

1 House BILL NO. 610
 2 INTRODUCED BY Johnson Palmer

3
 4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO DEFINE POLITICAL
 5 COMMITTEES AND TO PERMIT THESE COMMITTEES TO PROVIDE POLL
 6 WATCHERS; AMENDING SECTIONS 23-2601 AND 23-3618, R.C.M.
 7 1947."

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 9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

10 Section 1. Section 23-2601, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to
 11 read as follows:

12 "23-2601. Definitions. As used in this act, unless the
 13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 (1) "Election" means a general, special, primary
 15 nominating, municipal election, or an election in a school
 16 district.

17 (2) "General election" means an election held for the
 18 election of officers throughout the state at times specified
 19 by law.

20 (3) "Special election" means an election called by the
 21 proper authorities to fill vacancies or to raise money.

22 (4) "Vacancy" means an office which does not have an
 23 incumbent who has a right to exercise its functions and take
 24 its fees or emoluments.

25 (5) "Primary" or "primary election" means a statutory

1 procedure for nominating candidates to public office at the
 2 polls.

3 (6) "Party" means any political organization which at
 4 the last preceding election for governor polled at least
 5 three per cent (3%) of the votes for governor.

6 (7) "Taxpayer" means a person who has paid a tax on
 7 property assessed on a county or city assessment roll next
 8 preceding the election at which a question is to be
 9 submitted to the vote of the taxpayers.

10 (8) "Registrar" means the county clerk and recorder and
 11 any regularly appointed deputy clerk and recorder.

12 (9) "Commissioners" means the board of county
 13 commissioners.

14 (10) "City" means any incorporated city or town.

15 (11) "Council" means any municipal council or
 16 commission.

17 (12) "Political committee" means any political
 18 committee registered with the secretary of state that
 19 contributes or raises fifty dollars (\$50) or more for the
 20 election campaign of a candidate for public office in that
 21 election."

22 Section 2. Section 23-3618, R.C.M. 1947, is amended to
 23 read as follows:

24 "23-3618. Poll watchers--announcement of voter's name.
 25 The election judges shall permit one (1) poll watcher from

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1 each political party and political committee to station
2 himself close to the poll lists in a location that does not
3 interfere with election procedures. At the time that each
4 elector signs his name, one (1) of the election judges shall
5 pronounce the name loud enough to be heard by the poll
6 watchers. A poll watcher who does not understand the
7 pronunciation has the right to request that the judge repeat
8 the name. Poll watchers shall also be permitted to observe
9 all of the vote-counting procedures of the judges and all
10 entries of the results of the elections."

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