

House Bill No. 295

An act relating to candidates for public office; amending s. 99.012, F.S.; eliminating the requirement that a subordinate officer, deputy sheriff, or police officer who is seeking public office and who is not required to resign to run for that office must, upon qualifying, take a leave of absence without pay during the period of that candidacy; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 99.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

99.012 Restrictions on individuals qualifying for public office.—

(5)(a) A person who is a subordinate officer, deputy sheriff, or police officer must resign effective upon qualifying pursuant to this chapter if the person is seeking to qualify for a public office that is currently held by an officer who has authority to appoint, employ, promote, or otherwise supervise that person and who has qualified as a candidate for reelection to that office.

~~(b) Upon qualifying pursuant to this chapter, a subordinate officer, deputy sheriff, or police officer who is seeking public office and who is not required to resign under paragraph (a) must take a leave of absence without pay during the period in which he or she is a candidate for office.~~

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 14, 2000.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 14, 2000.