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HOUSE BILL 157

**51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2013**

INTRODUCED BY  
Jeff Steinborn

AN ACT

RELATING TO ELECTIONS; ALLOWING PERSONS WHO ARE SEVENTEEN YEARS  
OLD AND WHO WILL BE EIGHTEEN BY THE DAY OF THE GENERAL ELECTION  
TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION OR PARTICIPATE IN A MAJOR  
PARTY'S ALTERNATE SELECTION PROCEDURE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

**SECTION 1.** Section 1-4-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1969,  
Chapter 240, Section 60, as amended) is amended to read:

"1-4-2. QUALIFICATION FOR REGISTRATION--RIGHT TO VOTE IN  
PRIMARY.--

A. Any resident of New Mexico who will be a  
qualified elector at the date of the next ensuing general  
election shall be permitted within the provisions of the  
Election Code to register and become a voter.

B. If a person who is seventeen years old will be a

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1 qualified elector on the day of the general election and  
2 registers to vote in accordance with the provisions of  
3 Subsection A of this section, for the purposes of the primary  
4 election that person shall be considered to be a voter and may  
5 vote in the primary election immediately preceding that general  
6 election."

7 SECTION 2. Section 1-15A-3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2003,  
8 Chapter 300, Section 3) is amended to read:

9 "1-15A-3. SELECTION OF NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES BY  
10 MAJOR POLITICAL PARTIES--USE OF ALTERNATE SELECTION  
11 PROCEDURES--CERTIFICATION.--

12 A. If a major political party chooses not to  
13 participate in the presidential primary, it shall:

14 (1) notify the secretary of state at least  
15 thirty days before the governor is required to issue the  
16 proclamation of the primary election; and

17 (2) allow anyone who would otherwise be  
18 qualified to vote in that party's primary to participate in the  
19 party's selection procedure.

20 B. The state [~~chairman~~] chair of a major political  
21 party that does not participate in the presidential primary  
22 shall certify to the secretary of state the names of the state  
23 party's delegates to the party's national convention, and those  
24 delegates shall file a declaration of acceptance in accordance  
25 with Section [~~1-8-61~~] 1-15A-10 NMSA 1978."

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