By the Committee on Ethics and Elections; and Senator Ingoglia

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to political advertisements for nonpartisan office; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "nonpartisan office"; amending s. 106.143, F.S.; requiring that a political advertisement paid for by a candidate for nonpartisan office include a certain statement; deleting provisions that prohibit political advertisements for candidates running for nonpartisan office from disclosing the candidates' political party affiliation and that prohibit such candidates from campaigning based on party affiliation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (23) of section 97.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 97.021 Definitions.—For the purposes of this code, except where the context clearly indicates otherwise, the term:
- (23) "Nonpartisan office" means an office for which a candidate is prohibited from <del>campaigning or</del> qualifying for election or retention in office based on party affiliation.

Section 2. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 106.143, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 106.143 Political advertisements circulated prior to election; requirements.—
- (1) (a) Any political advertisement that is paid for by a candidate running for partisan office, except a write-in

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candidate, and that is published, displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election must prominently state:

- 1. "Political advertisement paid for and approved by ... (name of candidate) ..., ... (party affiliation) ..., for ... (office sought) ..."; or
- 2. "Paid by ...(name of candidate)..., ...(party affiliation)..., for ...(office sought)..."
- (b) Any political advertisement that is paid for by a candidate running for nonpartisan office, except a write-in candidate, and that is published, displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election must prominently state:
- 1. "Political advertisement paid for and approved by ... (name of candidate) ... for ... (office sought) ..."; or
- 2. "Paid by ...(name of candidate)... for ...(office
  sought)..."
- (c) (b) Any political advertisement that is paid for by a write-in candidate and that is published, displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election must prominently state:
- "Political advertisement paid for and approved by
  ... (name of candidate)..., write-in candidate, for ... (office sought)..."; or
- 2. "Paid by ...(name of candidate)..., write-in candidate, for ...(office sought)...."
- (d) (e) Any other political advertisement published,
  displayed, or circulated before, or on the day of, any election
  must prominently:
- 1. Be marked "paid political advertisement" or with the abbreviation "pd. pol. adv."

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2. State the name and address of the persons paying for the advertisement.

- 3. State whether the advertisement and the cost of production is paid for or provided in kind by or at the expense of the entity publishing, displaying, broadcasting, or circulating the political advertisement.
- (e) (d) Any political advertisement made pursuant to s. 106.021(3)(d) must prominently state the name and address of the political committee or political party paying for the advertisement.
- (3) Any political advertisement of a candidate running for partisan office shall express the name of the political party of which the candidate is seeking nomination or is the nominee. If the candidate for partisan office is running as a candidate with no party affiliation, any political advertisement of the candidate must state that the candidate has no party affiliation. A political advertisement of a candidate running for nonpartisan office may not state the candidate's political party affiliation. This section does not prohibit a political advertisement from stating the candidate's partisan-related experience. A candidate for nonpartisan office is prohibited from campaigning based on party affiliation.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.