOUSE BILL 19-1046**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Williams D.,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**(None),**

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**House Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING THE WAIVER OF FEES THAT A DELEGATE TO A PARTY**  
102                    **ASSEMBLY MAY BE REQUIRED TO PAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE**  
103                    **PARTY ASSEMBLY.**

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**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://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

If a major political party charges a delegate or alternate to a party assembly a fee or other cost to participate in the party assembly, the bill requires the major political party to waive the fee or charge, without further inquiry, upon request of a delegate or alternate. The bill specifies that a delegate or alternate's inability to pay such fee or charge shall not

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

prevent his or her participation in the party assembly. In addition, the bill requires major political parties to notify electors at party caucuses that electors who are chosen to be delegates or alternates to any party assembly are not required to pay any fee or other charge to participate in the party assembly.

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

2           **SECTION 1. Short title.** The short title of this act is the  
3 "Freedom to Vote Act".

4           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-602, **add** (7) as  
5 follows:

6           **1-4-602. Delegates and alternates to party assemblies -**  
7 **legislative declaration.** (7) (a) (I) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY HEREBY  
8 FINDS AND DECLARES THAT:

9           (A) ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS SHOULD HAVE EQUAL ACCESS TO  
10 THE PARTY ASSEMBLY PROCESS, REGARDLESS OF THE SOCIOECONOMIC  
11 STATUS OF INDIVIDUAL REGISTERED ELECTORS; AND

12           (B) THE STATE HAS AN INTEREST IN PROHIBITING THE MAJOR  
13 POLITICAL PARTIES FROM INSTITUTING A POLL TAX OR ANY OTHER  
14 FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ASSOCIATED WITH PARTICIPATION IN THE PARTY  
15 ASSEMBLY PROCESS THAT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS A BARRIER TO  
16 PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCESS BY THOSE WITH LIMITED ECONOMIC  
17 RESOURCES.

18           (II) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FURTHER FINDS AND DECLARES THAT  
19 REQUIRING MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES TO WAIVE, UPON REQUEST, FEES OR  
20 OTHER CHARGES ASSOCIATED WITH PARTICIPATION IN THE PARTY  
21 ASSEMBLY PROCESS WILL HELP ENSURE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE ACCESS  
22 TO THE PARTY ASSEMBLY PROCESS FOR ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS.

23           (b) UPON REQUEST OF A DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE TO ANY PARTY

1 ASSEMBLY, A MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY SHALL WAIVE, WITHOUT FURTHER  
2 INQUIRY, ANY FEE OR OTHER CHARGE CHARGED BY THE MAJOR POLITICAL  
3 PARTY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARTY ASSEMBLY. A DELEGATE'S OR  
4 ALTERNATE'S INABILITY TO PAY SUCH FEE OR CHARGE SHALL NOT PREVENT  
5 THE DELEGATE OR ALTERNATE FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE PARTY  
6 ASSEMBLY.

7 (c) MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES SHALL NOTIFY ELECTORS AT PARTY  
8 CAUCUSES THAT ELECTORS WHO ARE CHOSEN TO BE DELEGATES OR  
9 ALTERNATES TO ANY PARTY ASSEMBLY ARE NOT REQUIRED TO PAY ANY  
10 FEE OR OTHER CHARGE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PARTY ASSEMBLY.

11 **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
12 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
13 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
14 2, 2019, if adjournment sine die is on May 3, 2019); except that, if a  
15 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
16 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
17 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
18 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
19 November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
20 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.