



State of Wisconsin
2023 - 2024 LEGISLATURE

LRB-3008/1
JK:kms

2023 SENATE BILL 286

May 15, 2023 - Introduced by Senators JAMES, SPREITZER, CARPENTER, BALLWEG, CABRAL-GUEVARA, TAYLOR and TOMCZYK, cosponsored by Representatives ORTIZ-VELEZ, SORTWELL, SUBECK, ALLEN, C. ANDERSON, ANDRACA, BODDEN, BRANDTJEN, CABRERA, CONLEY, GUNDRUM, GUSTAFSON, JOERS, MURPHY, SINICKI, STUBBS and TITTL. Referred to Committee on Shared Revenue, Elections and Consumer Protection.

1 **AN ACT** *to create* 8.10 (7), 8.15 (9) and 8.20 (10) of the statutes; **relating to:** the
2 number of signatures on nomination papers.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

Under current law, generally, a candidate for a state or local office must file nomination papers in order to have his or her name on the ballot. The nomination papers must be signed by a certain number of voters residing in the jurisdiction of the office the candidate seeks. For example, a candidate for a statewide office at a spring election must collect at least 2,000, but no more than 4,000, valid signatures. The filing official, typically the Elections Commission or a municipal clerk, must determine whether the candidate has collected a sufficient number of valid signatures to have his or her name on the ballot. If the number of valid signatures is less than the minimum number required, the candidate is ineligible to have his or her name on the ballot.

Under this bill, if a candidate submits nomination papers with more than the maximum number of required signatures, but the filing official determines that the maximum number of required signatures does not result in a sufficient number of valid signatures, the filing official must review the additional signatures to the extent necessary to determine whether the candidate has collected a sufficient number of valid signatures to have his or her name on the ballot.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

