



2025 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 23

Introduced by: The Chair of the Committee on Local Government at the request of the Secretary of State

1 **An Act to require the secretary of state to publish the numbers pertaining to the**
 2 **collection of signatures on a nominating petition.**

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

4 **Section 1. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 12-6:**

5 The secretary of state shall publish the number of required signatures for each
 6 nominating petition listed in § 12-6-7 or 12-7-1, on the secretary of state's website no
 7 later than January second in the year of an election.

8 **Section 2. That a NEW SECTION be added to chapter 12-6:**

9 Any individual registered as a voter, as provided for in chapter 12-4, may submit
 10 an affidavit stating that the numbers published by the secretary of state pursuant to
 11 section 1 of this Act, are inaccurate. The affidavit must include an itemized list of the
 12 alleged inaccuracies. The affidavit must be submitted to the secretary of state no later
 13 than January sixteenth in the year of the election by five p.m. central time. All challenges
 14 by the same individual must be included in one affidavit.

15 The decision of the secretary of state regarding a challenge under this section may
 16 not be challenged a second time with the secretary of state but may be appealed to the
 17 circuit court in Hughes County. An appeal challenging the numbers published by the
 18 secretary of state, pursuant to section 1 of this Act, takes precedence over any other case
 19 in the circuit court. Any party appealing the circuit court order to the Supreme Court must
 20 file a notice of appeal within ten days of the date of the notice of the entry of the circuit
 21 court order. A challenge under this section is the sole legal remedy to challenge the
 22 numbers published by the secretary of state.