

SUBCHAPTER B. NAME ON BALLOT

§ 52.031. FORM OF NAME ON BALLOT. (a) A candidate's name shall be printed on the ballot with the given name or initials first, followed by a nickname, if any, followed by the surname, in accordance with this section.

(b) In combination with the surname, a candidate may use one or more of the following:

- (1) a given name;
- (2) a contraction or familiar form of a given name by which the candidate is known; or
- (3) an initial of a given name.

(c) A nickname of one unhyphenated word of not more than 10 letters by which the candidate has been commonly known for at least three years preceding the election may be used in combination with a candidate's name. A nickname that constitutes a slogan or otherwise indicates a political, economic, social, or religious view or affiliation may not be used. A nickname may not be used unless the candidate executes and files with the application for a place on the ballot an affidavit indicating that the nickname complies with this subsection.

(d) A suffix such as "Sr.," "Jr.," or "2nd" may be used in combination with a candidate's name.

(e) A married woman or widow may use in combination with her surname, if the same as her husband's surname, the given name or initials of her husband with the prefix "Mrs."

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., Ch. 211, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986. Amended by Acts 1997, 75th Leg., Ch. 1349, § 22, eff. Sept. 1, 1997.

§ 52.032. CANDIDATES WITH SAME OR SIMILAR

SURNAMES. (a) If two or more candidates for the same office have the same or similar surnames, each of those candidates may have printed on the ballot a brief distinguishing description or title, not to exceed four words, following the candidate's name.

(b) The description or title may only refer to the candidate's place of residence or present or former profession, occupation, or position. However, the description or title may not refer to a public office.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., Ch. 211, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986. Amended by Acts 1987, 70th Leg., Ch. 472, § 12, eff. Sept. 1, 1987.

§ 52.033. TITLES PROHIBITED. Except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, a title or designation of office, status, or position may not be used in conjunction with a candidate's name on the ballot.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., Ch. 211, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986.

§ 52.034. NAME ON BALLOT MORE THAN ONCE. A candidate's name may not appear more than once on the ballot except as a candidate for:

- (1) two or more offices that are permitted by law to be held by the same person; or
- (2) the office of president or vice-president of the United States and another office.

Acts 1985, 69th Leg., ch. 211, § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 1986.