

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 59th Legislature (2024)

HOUSE BILL 3532

By: Ranson

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to initiative and referendum; creating the Enhanced Accessibility and Accommodation in Petition Signing Act; declaring legislative intent; amending 34 O.S. 2021, Section 3, which relates to petitions and signatures; requiring Oklahoma Secretary of State to design a form for accommodation; providing option for designee to assist in filling out information; providing for noncodification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law not to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Enhanced Accessibility and Accommodation in Petition Signing Act".

B. This legislation seeks to improve accessibility for individuals needing accommodation to participate in the initiative and referendum petition process by providing additional space for signatures and allowing designated individuals to assist in completing petition information.

1 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 34 O.S. 2021, Section 3, is

2 amended to read as follows:

3 Section 3. A. Each initiative petition and each referendum
4 petition shall be duplicated for the securing of signatures. The
5 Secretary of State shall design a form, subject to change, for
6 signatures that shall be used by proponents of initiatives or
7 referendums when collecting signatures, and each sheet for
8 signatures shall be attached to a copy of the petition. Each copy
9 of the petition and sheets for signatures is hereinafter termed a
10 pamphlet. On the outer page of each pamphlet shall be printed the
11 word "Warning", and underneath this in ten-point type the words, "It
12 is a felony for anyone to sign an initiative or referendum petition
13 with any name other than his or her own, or knowingly to sign his or
14 her name more than once for the measure, or to sign such petition
15 when he or she is not a legal voter." A simple statement of the
16 gist of the proposition shall be printed on the top margin of each
17 signature sheet.

18 B. In addition to the requirements of subsection A of this
19 section, the Oklahoma Secretary of State shall design a form,
20 subject to change, that includes larger designated spaces for
21 signatures of individuals with motor control difficulties or visual
22 impairment.

23 C. Individuals requiring accommodation shall have the option to
24 designate an individual to assist in filling out the required
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1 information on the petitions, other than the signature. Designated
2 individuals shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age and may not
3 influence or coerce the voter's choices, or sign on behalf of the
4 voter. The mark of the voter that was used on the voter
5 registration application shall be accepted as the voter's signature.

6 SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2024.

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