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; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

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--<u>RIGHT TO VOTE IN PRIMARY</u>.--

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

<u>B. If a person who is seventeen years old will be a</u>

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."

.202675.1

SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.--It is necessary for the public peace, health and safety that this act take effect immediately.

- 3 -

.202675.1