

**Senate File 70 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 70  
BY TAYLOR

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the definition of political party.

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

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 43.2, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code  
2 2025, is amended to read as follows:

3 b. "~~Political party~~" shall ~~mean~~ means a party which, at  
4 either of the last two preceding general election elections, cast  
5 for its candidate for ~~president of the United States or for~~  
6 ~~governor, as the case may be~~ any office elected by the electors  
7 of the entire state, at least two percent of the total vote cast  
8 for all candidates for that office at that election, or which  
9 has at least two thousand registered members. It shall be the  
10 responsibility of the state commissioner to determine whether any  
11 organization claiming to be a political party qualifies as such  
12 under this paragraph.

13 Sec. 2. Section 43.63, subsection 1, Code 2025, is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15 1. Upon receipt of the abstracts of votes from the counties,  
16 the secretary of state shall immediately open the envelopes and  
17 canvass the results for all offices. The secretary of state  
18 shall invite to attend the canvass one representative from each  
19 political party which, at either of the last two preceding  
20 general election elections, cast for its candidate for ~~president~~  
21 ~~of the United States or for governor, as the case may be~~ any  
22 office elected by the electors of the entire state, at least  
23 two percent of the total vote cast for all candidates for that  
24 office at that election, or which has at least two thousand  
25 registered members, as determined by the secretary of state. The  
26 secretary of state shall notify the chairperson of each political  
27 party of the time of the canvass. However, the presence of a  
28 representative from a political party is not necessary for the  
29 canvass to proceed.

30 Sec. 3. Section 50.36, subsection 2, Code 2025, is amended to  
31 read as follows:

32 2. The secretary of state shall invite to attend the canvass  
33 one representative from each political party which, at either of  
34 the last two preceding general election elections, cast for its  
35 candidate for ~~president of the United States or for governor,~~

1 ~~as the case may be~~ any office elected by the electors of the  
2 entire state, at least two percent of the total vote cast for  
3 all candidates for that office at that election, or which has  
4 at least two thousand registered members, as determined by the  
5 secretary of state. The secretary of state shall notify the  
6 chairperson of each political party of the time of the canvass.  
7 However, the presence of a representative from a political party  
8 is not necessary for the canvass to proceed.

9 Sec. 4. Section 68B.2, subsection 13, paragraph b,  
10 subparagraph (1), Code 2025, is amended to read as follows:

11 (1) Officials and employees of a political party ~~organized in~~  
12 ~~the state of Iowa representing more than two percent of the total~~  
13 ~~votes cast for governor in the last preceding general election~~ as  
14 defined in section 43.2, but only when representing the political  
15 party in an official capacity.

16 EXPLANATION

17 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
18 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

19 This bill changes the definition of "political party" to  
20 include a party whose candidate for any office elected by the  
21 electors of the entire state received at least 2 percent of the  
22 total vote cast for that office at that election or which has at  
23 least 2,000 registered members.