

FILED JAN 27 1999

SENATE FILE

59

BY LUNDBY

Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

Approved \_\_\_\_\_

A BILL FOR

1 An Act changing the definition of political party.  
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF 59

STATE GOVERNMENT

1 Section 1. Section 43.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code  
2 1999, is amended to read as follows:

3 The term "political party" shall mean a party which, at  
4 either of the last two preceding general election elections,  
5 cast for its candidate for president of the United States or  
6 for governor any statewide elective office in Iowa, as the  
7 case may be, at least two percent of the total vote cast for  
8 all candidates for that office at that election. It shall be  
9 the responsibility of the state commissioner to determine  
10 whether any organization claiming to be a political party  
11 qualifies as such under the foregoing definition.

12 EXPLANATION

13 This bill changes the definition of "political party" to  
14 mean any party whose candidate for president of the United  
15 States or for any statewide elective office in Iowa received  
16 at least 2 percent of the total votes cast for that office in  
17 either of the last two general elections. Current law defines  
18 "political party" as a party whose candidate for United States  
19 president or governor received 2 percent of the total votes  
20 cast for either office at the preceding general election.

21 Recognition as a political party under Iowa law determines,  
22 among other things, which parties may nominate candidates at  
23 the primary election and which parties may automatically  
24 participate in the presidential caucuses. Also, recognition  
25 as a political party under Iowa law means that the party is  
26 eligible to receive funds from the Iowa election campaign fund  
27 into which is deposited moneys received from the election  
28 campaign income tax checkoff.

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