

## 2020 South Dakota Legislature

**Senate Bill 183****AMENDMENT 183C FOR THE SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
BILL**

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 a candidate for the Legislature shall designate the senatorial or representative  
9 district number and house for which the person is a candidate.

10 The petition for party office or political public office for a state or federal candidate  
11 shall be signed by not less than one percent of the voters who voted for that party's  
12 gubernatorial candidate at the last gubernatorial election in the ~~county, part of the county,~~  
13 ~~district, or state electing a candidate to fill the office.~~ A petition for the Legislature, county  
14 party office, or county political public office shall be signed by not less than one percent  
15 of the voters who voted for that party's gubernatorial candidate at the last gubernatorial  
16 election, or fifty voters, in the county, part of the county, or district electing a candidate  
17 to fill the office, whichever is less.

18 If the party meets the requirement for alternative political status as defined in  
19 § 12-1-3.1, the petition for party office or political public office for a state or federal  
20 candidate shall be signed by not less than one percent of the voters who voted for that  
21 party's statewide candidate receiving the highest votes at the last gubernatorial election  
22 in the ~~county, part of the county, district, or state electing a candidate to fill the office.~~ A  
23 petition for the Legislature, county party office, or county political public office shall be  
24 signed by not less than one percent of the voters who voted for that party's statewide  
25 candidate receiving the highest votes at the last gubernatorial election in the county, part  
26 of the county, or district electing a candidate to fill the office, whichever is less

1 If a county uses vote centers and does not print ballots by precinct, signature  
2 requirements ~~for both partisan and independent candidates are:~~

- 3 (1) ~~Fifty~~ For both partisan and independent candidates, fifty signatures for a legislative  
4 candidate whose district either in whole or in part includes that county;
- 5 (2) ~~Thirty signatures for~~ For a county candidate:
- 6 (a) Partisan candidate petitions shall be signed by the lesser of fifty signatures  
7 or signatures from one percent of the voters who voted for that party's  
8 gubernatorial candidate, or the party's statewide candidate receiving the  
9 highest votes if the party meets the requirement for alternative party status  
10 as defined in § 12-1-3.1, at the last gubernatorial election in the county  
11 electing a candidate to fill the office; or
- 12 (b) Independent candidate petitions shall be signed by not less than one  
13 percent of the total combined vote for Governor at the last certified election  
14 within the county electing a candidate to fill the office;
- 15 (3) ~~Fifteen signatures~~ Half the number of signatures required under subdivision (2), for  
16 county commissioner district candidates;
- 17 (4) Five signatures for a new party legislative candidate whose district either in whole  
18 or in part includes that county;
- 19 (5) Five signatures for a new party county candidate; or
- 20 (6) Three signatures for a new party county commissioner district candidate.

21 **Section 2.** That § 12-6-7.1 be REPEALED.

22 **12-6-7.1. Petition for candidate for Legislature, county political public office,**  
23 **or county party office.**