STATE GOVERNMENT

FILED JAN 23 '03

SENATE FILE 42

BY BOLKCOM and LUNDBY

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____ Vote: Ayes ____ Nays ____ Nays ____ Approved _____ Passed House, Date _____ Nays ____ Nays ____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act allowing greater third party ballot access by redefining
2 political party.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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SF + 2 STATE GOVERNMENT

s.f. 42 H.f.

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Section 1. Section 43.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
 1
 2 2003, is amended to read as follows:
      The term "political party" shall-mean means a party which,
 4 at the last preceding general election, cast for its candidate
 5 for president-of-the-United-States-or-for-governor,-as-the
 6 case-may-be any statewide office, at least two percent of the
 7 total vote cast for all candidates for that office at that
 8 election or, in the alternative, which maintains registrations
 9 with that party in a number equal to or greater than one-half
10 of one percent of the total number of voters who cast ballots
ll in the last preceding general election. It shall be the
12 responsibility of the state commissioner to determine whether
13 any organization claiming to be a political party qualifies as
14 such under the foregoing definition.
15
                             EXPLANATION
16
      This bill changes the definition of "political party" to
17 mean a party that receives 2 percent of the vote for any
18 statewide office, rather than for only governor or president,
19 or that maintains voter registrations to their party of 0.5
20 percent of the total number of persons who voted in the last
21 preceding general election.
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