

**BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS FOR THE CITY OF CHICAGO  
AS A DULY CONSTITUTED ELECTORAL BOARD**

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Objections of: Garland C. Jackson	)	
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	)	
To the Nomination	)	No.: 18-EB-SS-02
Papers of: Zehra Quadri	)	
	)	
Candidate for the nomination of the	)	
Democratic Party for the office of	)	
State Senator of the 8th Legislative District,	)	
State of Illinois	)	

**FINDINGS AND DECISION**

The duly constituted Electoral Board, consisting of Board of Election Commissioners for the City of Chicago Commissioners Marisel A. Hernandez, William J. Kresse and Jonathan T. Swain, organized by law in response to a Call issued by Marisel A. Hernandez, Chairwoman of said Electoral Board, for the purpose of hearing and passing upon objections (“Objections”) of Garland C. Jackson (“Objector”) to the nomination papers (“Nomination Papers”) of Zehra Quadri, candidate for the nomination of the Democratic Party for the office of State Senator of the 8th Legislative District in the State of Illinois (“Candidate”) at the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018, having convened on Monday, December 18, 2017 at 9:00 a.m., in Room 800, 69 West Washington Street, Chicago, Illinois, and having heard and determined the Objections to the Nomination Papers in the above-entitled matter, finds that:

1. Objections to the Nomination Papers of the Candidate herein were duly and timely filed.
2. The said Electoral Board has been legally constituted according to the laws of the State of Illinois.

3. A Call to the hearing on said Objections was duly issued by the Chairwoman of the Electoral Board and served upon the members of the Electoral Board, the Objector and the Candidate, by registered or certified mail and by Sheriff's service, as provided by statute.

4. A public hearing held on these Objections commenced on Monday, December 18, 2017 and was continued from time to time.

5. The Electoral Board assigned this matter to Hearing Officer Maurice Sone for further hearings and proceedings.

6. The Objector and the Candidate were directed by the Electoral Board to appear before the Hearing Officer on the date and at the time designated in the Hearing Schedule. The following persons, among others, were present at such hearing: the Objector, Garland C. Jackson, through his Attorneys, Burton S. Odelson, Ross D. Secler and Luke J. Keller. The Candidate did not appear at the initial hearing, but the Candidate, Zehra Quadri, appeared by attorney Frank Avila in all subsequent hearings.

7. The Hearing Officer ordered that an examination of the voter registration records be conducted by clerks and agents under the Board's direction and supervision, in accordance with the laws of Illinois and the rules of the Board.

8. The Hearing Officer directed all parties to appear and be present, either personally and/or by their authorized representatives, during this records examination.

9. The Candidate and/or her duly authorized representative was present during at least a portion of the examination of the registration records.

10. The Objector and/or his duly authorized representative was present during at least a portion of the examination of the registration records.

11. The examination of the registration records was completed and the Electoral Board hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the results of the records examination conducted by its clerks and agents. The written report of the result of the registration records examination is contained in the Electoral Board's file in this case and a copy has been provided or made available to the parties.

12. The results of the records examination indicate that:

A. The minimum number of valid signatures required by law for placement on the ballot for the office in question is 1,000;

B. The number of purportedly valid signatures appearing on the nominating petition filed by the Candidate total 2,469;

C. The number of signatures deemed invalid because of objections sustained as a result of the records examination total 1,815;

D. The remaining number of signatures deemed valid as a result of the records examination total 654, which is 364 signatures fewer than the required minimum.

13. The Electoral Board finds that the number of valid signatures appearing on the Candidate's nominating petition following completion of the records examination was less than the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the official ballot as a candidate for the nomination of the Democratic Party for the office of State Senator of the 8th Legislative District of the State of Illinois.

14. Neither the Candidate nor Objector filed a Rule 8 motion, but the Hearing Officer scheduled a hearing to allow the Candidate an opportunity to present argument in support of her Motion to Strike and Dismiss. However, given the results of the records examination, which left

the Candidate at 346 signatures fewer than the required minimum, the Hearing Officer found that the Candidate's Motion to Strike and Dismiss would not have been dispositive, and therefore was moot.

15. The Hearing Officer has tendered to the Electoral Board a report and recommended decision. Based upon the evidence presented, the Hearing Officer found that the Candidate's Nomination Papers contained only 654 valid signatures, which is less than the minimum number of valid signatures required by law to be placed upon the official ballot as a candidate for nomination of the Democratic Party for the office of State Senator for the 8th Legislative District of the State of Illinois, and that the Candidate's Nomination Papers should be found invalid.

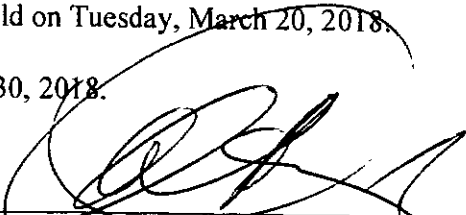
16. The Candidate filed a Rule 20 Motion for an opportunity to address the Board prior to final judgment in regard to the Candidate's allegation that Article 8 of the Illinois Election Code does not require the Candidate's petition signers to be legal residents of the 8<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. The Board disagrees with the Candidate's interpretation of law, and finds that the Election Code requires that all qualified primary electors signing petitions for candidates for state senator and state representative must be residents of the district in which they are signing petitions. The Board finds that if people are not legal residents of a legislative district while physically present in the district, then they are not "qualified primary electors ... in [the] legislative district" in violation of 10 ILCS 5/8-8 and Article III, Sections 3 and 4, of the Illinois Constitution of 1970.

17. The Electoral Board, having considered the evidence and arguments tendered by the parties and the Hearing Officer's report of recommended findings and conclusions of law, hereby finds that the Candidate failed to file the requisite minimum number of legally valid

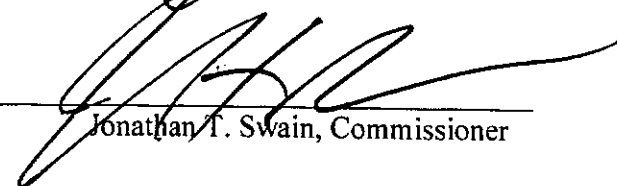
petition signatures and, for the reasons stated above, the Electoral Board finds that the  
Nomination Papers of Zehra Quadri are, therefore, invalid.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that the Objections of Garland C. Jackson to the  
Nomination Papers of Zehra Quadri, candidate for the nomination of the Democratic Party for  
election to the office of State Senator of the 8th Legislative District of the State of Illinois, are  
hereby SUSTAINED and said Nomination Papers are hereby declared INVALID and the name  
of Zehra Quadri, candidate for nomination of the Democratic Party for the office of State Senator  
for the 8th Legislative District of the State of Illinois, SHALL NOT be printed on the official  
ballot for the General Primary Election to be held on Tuesday, March 20, 2018.

Dated: Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday, January 30, 2018.

  
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Marisel A. Hernandez, Chairwoman

  
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William J. Kresse, Commissioner

  
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Jonathan T. Swain, Commissioner

**NOTICE:** Pursuant to Section 10-10.1 of the Election Code (10 ILCS 5/10-10.1) a party  
aggrieved of this decision and seeking judicial review of this decision must file a petition for  
judicial review with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Cook County within 5 days after  
service of the decision of the Electoral Board.