

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

400Y0141

HOUSE BILL NO. 1037

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

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to revise certain provisions regarding delegates and
2 alternates to the national convention, nominating petitions, and runoff elections.

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

4 Section 1. That § 12-5-3.8 be amended to read:

5 12-5-3.8. If a political party chooses to have a primary for selection of its delegates and
6 alternates to the national convention, the party shall certify the candidate names or the delegate
7 and alternate slates which are to be listed on the primary ballot to the secretary of state by the
8 last Tuesday in March preceding the primary by five p.m. central time. Only candidates or slates
9 certified may be placed on the ballot by the secretary of state and the position of the candidates
10 or slates on the primary ballot shall be chosen by lot by the secretary of state. The certification
11 shall be deemed to be ~~filed~~ submitted if mailed by registered mail by five p.m. central time on
12 the last Tuesday in March. If a political party does not choose to have a primary selection of its
13 delegates and alternates to the national convention, the party shall submit its delegates and
14 alternates to the secretary of state by five p.m. central time on the first Tuesday in August.

15 Section 2. That § 12-6-4 be amended to read:



1 12-6-4. Except as provided by § 12-5-4 and as may be otherwise provided in chapter 12-9,
2 no candidate for any office to be filled, or nomination to be made, at either or both the primary
3 or general election, other than a presidential election, may have that person's name printed upon
4 the official primary election ballot of that person's party, unless a petition has been filed on that
5 person's behalf ~~not prior to January first, and not later than~~ after December thirty-first and by
6 the last Tuesday of March at five p.m. prior to local time before the date of the primary election.
7 If the petition is mailed by registered mail by the last Tuesday of March at five p.m. ~~prior to~~
8 local time before the primary election, the petition shall be considered ~~filed~~ timely submitted.
9 A nominating petition for national convention delegates and alternates as provided in § 12-5-
10 3.11 shall be filed in accordance with the provisions of this section. Nominating petitions for
11 all party and public offices except legislative and judicial offices shall be filed in the office of
12 the county auditor of the county in which the person is a candidate. Nominating petitions for
13 legislative and judicial office whether elected in one or more counties, and all other party and
14 public offices to be voted on in more than one county shall be filed in the Office of the Secretary
15 of State.

16 Section 3. That § 12-6-7 be amended to read:

17 12-6-7. A nominating petition may be composed of several sheets, ~~which~~ each sheet shall
18 have identical headings printed at the ~~head thereof~~ top. A nominating petition for any election
19 shall be a self-contained sheet of paper. The petition for party office or political public office
20 shall be signed by not less than one percent of the voters who ~~cast their vote~~ voted for that
21 party's gubernatorial candidate at the last gubernatorial election in the county, part of the county,
22 district, or state electing a candidate to fill the office.

23 Section 4. That § 12-6-7.1 be amended to read:

24 12-6-7.1. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 12-6-7, a nominating petition for a candidate

1 for office in the State Legislature, county political public office, and county party office shall
2 be signed by not less than ~~forty~~ sixty voters or not less than one percent of the registered voters
3 who ~~cast their vote for the party's gubernatorial candidate~~ voted in the candidate's party in that
4 legislative district, county, or county commissioner district at the last general election,
5 whichever is less. The petition shall clearly designate the senatorial or representative district for
6 which ~~said~~ the individual is a candidate.

7 Section 5. That § 12-6-8 be amended to read:

8 12-6-8. No person may sign the nominating petition of a candidate before January first in
9 the year in which the election is to be held, nor for whom the person is not entitled to vote, nor
10 for a political candidate of a party of which the person is not a member, nor ~~of~~ for more than the
11 number of candidates required to be nominated for the same office. ~~There~~ The signer or
12 circulator shall ~~be added by either the signer or the circulator;~~ add the signer's place of residence;
13 and the date of signing. The signer's post office box number may be given in lieu of a street
14 address if the signer lives within a municipality of the second or third class. A formal
15 declaration of the candidate shall be signed by the ~~circulator~~ candidate ~~prior to~~ before the
16 circulation of petitions. The signed declaration of the candidate, ~~or a facsimile thereof,~~ may shall
17 accompany and be a part of the petition. ~~The~~ An original signed declaration shall accompany
18 the group of petitions upon filing. The petition shall be verified under oath by the persons
19 circulating the petition. The verification by the person circulating the petition may not be
20 notarized by the candidate whom the petition is nominating. A nominating petition for any
21 election shall be a self-contained sheet of paper in order to have the candidate's name placed on
22 the ballot. The provisions of this section may not prohibit a person registered with party
23 affiliation from signing either a petition nominating an independent or a nonpolitical candidate
24 for office if the person has not previously signed a petition for that office to be filled.

1 Section 6. That § 12-6-51.1 be amended to read:

2 12-6-51.1. If no candidate for United States Senate, United States House of Representatives,
3 or Governor in a race involving three or more candidates receives thirty-five percent of the votes
4 of the candidate's party, a secondary runoff election shall be held ten weeks from the date of the
5 first primary election. At the secondary runoff election the only persons voted for shall be the
6 two candidates receiving the highest number of votes at the first election. However, if there is
7 a tie for second place in the first primary election and there is no tie for first place, all tying
8 second place candidates shall be placed along with the first place candidate on the ballot for the
9 secondary runoff election. The secondary runoff election shall be held at the same polling
10 places, be conducted, returned, and canvassed and the results declared in the same manner as
11 the first election. However, if the secondary runoff election does not have a federal race, the
12 electronic ballot marking system is not required, and hand-counted ballots may be used. The
13 person receiving the highest number of votes at the secondary runoff election is nominated as
14 the candidate for the party.

15 Section 7. That § 9-13-26.1 be amended to read:

16 9-13-26.1. If a municipality has passed an ordinance requiring a secondary runoff election,
17 and no candidate in a race involving three or more candidates receives a majority of the votes
18 cast in the race, a secondary election shall be held three weeks from the date of the first election.
19 At the secondary runoff election, the only persons voted for shall be the two candidates
20 receiving the highest number of votes at the first election. However, if there is a tie for second
21 place in the first election and there is no tie for first place, all tying second place candidates shall
22 be placed along with the first place candidate on the ballot for the secondary runoff election. The
23 secondary runoff election shall be held at the same polling places and shall be conducted,
24 returned, and canvassed in the same manner as the first election. The result shall be declared and

1 entered in the minutes of the municipality in the same manner as the first election. The person
2 receiving the highest number of votes at the secondary runoff election is elected.

3 Section 8. That § 12-7-1 be amended to read:

4 12-7-1. Any candidate for nonjudicial public office, except as provided in § 12-7-7 or office
5 in the State Legislature, county political public office, and county party office as provided in
6 section 9 of this Act, who is not nominated by a primary election may be nominated by filing
7 a certificate of nomination with the secretary of state or county auditor as prescribed by § 12-6-
8 4, ~~not prior to January first at 8:00 a.m. and not later than~~ after December thirty-first and by the
9 last Tuesday of April at 5:00 p.m. ~~prior to~~ local time before the election; ~~a. A~~ a certificate of
10 nomination ~~which~~ shall be executed as provided in chapter 12-6. If the certificate of nomination
11 is mailed by registered mail by the last Tuesday of April at 5:00 p.m. ~~prior to~~ local time before
12 the election, it is timely submitted. The certificate of nomination shall be signed by registered
13 voters within the district or political subdivision in and for which the officers are to be elected.
14 The number of signatures required may not be less than one percent of the total combined vote
15 cast for Governor at the last certified gubernatorial election within the district or political
16 subdivision. ~~An independent candidate for Governor shall certify the candidate's selection for~~
17 ~~lieutenant governor to the secretary of state prior to circulation of the candidate's nominating~~
18 ~~petition. The candidate and the candidate's selection for lieutenant governor or vice president~~
19 ~~shall sign the certification before it is filed.~~ The State Board of Elections shall promulgate rules,
20 pursuant to chapter 1-26, prescribing the forms for the certificate of nomination ~~and the~~
21 ~~certification for lieutenant governor.~~

22 Section 9. That chapter 12-7 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

23 Any candidate for office in the State Legislature, county political public office, and county
24 party office, who is not nominated by a primary election may be nominated by filing a certificate

1 of nomination with the secretary of state or county auditor as prescribed by § 12-6-4, after
2 December thirty-first and by the last Tuesday of April at 5:00 p.m. local time before the election.
3 A certificate of nomination shall be executed as provided in chapter 12-6. If the certificate of
4 nomination is mailed by registered mail by the last Tuesday of April at 5:00 p.m. local time
5 before the election, it is timely submitted. The certificate of nomination shall be signed by
6 registered voters within the district or political subdivision in and for which the officers are to
7 be elected. The number of signatures required shall be signed by not less than one percent of the
8 total number of registered voters in that legislative district, county, or county commissioner
9 district at the last general election. The petition shall clearly designate the senatorial or
10 representative district for which said individual is a candidate.

11 Section 10. That chapter 12-7 be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

12 An independent candidate for Governor shall certify the candidate's selection for lieutenant
13 governor to the secretary of state with the candidate's nominating petition. The candidate and
14 the candidate's selection for lieutenant governor shall sign the certification before the
15 nominating petitions are circulated. If an independent candidate for lieutenant governor
16 withdraws, no independent candidate for Governor may have the candidate's name printed upon
17 a ballot unless a replacement selection for lieutenant governor is certified to the secretary of
18 state by the second Tuesday in August. The State Board of Elections shall promulgate rules,
19 pursuant to chapter 1-26, prescribing the forms for the certification for lieutenant governor.

20 Section 11. That § 12-7-7 be amended to read:

21 12-7-7. Any candidate for President or Vice President of the United States who is not
22 nominated by a primary election may be nominated by filing with the secretary of state, ~~not prior~~
23 ~~to January first at 8:00 a.m. and not later than~~ after December thirty-first and by the first
24 Tuesday in August at 5:00 p.m. prior to central time before the election, a certificate of

1 nomination which shall be executed as provided in chapter 12-6. If the certificate of nomination
2 is mailed by registered mail by the first Tuesday in August at 5:00 p.m. ~~prior to~~ central time
3 before the election, it is timely submitted. The number of signatures required may not be less
4 than one percent of the total combined vote cast for Governor at the last certified gubernatorial
5 election within the state. An independent candidate for President shall file a declaration of
6 candidacy and a certification of the candidate's selection for Vice President with the secretary
7 of state ~~prior to circulation of~~ with the candidate's nominating petitions. The candidate and the
8 candidate's selection for Vice President shall sign the certification before ~~it is filed~~ the
9 nominating petitions are submitted. If an independent candidate for Vice President withdraws
10 pursuant to § 12-6-55, no independent candidate for President shall have the candidate's name
11 printed upon a ballot unless a replacement selection for Vice President is certified to the
12 secretary of state by the second Tuesday in August. The State Board of Elections shall
13 promulgate rules, pursuant to chapter 1-26, prescribing the forms for the certificate of
14 nomination and the certification for Vice President.