

(I) HE HAS DETERMINED IN HIS SOLE DISCRETION THAT THE CANDIDATE'S CANDIDACY IS GENERALLY ADVOCATED OR RECOGNIZED IN THE NEWS MEDIA THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES OR IN MARYLAND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL PARTY RULES; AND

(II) THE CANDIDATE HAS FILED A NOTARIZED AFFIDAVIT WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NOT LATER THAN 70 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE SET BY LAW FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, STATING THAT HE IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE; HOWEVER, A CANDIDATE MAY EXECUTE AND FILE WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE, NOT LATER THAN 70 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE SET BY LAW FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION, A NOTARIZED AFFIDAVIT STATING WITHOUT QUALIFICATION THAT HE IS NOT AND DOES NOT INTEND TO BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE IN THE MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION, OR

(2) By making the payment required and by filing with the State Administrative Board of Election Laws, a petition in the form prescribed by the State Administrative Board of Election Laws which shall contain the signatures of not less than 400 of the registered voters within each congressional district, at least 53 70 days preceding the date set by law for the primary election. Nothing in this section shall require compliance with § 7-1-1.

(I) A NOTARIZED AFFIDAVIT STATING THAT HE IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE OFFICE, AND

(II) THE REQUIRED FILING FEE.

{(3)} (2) The Secretary of State shall establish a procedure for the Democratic presidential primary through which votes may be cast as uncommitted to any presidential candidate.

{(4)} (3) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this article, whenever any person who has been nominated in any presidential primary election, in a writing signed by him and acknowledged before a notary public, notifies the officer or board with whom the certificate of candidacy, or petition for nomination, or name is required to be filed by this article, within 18 days after the final filing date established in 4A-3 of this article that he desires to withdraw as a candidate for the nomination, his name shall be withdrawn and the name of any person so withdrawing shall not be printed upon the ballots to be used at the presidential primary election. The filing of a valid certificate of withdrawal of candidacy is a final act of withdrawal, and a person who files a certificate of withdrawal may not reinstate his candidacy, unless the time limit for the filing of candidacies has not expired. No filing fees shall be refunded to persons who withdraw in accordance with this section, subject, however, to § 4A-7 of this article. Nothing in this section shall apply to a