



# SULLIVAN COUNTY ELECTION COMMISSION

**Conducting Accurate, Fair, and Honest  
Elections in a Manner that  
Exceeds Expectations**

## PRIMARY VOTING ELIGIBILITY

- The state of Tennessee does not and has never registered voters by political party.
- Pursuant to state law (T.C.A. 2-7-112), "A voter shall complete and sign an application for ballot, indicate the primary in which the voter desires to vote, if any, and present it to a precinct registrar."
- Pursuant to state law (T.C.A. 2-7-115), "A registered voter is entitled to vote in any primary election for offices for which the voter is qualified to vote at the polling place where the voter is registered if: (1) The voter is a bona fide member of and affiliated with the political party in whose primary the voter seeks to vote; or (2) At the time the voter seeks to vote, the voter declares allegiance to the political party in whose primary the voter seeks to vote and states that the voter intends to affiliate with that party."
- Pursuant to state law (T.C.A. 2-7-115), Yellow signs are posted in each polling place that advise, "IT'S THE LAW, PLEASE READ... It is a violation of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-7-115(B), and punishable as a crime under Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 2-19-102 OR Section 2-19-107, if a person votes in a political party's primary without being a bona fide member of or affiliated with that political party, or to declare allegiance to that party without the intent to affiliate with that party."
- Pursuant to state law (T.C.A. 2-19-102), "A person who knowingly does any act for the purpose of preventing any person's performance of such person's duties under this title or exercise of such person's rights under this title commits a Class A misdemeanor."
- Pursuant to state law (T.C.A. 2-19-107), "(a) A person commits a Class D Felony who: (1) intentionally and knowing that such person is not entitled to, registers or votes in any manner or attempts to register or vote in any manner where or when such person is not entitled to under this title, including voting more than once in the same election; or (2) Votes in the primary elections of more than one (1) political party in an election."
- The application to vote in each primary election provides the following declaration for affirmation by the voter's signature: "I request a ballot to vote in this election and declare, under penalty of perjury, that I reside at the above address and am a registered voter in the precinct in which I am offering to vote. I also declare that I have not previously voted in this election, nor will I attempt to vote again in this election. If this is a primary election, I am a bona fide member of and affiliated with the political party in whose primary I seek to vote; or I declare allegiance to the political party in whose primary I seek to vote and state that I intend to affiliate with that party."
- The law governing primary voting eligibility has existed since 1972.