



## 2020 South Dakota Legislature

# Senate Bill 183

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Senator Lake**

1 **An Act to revise the signature requirements for the nominating petitions for certain**  
 2 **elected offices.**

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

4 **Section 1.** That § 12-6-7 be AMENDED:

5 **12-6-7. Nominating petitions--Several sheets--Signature requirements.**

6 A nominating petition may be composed of several sheets, each sheet shall have  
 7 identical headings printed at the top and shall be a self-contained sheet of paper. The  
 8 petition for party office or political public office shall be signed by not less than one percent  
 9 of the voters who voted for that party's gubernatorial candidate at the last gubernatorial  
 10 election in the county, part of the county, district, or state electing a candidate to fill the  
 11 office. If the party meets the requirement for alternative political status as defined in § 12-  
 12 1-3.1, the petition for party office or political public office shall be signed by not less than  
 13 one percent of the voters who voted for that party's statewide candidate receiving the  
 14 highest votes at the last gubernatorial election in the county, part of the county, district,  
 15 or state electing a candidate to fill the office. If a county uses vote centers and does not  
 16 print ballots by precinct, signature requirements ~~for both partisan and independent~~  
 17 ~~candidates~~ are:

18 (1) ~~Fifty~~ For both partisan and independent candidates, fifty signatures for a legislative  
 19 candidate whose district either in whole or in part includes that county;

20 (2) ~~Thirty signatures for~~ For a county candidate:

21 (a) Partisan candidate petitions shall be signed by the lesser of fifty signatures  
 22 or signatures from one percent of the voters who voted for that party's  
 23 gubernatorial candidate, or the party's statewide candidate receiving the  
 24 highest votes if the party meets the requirement for alternative party status  
 25 as defined in § 12-1-3.1, at the last gubernatorial election in the county  
 26 electing a candidate to fill the office; or

- 1           **(b) Independent candidate petitions shall be signed by not less than one**  
2           **percent of the total combined vote for Governor at the last certified election**  
3           **within the county electing a candidate to fill the office;**
- 4       (3) ~~Fifteen signatures~~ **Half the number of signatures required under subdivision (2),** for  
5       county commissioner district candidates;
- 6       (4) Five signatures for a new party legislative candidate whose district either in whole  
7       or in part includes that county;
- 8       (5) Five signatures for a new party county candidate; or
- 9       (6) Three signatures for a new party county commissioner district candidate.