

AN ACT

ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding challenges to certain election petition signatures.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

Section 1. That § 12-1-13 be amended to read as follows:

12-1-13. Within five business days after a nominating, initiative, or referendum petition is filed with the person in charge of the election, any interested person who has researched the signatures contained on the petition may file an affidavit stating that the petition contains deficiencies as to the number of signatures from persons who are eligible to sign the petition. The affidavit shall include an itemized listing of the specific deficiencies in question. Any challenge to the certification or rejection of a nominating petition for a primary election made in circuit court shall be commenced no later than the third Tuesday in March. This action takes precedence over other cases in circuit court. Any party appealing the circuit court order to the Supreme Court shall file a notice of appeal within ten days of the date of the notice of the entry of the circuit court order. Any statewide initiated measure or referendum petition may be challenged by any person pursuant to this section by submitting an affidavit as set forth above within thirty days after the petition is filed with the person in charge of the election.

Section 2. That § 12-1-14 be amended to read as follows:

12-1-14. The person in charge of the election shall verify the information contained in the affidavit submitted pursuant to § 12-1-13 and make a written declaration regarding the validity of the signatures in question. The person in charge of the election shall verify that each person, challenged pursuant to § 12-1-13, was a registered voter at the time the person signed the petition by using the registration documents on file.

An Act to revise certain provisions regarding challenges to certain election petition signatures.

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I certify that the attached Act
originated in the
SENATE as Bill No. 67

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate
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\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk

Senate Bill No. 67  
File No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter No. \_\_\_\_\_

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Received at this Executive Office
this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ ,
20\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ M.

By \_\_\_\_\_  
for the Governor
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The attached Act is hereby
approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of
\_\_\_\_\_, A.D., 20\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

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STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA,
ss.
Office of the Secretary of State

Filed \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_
at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Asst. Secretary of State