

(2) If the petition does not meet the requirements of this section and of Title 6 of this article:

- (i) The State Board shall declare the petition insufficient;
- (ii) The partisan organization is not a State political party for the purposes of this article; and
- (iii) The State Board shall promptly notify the State chairman of the partisan organization.

(e) (1) The constitution and bylaws of a new political party shall:

- (i) Comply with the requirements of § 4-204 of this title; and
- (ii) Be adopted by the individuals designated in the petition as the initial governing body at an organizational meeting held within 90 days after the date of the filing of the last qualifying signature on its petition.

(2) The individual designated in the petition as the State chairman of the political party shall convene the organizational meeting under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection and shall preside as President Pro Tem of the meeting until party officers are elected.

(f) Unless a new political party is required to hold a primary election to nominate its candidates under Title 8 of this article, the new political party [shall] MAY nominate its candidates by:

(1) [petition] PETITION in accordance with Title 5 of this article; OR

(2) IF AT LEAST 1% OF THE STATE'S REGISTERED VOTERS, AS OF JANUARY 1 IN THE YEAR OF THE ELECTION, ARE AFFILIATED WITH THE POLITICAL PARTY, CONVENTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES ADOPTED BY THE POLITICAL PARTY.

4-103.

[(a) In order for a partisan organization to retain its status as a political party under this article at the general election that follows the first one in which the partisan organization qualifies as a political party and in each election thereafter:

(1) The political party must choose a nominee whose name appears on the ballot as the nominee for that political party for the highest office on the ballot; and

(2) That nominee must receive at least 3 percent of the total vote cast for that office.]

(A) (1) UNLESS EXTENDED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, A NEW POLITICAL PARTY SHALL RETAIN ITS STATUS AS A POLITICAL PARTY UNTIL DECEMBER 31 IN THE YEAR OF THE SECOND STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION FOLLOWING THE PARTY'S QUALIFICATION UNDER § 4-102 OF THIS SUBTITLE.