



## 2025 South Dakota Legislature

# House Bill 1256

HOUSE STATE AFFAIRS ENGROSSED

Introduced by: **Representative Hansen**

1 **An Act to require the inclusion of certain information on a candidate's nominating**  
 2 **petition or on a ballot question petition.**

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

4 **Section 1. That § 2-1-1 be AMENDED:**

5 **2-1-1.** All measures proposed by initiative ~~shall~~ must be presented by petition.  
 6 ~~The~~ A petition ~~shall~~ to propose a measure by initiative must be signed by not less than  
 7 five percent of the qualified electors of the state.

8 All proposals requiring that a law enacted by the Legislature be submitted to a vote  
 9 of the electors of the state must be presented by petition, signed by not less than five  
 10 percent of the qualified electors of the state.

11 When signing a petition to propose a measure or an amendment to the Constitution  
 12 by initiative, or to refer a law to a vote of the electors of the state, an individual must  
 13 provide the individual's name, signature, address at which the individual is currently  
 14 registered to vote, the county in which the individual is registered as a voter, and the date  
 15 of signing.

16 **Section 2. That § 2-1-15 be AMENDED:**

17 **2-1-15.** Upon ~~the receiving of any initiative petition, referred law petition, or~~  
 18 ~~initiated constitutional amendment petition~~ receipt of a petition to initiate an amendment  
 19 to the South Dakota Constitution, initiate a measure, or refer a law to a vote of the electors  
 20 of the state, the secretary of state shall promptly examine and catalogue the petition and  
 21 petition signatures and make them available to the public upon request and payment of  
 22 ~~reasonable fees in accordance with~~ the fee required by § 1-8-10. ~~No~~

23 An individual's signature of a person may not be counted by the secretary of state  
 24 unless the person if:



1 the candidate whom the petition is nominating. Any person circulating a petition who  
2 falsely attests to the verification is guilty of a Class 6 felony.

3 A nominating petition for any election shall be a self-contained sheet of paper in  
4 order to have the candidate's name placed on the ballot. The provisions of this section  
5 may not prohibit a person registered with party affiliation from signing either a petition  
6 nominating an independent or a nonpolitical candidate for office if the person has not  
7 previously signed a petition for that office to be filled.