SENATE FILE **80** *STATE GOVERNMENT*

BY BOLKCOM

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

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 80 STATE GOVERNMENT

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1   Section 1.   Section 43.2, unnumbered paragraph 1, Code
2 2005, is amended to read as follows:
3   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~~ or any statewide office, at least two percent of
7 the 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
11 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 president
18 or any statewide office, rather than for only governor or
19 president, or that maintains voter registrations to their
20 party of 0.5 percent of the total number of persons who voted
21 in the last preceding general election.
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