

## **Candidate Name Variation Request Form**

Under Utah Code 20A-6-109, a candidate's name shall appear on the ballot as the candidate's legal first name, followed by the candidate's legal surname. Candidates wishing to use a nickname, their middle name, or a common derivative of their middle on the ballot should submit this form and accompanying affidavits signed by the candidate and five residents of their county.

To view the full rules and requirements governing name variations, see Utah Code 20A-6-109.

### **Candidate Information**

Legal First:

Legal Middle:

Legal Last:

### **Preferred Name for Appearance on Ballot**

First:

Middle/Initial:

Last:

### **Name Variation (Checkbox, select one)**

- Legal Middle Name/Common Derivative in place of Legal First Name
- Nickname in place of/in addition to Legal First Name

### **Candidate Affidavit**

I do solemnly swear under the penalty of perjury that I am generally known by acquaintances in the county in which I reside by the name of \_\_\_\_\_, rather than my legal name. My requested use of this preferred name is not intended to gain advantage on the ballot.

Signature – Date

### **Resident Affidavits (Must be signed by residents of the candidate's county of residence who are not immediate family members of the candidate)**

I do solemnly swear under penalty of perjury that the candidate above is generally known by acquaintances in the county in which they reside by the name of \_\_\_\_\_, rather than their legal name.

1. Signature – Date
2. Signature – Date
3. Signature – Date

4. Signature – Date
5. Signature – Date

SB54:

- Norm: Legal First followed by Legal surname
- Use of Middle name or common derivative of middle name:
  - May place middle name or common derivative of legal middle name in place of first name if:
    - Candidate commonly uses it in place of their first name
    - Candidates file request with election officer
    - Candidate Signs an affidavit saying known by acquaintances by the specified middle name/common derivative of it
    - Affidavit signed by five residents of the candidate's county, excluding family saying they are known by the specified middle name/common derivative of it
- Nickname
  - Election Officer shall place nickname on ballot if:
    - Nickname does not imply the candidate is someone other than themselves
    - Does not constitute slogan
    - Does not associate candidate with groups, issues, or opinions
    - Is not offensive, profane, or spurious
    - Is not title, rank, degree, etc...
  - Candidate must (by end of candidacy declaration period):
    - File with election officer requesting nickname in compliance with above be used, along with desired placement of nickname
    - Candidate signs an affidavit saying known by acquaintances by the nickname and that they are not using the nickname to gain advantage on the ballot
    - Affidavit signed by five residents of the candidate's county excluding family saying they are known by the nickname
  - If an election officer places a nickname on the ballot, the candidate may choose:
    - Nickname in place of first name
    - Nickname before/After first name
    - Nickname before/after middle name
- Election officer Workarounds...

- Election official may disregard affidavit requirement and content restrictions and approve written request filed by candidacy deadline to:
  - Place nickname in place of first name if it's a common derivative of first name
  - Place middle initial on ballot
  - Place first initial on ballot in place of first name
- Election officer requirements:
  - Approve/Reject within 5 business days of request. No action is a rejection.
    - Rejection appealable to court of appropriate jurisdiction
  - To differentiate between similar/same name candidates, election officer may:
    - Include legal middle names for one or more
    - Negotiate other manner of differentiation with the candidates

Regardless of alternative names, legal name must be used for determining ballot position