

2023 South Dakota Legislature

Senate Bill 40**AMENDMENT 40L
FOR THE SENATE ENGROSSED BILL**

1 **An Act to revise the process for nominating candidates for statewide offices.**

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

3 **Section 1. That chapter 12-5 be amended with a NEW SECTION:**

4 A candidate for Governor shall select a candidate for lieutenant governor and certify
5 the selection to the secretary of state no later than five p.m. central time on the second
6 Tuesday in August of the year of the election. The candidate for Governor and the
7 candidate's selection for lieutenant governor shall sign the certification. The State Board
8 of Elections shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, to prescribe the form for
9 certification of a candidate for lieutenant governor under this section.

10 A candidate for lieutenant governor may withdraw by filing a request under oath
11 with the secretary of state. If a candidate for lieutenant governor withdraws, the candidate
12 for Governor shall select a replacement and certify the selection to the secretary of state
13 no later than five p.m. central time on the second Tuesday in August of the year of the
14 election. The candidate for Governor and the candidate's replacement selection for
15 lieutenant governor shall sign the certification. The secretary of state may not place the
16 name of the candidate for Governor on the general election ballot until a replacement
17 candidate has been certified.

18 **Section 2. That § 12-5-17 be AMENDED:**

19 **12-5-17.** Each political party shall hold a state convention ~~in each even numbered~~
20 ~~year for the purposes stated~~ as provided for in § 12-5-21, in the years the President of
21 the United States is to be elected, for the purpose of nominating candidates for:

- 22 (1) Presidential elector;
23 (2) National committeeman;
24 (3) National committeewoman; and

1 ~~(4) Public utilities commissioner, if the political party is unable to nominate a~~
 2 ~~candidate at the primary election.~~

3 The state central committee of each political party shall determine the date, time,
 4 and place of the convention. The chair of the committee shall notify the secretary of state
 5 of the date and place of the convention at least fifteen business thirty days prior to before
 6 the date chosen.

7 **Section 3. That § 12-5-21 be AMENDED:**

8 **12-5-21.** ~~The~~ In the years In a year when the Governor is to be elected, ~~if a political~~
 9 ~~party is unable~~ state convention shall to nominate candidates a candidate for lieutenant
 10 governor, the attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer,
 11 commissioner of school and public lands, ~~and or~~ public utilities commissioner ~~and in the~~
 12 years must be nominated by state convention. In a year when a President of the United
 13 States is to be elected, presidential electors and national committeeman and national
 14 committeewoman of the party ~~at the primary election, the political party may hold a state~~
 15 convention to nominate a candidate for an office listed in this section must be nominated
 16 by state convention.

17 **Section 4. That § 12-5-25 be AMENDED:**

18
 19 ~~12-5-25.~~ ~~A political party with alternative political status may nominate a~~
 20 ~~candidate for United States Senate, United States House of Representatives, Governor,~~
 21 ~~attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, commissioner of school~~
 22 ~~and public lands, public utilities commissioner, and any legislative seat by convention, if~~
 23 ~~the nomination is submitted with the proper documentation to the Office of the Secretary~~
 24 ~~of State no later than 5:00 five p.m. central time on the second Tuesday in August, of the~~
 25 ~~year of the election.~~

26 A candidate registered with a political party with an alternative political status may
 27 choose, if allowed by the party bylaws, to participate in a primary election by submitting
 28 a candidate petition no later than the last Tuesday of March in accordance with § 12-5-
 29 1.4.

30 **Section 5. That § 12-5-26 be AMENDED:**

1 ~~12-5-26.~~ A new political party may nominate a candidate for United States Senate,
2 United States House of Representatives, Governor, attorney general, secretary of state,
3 state auditor, state treasurer, commissioner of school and public lands, public utilities
4 commissioner, and any legislative seat by convention, if the nomination is submitted with
5 the proper documentation to the Office of the Secretary of State no later than 5:00 five
6 p.m. central time on the second Tuesday in August, of the year of the election.

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

8 ~~12-6-7.~~ A nominating petition may be composed of several sheets, each. Each
9 sheet shall must have identical headings printed at the top and shall must be a self-
10 contained sheet of paper. The petition for a candidate for the Legislature shall designate
11 must specify the senatorial or representative legislative district number and house
12 chamber for which the person is a candidate.

13 The petition for party office or political public office for a state a party's
14 gubernatorial or federal candidate shall must be signed by not less than one percent of
15 the voters who voted for that party's gubernatorial candidate at the last gubernatorial
16 election in the state. The petition for a party's candidate for attorney general, secretary
17 of state, state auditor, state treasurer, commissioner of school and public lands, or public
18 utilities commissioner, must be signed by not less than one half percent of the voters who
19 voted for that party's gubernatorial candidate at the last gubernatorial election. A petition
20 for the Legislature, county party office, or county political public office shall must be signed
21 by not less than one percent of the voters who voted for that party's gubernatorial
22 candidate at the last gubernatorial election, or fifty voters, in the county, part of the
23 county, or district electing a candidate to fill the office, whichever is less.

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

33 If a county uses vote centers and does not print ballots by precinct, signature
34 requirements are:

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

3 ~~(2) For a county candidate:~~

4 ~~(a) Partisan candidate petitions shall must be signed by the lesser of fifty~~
 5 ~~signatures or signatures from one percent of the voters who voted for that~~
 6 ~~party's gubernatorial candidate, or the party's statewide candidate receiving~~
 7 ~~the highest votes if the party meets the requirement for alternative party~~
 8 ~~status as defined in § 12-1-3.1, at the last gubernatorial election in the~~
 9 ~~county electing a candidate to fill the office; or~~

10 ~~(b) Independent candidate petitions shall must be signed by not less than one~~
 11 ~~percent of the total combined vote for Governor at the last certified election~~
 12 ~~within the county electing a candidate to fill the office;~~

13 ~~(3) Half the number of signatures required under subdivision (2), for county~~
 14 ~~commissioner district candidates;~~

15 ~~(4) Five signatures for a new party legislative candidate whose district either in whole~~
 16 ~~or in part includes that county;~~

17 ~~(5) Five signatures for a new party county candidate; or~~

18 ~~(6) Three signatures for a new party county commissioner district candidate.~~

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

20 ~~**12-7-1.** Any candidate for nonjudicial public office, except judicial office, the office~~
 21 ~~of lieutenant governor, and as provided in § 12-7-7, who is not nominated by a primary~~
 22 ~~election, may be nominated by filing a certificate of nomination with the secretary of state~~
 23 ~~or county auditor as prescribed by in the manner of nominating petitions as described in~~
 24 ~~§ 12-6-4, after December thirty first and by but no later than five p.m. local time on the~~
 25 ~~last Tuesday of in April at 5:00 p.m. local time before the election. A certificate of~~
 26 ~~nomination shall must be executed as provided in chapter 12-6. If the certificate of~~
 27 ~~nomination is mailed by registered mail by no later than five p.m. local time on the last~~
 28 ~~Tuesday of in April at 5:00 p.m. local time before the election, it is timely submitted. The~~
 29 ~~certificate of nomination shall must be signed by registered voters within the district or~~
 30 ~~political subdivision in and for which the officers are to be elected. The number of~~
 31 ~~signatures required may not be less than one percent of the total combined vote cast for~~
 32 ~~Governor at the last certified gubernatorial election within the district or political~~
 33 ~~subdivision. The State Board of Elections shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-~~
 34 ~~26, prescribing the forms for the certificate of nomination.~~

1 **Section 4. That § 12-7-1.2 be AMENDED:**

2 **12-7-1.2.** An independent candidate for Governor shall ~~certify the candidate's~~
 3 ~~selection~~ select a candidate for lieutenant governor and certify the selection to the
 4 secretary of state ~~with the candidate's nominating petition~~ no later than five p.m. central
 5 time on the second Tuesday in August of the year of the election. The candidate and the
 6 candidate's selection for lieutenant governor shall sign the certification ~~before the~~
 7 ~~nominating petitions are circulated.~~

8 ~~If an~~An independent candidate for lieutenant governor ~~withdraws, no~~ may
 9 withdraw by filing a request under oath with the secretary of state. If an independent
 10 candidate for lieutenant Governor withdraws, the independent candidate for Governor ~~may~~
 11 ~~have the candidate's name printed upon a ballot unless a~~ shall select a replacement and
 12 certify the selection for lieutenant governor is certified to the secretary of state ~~by the~~ no
 13 later than five p.m. central time on the second Tuesday in August of the year of the
 14 election. The candidate for Governor and the candidate's replacement selection for
 15 lieutenant governor shall sign the certification. The secretary of state may not place the
 16 name of the candidate for Governor on the general election ballot until a replacement
 17 candidate has been certified.

18 The State Board of Elections shall promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26,
 19 prescribing the ~~forms~~ form for the certification for lieutenant governor.

20 **Section 9. That § 12-25-28 be AMENDED:**

21 ~~12-25-28.~~ Any candidate for the United States Senate, the United States House
 22 of Representatives, Governor, circuit court judge, or the Legislature following offices shall
 23 file a statement of financial interest with the secretary of state not more than fifteen days
 24 after filing the candidate's nominating petitions:

25 (1) United States Senate;

26 (2) United States House of Representatives;

27 (3) Governor;

28 (4) Attorney general;

29 (5) Secretary of state;

30 (6) State auditor;

31 (7) State treasurer;

32 (8) Commissioner of school and public lands;

33 (9) Public utilities commissioner;

1 ~~(10) Circuit court judge; and~~

2 ~~(11) Legislature.~~

3 Any Supreme Court justice shall file a statement of financial interest with the
4 secretary of state not more than fifteen days following notice to the secretary of state of
5 the justice's intention to place the justice's name on the retention ballot.

6 A violation of this section is a petty offense. Any intentional violation of this section
7 is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

8 **Section 10. That § 12-25-29 be AMENDED:**

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10 ~~12-25-29.~~ Any candidate for lieutenant governor, state treasurer, attorney
11 general, secretary of state, state auditor, public utilities commissioner, or commissioner
12 of school and public lands shall file a statement of financial interest with the secretary of
13 state not more than fifteen days after the candidate's nomination is certified.

14 A violation of this section is a petty offense. Any intentional violation of this section
15 is a Class 2 misdemeanor.

16 **Section 11. That § 12-25-29.1 be AMENDED:**

17 ~~12-25-29.1.~~ Any candidate for United States Senate, United States House of
18 Representatives, Governor, lieutenant governor, state treasurer, attorney general,
19 secretary of state, state auditor, public utilities commissioner, commissioner of school and
20 public lands, or state legislator the following offices who has been nominated at the
21 convention of a party with alternative political status shall file a statement of financial
22 interest with the secretary of state not more than fifteen days after the candidate's
23 nomination is certified.

24 ~~(1) United States Senate;~~

25 ~~(2) United States House of Representatives;~~

26 ~~(3) Governor;~~

27 ~~(4) Attorney general;~~

28 ~~(5) State auditor;~~

29 ~~(6) State treasurer;~~

30 ~~(7) Secretary of state;~~

31 ~~(8) Public utilities commissioner;~~

32 ~~(9) Commissioner of school and public lands; and~~

33 ~~(10) Legislature.~~

1 ~~A violation of this section is a petty offense. Any intentional violation of this section~~
2 ~~is a Class 2 misdemeanor.~~

3 **Section 12. That ~~§ 3-1A-2~~ be AMENDED:**

4 ~~**3-1A-2.** Any person who assumes the Office of Governor, lieutenant governor,~~
5 ~~state treasurer, attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, commissioner of school~~
6 ~~and public lands, Public Utilities Commissionerpublic utilities commissioner, Supreme~~
7 ~~Court justice, circuit court judge, or state legislator shall, within fifteen days after the~~
8 ~~person assumes office, file a statement of financial interest setting forth any additions or~~
9 ~~corrections to any previous statement of financial interest filed pursuant to §§ 12-25-28~~
10 ~~or 12-25-29 to 12-25-29.1, inclusive.~~