

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

# HOUSE BILL NO. 2285

98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE PARKINSON.

5650H.021

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

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## AN ACT

To repeal sections 28.190, 29.280, 30.030, 30.060, 30.070, 30.080, 105.030, 105.040, 105.050, and 115.365, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof twelve new sections relating to vacancies in elected offices, with an emergency clause.

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*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:*

Section A. Sections 28.190, 29.280, 30.030, 30.060, 30.070, 30.080, 105.030, 105.040, 105.050, and 115.365, RSMo, are repealed and twelve new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 26.016, 27.015, 28.190, 29.280, 30.030, 30.060, 30.080, 105.030, 105.031, 105.040, 105.050, and 115.365, to read as follows:

**26.016. In the case of any vacancy for any cause in the office of lieutenant governor, the governor shall notify, without delay and in writing, the chairman of the state central committee of the political party which the last incumbent represented at the time of his or her election or appointment to office. The state central committee shall select and transmit to the governor the names of three persons qualified to fill the vacancy. The governor shall fill the vacancy by temporary appointment of one of the three nominated by the state central committee to hold the office. The appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term in which the vacancy occurred until a successor is elected and qualified at the next election scheduled for the lieutenant governor under section 105.031. In cases of impeachment as provided under chapter 106, the lieutenant governor shall be suspended until the impeachment is determined. If the lieutenant governor is acquitted, the lieutenant governor shall be reinstated to office and the acting lieutenant governor shall be relieved of the duties of the office. If the lieutenant governor is convicted, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in this section.**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

27.015. In the case of any vacancy for any cause in the office of attorney general, the governor shall notify, without delay and in writing, the chairman of the state central committee of the political party which the last incumbent represented at the time of his or her election or appointment to office. The state central committee shall select and transmit to the governor the names of three persons qualified to fill the vacancy. The governor shall fill the vacancy by temporary appointment of one of the three nominated by the state central committee to hold the office. The appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term in which the vacancy occurred until a successor is elected and qualified at the next election scheduled for the attorney general under section 105.031. In cases of impeachment as provided under chapter 106, the attorney general shall be suspended until the impeachment is determined. If the attorney general is acquitted, the attorney general shall be reinstated to office and the acting attorney general shall be relieved of the duties of the office. If the attorney general is convicted, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in this section.

28.190. In [case of death, resignation, removal from office, impeachment or vacancy from] the case of any vacancy for any cause in the office of secretary of state, the governor shall [immediately appoint a qualified person to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term in which such vacancy occurred and until his successor is elected or appointed, commissioned and qualified; and the governor shall take charge of the office and superintend its business until such person is appointed, commissioned and qualified; except that in case of impeachment, the governor shall appoint a qualified person to serve only until such impeachment is determined, when the suspended officer, if acquitted, shall be reinstated in office, or if the suspended officer is convicted, a new appointment shall be made by the governor as in the case of other vacancies] notify, without delay and in writing, the chairman of the state central committee of the political party which the last incumbent represented at the time of his or her election or appointment to office. The state central committee shall select and transmit to the governor the names of three persons qualified to fill the vacancy. The governor shall fill the vacancy by temporary appointment of one of the three nominated by the state central committee to hold the office. The appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term in which the vacancy occurred until a successor is elected and qualified at the next election scheduled for the secretary of state under section 105.031. In cases of impeachment as provided under chapter 106, the secretary of state shall be suspended until the impeachment is determined. If the secretary of state is acquitted, the secretary of state shall be reinstated to office and the acting secretary of state shall be relieved of the duties of the office. If the secretary of state is convicted, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in this section.

29.280. [When a vacancy occurs in the office of state auditor the governor shall  
2 immediately appoint an auditor to fill such vacancy for the residue of the term in which the  
3 vacancy occurred, and until his successor is elected or appointed, commissioned and qualified]  
4 **In the case of any vacancy for any cause in the office of state auditor, the governor shall**  
5 **notify, without delay and in writing, the chairman of the state central committee of the**  
6 **political party which the last incumbent represented at the time of his or her election or**  
7 **appointment to office. The state central committee shall select and transmit to the**  
8 **governor the names of three persons qualified to fill the vacancy. The governor shall fill**  
9 **the vacancy by temporary appointment of one of the three nominated by the state central**  
10 **committee to hold the office. The appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term in**  
11 **which the vacancy occurred until a successor is elected and qualified at the next election**  
12 **scheduled for the state auditor under section 105.031. In cases of impeachment as provided**  
13 **under chapter 106, the state auditor shall be suspended until the impeachment is**  
14 **determined. If the state auditor is acquitted, the state auditor shall be reinstated to office**  
15 **and the acting state auditor shall be relieved of the duties of the office. If the state auditor**  
16 **is convicted, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in this section.**

30.030. If the state treasurer fails to give the bond required in section 30.020 within sixty  
2 days after [he] **the treasurer** receives [his] **the treasurer's** certificate of election or appointment  
3 or fails to renew the bond in accordance with the provisions of section 30.020 within thirty days  
4 after the time prescribed by law for renewal, or if the bond is not approved by the governor, then  
5 twenty days after the refusal of the governor to approve the bond, [his] **the treasurer's** office  
6 shall be ipso facto forfeited and the governor shall take possession and supervise the business  
7 of the office until the vacancy is filled in the manner prescribed in section [30.070] **30.060.**

30.060. [In case of death, resignation, removal from office, impeachment or vacancy  
2 from any cause, in the office of the state treasurer, the governor shall take charge of such office  
3 and superintend the business thereof until a successor is appointed, commissioned and qualified  
4 except in case of impeachment, when no appointment shall be made until a determination of the  
5 matter is had, when, in the event of an acquittal, the suspended officer shall be reinstated in  
6 office] **In the case of any vacancy for any cause in the office of state treasurer, the governor**  
7 **shall notify, without delay and in writing, the chairman of the state central committee of**  
8 **the political party which the last incumbent represented at the time of his or her election**  
9 **or appointment to office. The state central committee shall select and transmit to the**  
10 **governor the names of three persons qualified to fill the vacancy. The governor shall fill**  
11 **the vacancy by temporary appointment of one of the three nominated by the state central**  
12 **committee to hold the office. The appointee shall serve for the remainder of the term in**  
13 **which the vacancy occurred until a successor is elected and qualified at the next election**

14 **scheduled for the state treasurer under section 105.031. In cases of impeachment as**  
15 **provided under chapter 106, the state treasurer shall be suspended until the impeachment**  
16 **is determined. If the state treasurer is acquitted, the state treasurer shall be reinstated to**  
17 **office and the acting state treasurer shall be relieved of the duties of the office. If the state**  
18 **treasurer is convicted, the vacancy shall be filled in the same manner as provided in this**  
19 **section.**

30.080. Immediately after the appointment **or election** and qualification of a state  
2 treasurer, made to fill any vacancy occurring in said office, or the resumption of [his] **the**  
3 **treasurer's** duties by said officer, after the removal of any disability or temporary suspension  
4 therefrom the general assembly if in session, or, if such assembly be not in session, then the  
5 governor, shall cause a settlement to be made of the accounts of the former state treasurer, or any  
6 such office ad interim, remaining unsettled, and ascertain what balance, if any, is due the state  
7 or such officer, as the case may be.

105.030. Whenever any vacancy, caused in any manner or by any means whatsoever,  
2 occurs or exists in any state or county office originally filled by election of the people, other than  
3 in the offices of lieutenant governor, **attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, state**  
4 **treasurer,** state **senator or** representative, sheriff, or recorder of deeds in the city of St. Louis,  
5 the vacancy shall **only** be filled by appointment by the governor except that when a vacancy  
6 occurs in the office of county assessor after a general election at which a person other than the  
7 incumbent has been elected, the person so elected shall be appointed to fill the remainder of the  
8 unexpired term; and the person appointed after duly qualifying and entering upon the discharge  
9 of [his] **the** duties under the appointment shall continue in office until the first Monday in  
10 January next following the first ensuing general election, at which general election a person shall  
11 be elected to fill the unexpired portion of the term, or for the ensuing regular term, as the case  
12 may be, and the person so elected shall enter upon the discharge of the duties of the office the  
13 first Monday in January next following [his] election, except that when the term to be filled  
14 begins on any day other than the first Monday in January, the appointee of the governor shall be  
15 entitled to hold the office until such other date. This section shall not apply to vacancies in  
16 county offices in any county which has adopted a charter for its own government under Section  
17 18, Article VI of the Constitution. Any vacancy in the office of recorder of deeds in the city of  
18 St. Louis shall be filled by appointment by the mayor of that city.

**105.031. In the case of a vacancy for any cause in the offices of senator of the United**  
2 **States from this state, lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state**  
3 **auditor, or state treasurer, the governor shall fill such vacancy as prescribed by statute.**  
4 **Such appointments shall last until a special election is held at the same time as the general**  
5 **election when there is a general election scheduled before the expiration of the term of such**

6 offices as required by section 17, article IV, Constitution of Missouri, or Amendment XVII  
7 of the Constitution of the United States. If there is no general election scheduled before the  
8 expiration of the term of such offices, then the official appointed by the governor shall  
9 serve out the remainder of the full term in office. The candidate elected and qualified at  
10 a special election held on the general election day shall take office on January first  
11 immediately following such election and shall relieve any official filling such vacancy of the  
12 duties of the office. Candidates for election shall be selected by a nominating committee  
13 as provided under sections 115.361 to 115.379.

105.040. [Whenever a vacancy in the office of senator of the United States from this  
2 state exists, the governor, unless otherwise provided by law, shall appoint a person to fill such  
3 vacancy, who shall continue in office until a successor shall have been duly elected and qualified  
4 according to law] **In the case of any vacancy for any cause in the office of senator of the  
5 United States from this state, the governor shall notify, without delay and in writing, the  
6 chairman of the state central committee of the political party which the last incumbent  
7 represented at the time of his or her election or appointment to office. The state central  
8 committee shall select and transmit to the governor the names of three persons qualified  
9 to fill the vacancy. The governor shall fill the vacancy by temporary appointment of one  
10 of the three nominated by the state central committee to hold the office. The appointee  
11 shall serve for the remainder of the term in which the vacancy occurred until a successor  
12 is elected and qualified at the next election scheduled for the class of senator of the United  
13 States from this state under section 105.031.**

105.050. If any vacancy shall happen from any cause in the office of the [attorney  
2 general,] circuit attorney, prosecuting attorney, or assistant prosecuting attorney, the governor,  
3 upon being satisfied that such vacancy exists, shall appoint some competent person to fill the  
4 same until the next regular election for [attorney general,] prosecuting attorney or assistant  
5 prosecuting attorney, as the case may be; provided, in the case of a vacancy in the office of  
6 prosecuting attorney, if there is no qualified person in the county who can or will accept such  
7 appointment, then the governor may appoint any person who possesses all the qualifications set  
8 forth in section 56.010, except the qualification as to residence.

115.365. 1. The nominating committee authorized to select a candidate for nomination  
2 or election to office pursuant to section 115.363 shall be one of the following:

3 (1) To select a candidate for county office, the nominating committee shall be the county  
4 committee of the party;

5 (2) To select a candidate for state representative, the nominating committee shall be the  
6 legislative district committee of the party;

7 (3) To select a candidate for state senator, the nominating committee shall be the  
8 senatorial district committee of the party;

9 (4) To select a candidate for circuit court judge not subject to the provisions of Article  
10 V, Section 25 of the State Constitution, the nominating committee shall be the judicial district  
11 committee of the party;

12 (5) To select a candidate for representative in Congress, the nominating committee shall  
13 be the congressional district committee of the party;

14 (6) To select a candidate for statewide office **or senator of the United States**, the  
15 nominating committee shall be the state committee of the party.

16 2. After any decennial redistricting, the nominating committee shall be composed from  
17 the new districts, and the new district lines shall be used in the selection of a candidate; provided,  
18 however, that members of nominating committees for candidates for special elections to fill  
19 vacancies conducted pursuant to section 21.130 shall be from the old districts.

2 [30.070. When a vacancy occurs in the office of state treasurer, the  
3 governor shall immediately appoint a state treasurer to fill such vacancy for the  
4 residue of the term in which the vacancy occurred, and until his successor is  
5 elected or appointed, commissioned and qualified.]

Section B. Because immediate action is necessary to preserve the democratic process in  
2 Missouri, section A of this act is deemed necessary for the immediate preservation of the public  
3 health, welfare, peace, and safety, and is hereby declared to be an emergency act within the  
4 meaning of the constitution, and section A of this act shall be in full force and effect upon its  
5 passage and approval.

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