

Illinois State Board of Elections

ELECTION NEWS ELECTION NEWS ELECTION NEWS

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SPRINGFIELD, Ill., December 9, 1999 - When candidates file their nominating papers Monday at the State Board of Elections' office in Springfield, the information will immediately be available to anyone with access to a computer, board officials announced today.

For the first time, all pertinent petition information will be displayed on the board's web site, www.elections.state.il.us as soon as a petition filer signs a receipt confirming the filing.

Board director Ron Michaelson said that all essential petition filing information including candidate name, office, political party, date and time filed, and filing status will be accessible as soon as it is filed.

"Our new PC based filing system has been thoroughly tested and is ready to provide on-line, up-to-the-minute filing information to anyone who visits our web site."

Also available on-line is information indicating petition inspection and requests for copies.

The following week objections to petitions will be indicated as they are filed. "Each filing period we have improved the candidates filing procedure to accommodate candidates and provide greater access to the information," Michaelson said.

"This year, for the first time, our technology allows us to make petition information available in real time, as it happens," he said.

Michaelson said that the filing information, available 24 hours a day, is furnished in an easy to access format with clear directions and help options. Candidate information can be accessed by name, office and most recently filed.

In addition to the Board's web site, the Illinois State Library has agreed to provide their computer terminals that the public can use to check filings.

Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White said, "I am so pleased that the election information is available so quickly to everyone. Libraries with public Internet access will be convenient locations for people to

access the State Board of Elections web site."

The Illinois State Library/Office of the Secretary of State, which is located at 300 South Second Street, Springfield, is one of the many libraries statewide that will provide public access to petition information.

State election offices also reminded candidates that original nomination papers must be filed in the board's Springfield office located at 1020 South Spring Street and that no petitions will be accepted after the 5 p.m. close of business.

The filing period begins Monday December 13 at 8 a.m. and concludes at 5 p.m. Monday December 20, 1999. The board's Springfield office is open each day from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the filing period except Sunday, December 19 when the office is closed.

For additional information contact the State Board of Elections at (217) 782-4141 in Springfield or (312) 814-6440 in Chicago or visit our web site at www.elections.state.il.us.

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