



2020 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1049

Introduced by: The Committee on Local Government at the request of the State Board of Elections

1 **An Act to establish a maximum on the number of words contained in a statement of**
 2 **a proponent or opponent for the ballot question pamphlet.**

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

4 **Section 1.** That § 12-13-23 be AMENDED:

5 **12-13-23. Distribution of public information.**

6 The secretary of state shall distribute public information on any amendment to the
 7 Constitution, initiated measure, or referred law submitted to the electors for approval. The
 8 secretary of state shall compile the public information by printing a statement in support
 9 of the amendment to the Constitution, initiated measure, or referred law written by its
 10 proponents, if any can be identified, and a statement against the amendment to the
 11 Constitution, initiated measure, or referred law written by its opponents, if any can be
 12 identified. No statement written by a proponent or an opponent may exceed three hundred
 13 words in length. The secretary of state is not responsible for the contents, objectivity, or
 14 accuracy of the statements written by the proponents and opponents. The pamphlet shall
 15 also include the attorney general's title, explanation, and a recitation of the effect of a
 16 "Yes" or "No" vote as written pursuant to § 12-13-9 or 12-13-25.1; number of pages and
 17 sections in the proposed or referred language; and, if applicable, a fiscal note.