Session of 2013

SENATE BILL No. 64

By Committee on Ethics, Elections and Local Government

1-22

AN ACT concerning elections; relating to party affiliation; <i>relating to petitions</i> ; amending K.S.A. 25-3304 and <i>K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-205</i> ,
25-302a, 25-303, 25-3602, 25-4005, 25-4310 and 25-4320 and
repealing the existing sections.
repeating the existing section sections.
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:
Section 1. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-205 is hereby amended to read as
follows: 25-205. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the
names of candidates for national, state, county and township offices
shall be printed upon the official primary ballot when each shall have
qualified to become a candidate by one of the following methods and
none other: (1) They shall have had filed in their behalf, not later than
12 noon, June 1, prior to such primary election, or if such date falls on
Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12 noon of the next
following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, nomination
petitions, as provided for in this act; or (2) they shall have filed not later
than the time for filing nomination petitions, as above provided, with the
proper officer a declaration of intention to become a candidate,
accompanied by the fee required by law. Such declaration shall be
prescribed by the secretary of state.
(b) Nomination petitions shall be in substantially the following
form:
I, the undersigned, an elector of the county of, and
state of Kansas, and a duly registered voter, and a member of
party, hereby nominate, who resides
party, hereby nominate, who resides in the township of (or at number on, in the county of, in the county of
street, city of), in the county of
and state of Kansas, as a candidate for the office of
(here specify the office), to be voted for at the primary
election to be held on the first Tuesday in August in, as
representing the principles of such party; and I further declare that I
intend to support the candidate herein named and that I have not signed
and will not sign any nomination petition for any other person, for such
office at such primary election.
office at such primary election.

(HEADING)

Name of Street Number Name of Date of Signers. or Rural Route City. Signing. (as registered).

All nomination petitions shall have substantially the foregoing form, written or printed at the top thereof. No signature shall be counted unless it is upon a sheet having such written or printed form at the top thereof.

- (c) Each signer of a nomination petition shall sign but one such petition for the same office, and shall declare that such person intends to support the candidate therein named, and shall add to such person's signature and residence, if in a city, by street and number (if any); or, otherwise by post-office address. No signature shall be counted unless the place of residence of the signer is clearly indicated and the date of signing given as herein required and if ditto marks are used to indicate address they shall be continuous and clearly made. Such sheets shall not be cut or pasted together.
- (d) All signers of each separate nomination petition shall reside in the same county and election district of the office sought. The affidavit described in this paragraph of a petition circulator—who is a resident of the state of Kansas and has the qualifications of an elector in the state of Kansas as defined in section 9, and amendments thereto, or of the candidate shall be appended to each petition and shall contain, at the end of each set of documents carried by each circulator, a verification, signed by the circulator or the candidate, to the effect that such circulator or the candidate personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose name appears thereon.
- (e) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (g), nomination petitions shall be signed:
- (1) If for a state officer elected on a statewide basis or for the office of United States senator, by voters equal in number to not less than 1% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in the state as compiled by the office of the secretary of state;
- (2) If for a state or national officer elected on less than a statewide basis, by voters equal in number to not less than 2% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in such district as compiled by the office of the secretary of state, except that for the office of district magistrate judge, by not less than 2% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in the county in which such office is to be filled as certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3302, and amendments thereto;
- (3) If for a county office, by voters equal in number to not less than 3% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in

 such district or county as compiled by the county election officer and certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3302, and amendments thereto; and

- (4) If for a township office, by voters equal in number to not less than 3% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in such township as compiled by the county election officer and certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3302, and amendments thereto.
- (f) Subject to the requirements of K.S.A. 25-202, and amendments thereto, any political organization filing nomination petitions for a majority of the state or county offices, as provided in this act, shall have a separate primary election ballot as a political party and, upon receipt of such nomination petitions, the respective officers shall prepare a separate state and county ballot for such new party in their respective counties or districts thereof in the same manner as is provided for existing parties.
- (g) In any year in which districts are reapportioned for the offices of representative in the United States congress, senator and representative in the legislature of the state of Kansas or member of the state board of education:
- (1) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or before May 10, nomination petitions for nomination to such offices shall be signed by voters equal in number to not less than 1% of the total of the current voter registration of the party designated in the district as compiled by the office of the secretary of state.
- (2) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or after May 11, nomination petitions for nomination to the following offices shall be signed by registered voters of the party designated in the district equal in number to not less than the following:
- (A) For the office of representative in the United States congress, 1,000 registered voters;
 - (B) for the office of member of the state board of education, 300 registered voters;
 - (C) for the office of state senator, 75 registered voters; and
 - (D) for the office of state representative, 25 registered voters.
- (h) In any year in which districts are reapportioned for the offices of representative in the United States congress, senator and representative in the legislature of the state of Kansas or member of the state board of education:
- (1) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or before May 10, the deadline for

 filing nomination petitions and declarations of intention to become a candidate for such office, accompanied by the fee required by law, shall be 12 noon on June 1, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12 noon of the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.

- (2) If new boundary lines are defined and districts established in the manner prescribed by law on or after May 11, the deadline for filing nomination petitions and declarations of intention to become a candidate for such office, accompanied by the fee required by law, shall be 12 noon on June 10, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, then before 12 noon of the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or holiday.
- Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-302a is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-302a. Any political party seeking official recognition in this state after the effective date of this act shall file in its behalf, not later than-12:00 12 noon, June 1, prior to the primary election held on the first Tuesday of August in even-numbered years, or if such date falls on a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday, then before 12:00 12 noon of the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or a holiday petitions signed by qualified electors equal in number to at least 2% of the total vote cast for all candidates for the office of governor in the state in the last preceding general election. Such petitions shall declare support for the official recognition of a political party, the name of which shall be stated in the declaration. No political party seeking official recognition shall assume a name or designation which, in the opinion of the secretary of state, is unreasonably lengthy or so similar to the name or designation of an existing political party as to confuse or mislead the voters at an election.

Petitions seeking official recognition of a political party shall be substantially in the following form:

PETITION SEEKING THE OFFICIAL RECOGNITION OF THE ______ PARTY IN THE STATE OF KANSAS

I, the undersigned, hereby declare my support for the official recognition of the ______ Party.

I have personally signed this petition; I am a registered elector of the state of Kansas and the County of ______, and my residence address is correctly written after my name.

39 NAME OF ADDRESS AS CITY DATE OF 40 SIGNER REGISTERED SIGNING

Appended to each petition page or set of pages shall be an affidavit by the petition circulator as defined in section 9, and amendments thereto, of the petition affirming that such circulator is a resident of the state of

Kansas and has the qualifications of an elector in Kansas and that the eirculator personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose name appears thereon. The affidavit shall be executed before a person authorized to administer oaths and include the address of the circulator.

Each page of such petition shall bear the names of registered voters of a single county. All petitions shall be grouped according to the county in which each was circulated before being filed with the secretary of state. All such petitions shall be filed at one time. Any related petitions presented thereafter will be deemed to be separate and not a part of earlier filings. County election officers shall cooperate with the secretary of state in verifying the sufficiency of these petitions as required by law.

The secretary of state shall transmit such petitions to the county election officer of each county for which petitions were presented to be examined for sufficiency pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 25-3601 et seq., and amendments thereto, and applicable regulations. Not more than 20 days following receipt of such petitions from the secretary of state, the county election officer shall return these documents to the secretary of state certifying the number of sufficient signatures thereon. The secretary of state shall gather all petitions and determine whether a sufficient number of signatures was submitted. The secretary of state shall forthwith notify the person who submitted the declaration of intent to circulate such petitions of the sufficiency or insufficiency of the number of signatures.

- Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-303 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-303. (a) This section shall not apply to city and school elections, nor to election of other officers provided by law to be elected in April.
- (b) All nominations other than party nominations shall be independent nominations. No person who has declared and retains a party affiliation in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3301, and amendments thereto, shall be eligible to accept an independent nomination for any office.

Independent nominations of candidates for any office to be filled by the voters of the state at large may be made by nomination petitions signed by not less than 5,000 qualified voters for each candidate and in the case of governor and lieutenant governor for each pair of such candidates.

(c) Independent nominations of candidates for offices to be filled by the voters of a county, district or other division less than a state may be made by nomination petitions signed by voters equal in number to not less than 4% of the current total of qualified voters of such county, district or other division as compiled by the office of the secretary of

 state in the case of state offices and as compiled in the office of the county election officer and certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-2311, and amendments thereto, in the case of local offices, and in no case to be signed by less than 25 nor more than 5,000 qualified voters of such county, district or division, for each candidate.

- (d) Independent nominations of candidates for offices to be filled by the voters of a township may be made by nomination papers signed by not less than 5% of the current total of qualified voters of such township, computed as above provided, for each candidate, and in no case to be signed by less than 10 such voters of such township for each candidate.
- (e) The signatures to such nomination petitions need not all be appended to one paper, but each registered voter signing an independent certificate of nomination shall add to the signature such petitioner's place of residence and post office address. All signers of each separate nomination petition shall reside in the same county and election district of the office sought. The affidavit of the candidate or a petition circulator—who is a resident of the state of Kansas and has the qualifications of an elector of the state of Kansas shall be appended to each petition and shall contain, at the end of each set of documents carried by each circulator or candidate, a verification, signed by the circulator or candidate, to the effect that such circulator or candidate personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose name appears thereon.
- (f) No such nomination paper shall contain the name of a candidate for governor without in the same such paper containing the name of a candidate for lieutenant governor, and if it does it shall be void.
- (g) No person shall join in nominating more than one person for the same office, and if this is done, the name of such petitioner shall not be counted on any certificate.
- Section 1. Sec. 4. K.S.A. 25-3304 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3304. (a) Any person who has declared such person's party or voter affiliation in the manner provided by law shall be listed on a voter affiliation list as a member of a registered political organization, or on a party affiliation list if a member of a recognized political party, unless the person's name is purged or removed therefrom as provided by K.S.A. 25-3303, and amendments thereto, or unless the person changes party or voter affiliation as provided in this section.
- (b) Any person, who, having declared a party or voter affiliation, desires to change the same, may file a written declaration with the county election officer, stating the change of party or voter affiliation. Such declaration shall be filed not less than—14 21 days prior to the date of any

 national, state, county or township primary election. The county election officer shall enter a record of such change on the party or voter affiliation list of such preceding primary election in the proper column opposite the voter's name.

- (c) Any person who has never declared a party or voter affiliation in the county in which such person resides may file a written declaration with the county election officer, stating the person's party or voter affiliation. Such declaration shall be filed not less than—14 21 days prior to the date of any national, state, county or township primary election. The county election officer shall enter a record of such declaration on the party or voter affiliation list of the preceding primary election in the proper column opposite the voter's name.
- (d) A person shall not change their party or voter affiliation more than once in any 90 day period.
- Sec. 5. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-3602 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-3602. (a) Each petition shall consist of one or more documents pertaining to a single issue or proposition under one distinctive title. The documents shall be filed with the county election officer or other official, if another official is designated in the applicable statutes. The filing shall be made at one time all in one group. Later or successive filings of documents relating to the same issue or proposition shall be deemed to be separate petitions and not a part of any earlier or later filing.
- (b) Unless otherwise specifically required, each petition shall: (1) State the question which petitioners seek to bring to an election in the form of a question as it should appear upon the ballot in accordance with the requirements of K.S.A. 25-620 and K.S.A. 25-3601, and amendments thereto;
- (2) name the taxing subdivision or other political subdivision in which an election is sought to be held;
- (3) contain the following recital above the spaces provided for signatures: "I have personally signed this petition. I am a registered elector of the state of Kansas and of ______

(here insert name of political or taxing subdivision)

and my residence address is correctly written after my name."

The recital shall be followed by blank spaces for the signature, residence address and date of signing for each person signing the petition.

When petitioners are required by law to possess qualifications in addition to being registered electors, the form of the petition shall be amended to contain a recital specifying the additional qualifications required and stating that the petitioners possess the qualifications; and

1	(4) contain-the following recital a recital in substance as follows, at
2	the end of each set of documents carried by each petition circulator as
3	defined in section 9, and amendments thereto: "I am the circulator of this
4	petition and a resident of the state of Kansas and possess the qualifications
5	of an elector of the state of Kansas. I have I am qualified to circulate this
6	petition and I personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each
7	person whose name appears thereon.
8	<u> </u>
9	(Signature of circulator)
10	
11	(Circulator's residence address)
12	The recital of the circulator of each petition shall be verified upon
13	oath or affirmation before a notarial officer in the manner prescribed by
14	K.S.A. 53-501 et seq., and amendments thereto.
15	(c) Any person who has signed a petition who desires to withdraw
16	such person's name may do so by giving written notice to the county
17	election officer or other designated official not later than the third day
18	following the date upon which the petition is filed.
19	(d) Any petition shall be null and void unless submitted to the
20	county election officer or other designated official within 180 days of the
21	date of the first signature on the petition.
22	(e) Unless the governing body of the political or taxing subdivision
23	in which the election is sought to be held authorizes a special election,
24	all elections which are called as a result of the filing of a sufficient
25	petition shall be held at the next succeeding primary or general election
26	as defined by K.S.A. 25-2502, and amendments thereto, in which the
27	political or taxing subdivision is participating.
28	(f) When a petition requires signatures equal in number to a
29	percentage of the total number of registered voters, such percentage
30	shall be based on the most recent number of registered voters as certified
31	to the office of the secretary of state pursuant to subsection (g) of K.S.A.
32	25-2311, and amendments thereto.
33	Sec. 6. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-4005 is hereby amended to read as
34	follows: 25-4005. The nomination papers or petitions as mentioned in
35	K.S.A. 25-4004, and amendments thereto, shall be in substantially the
36	following form:
37	I, the undersigned, an elector of the county of, and
38	state of Kansas, and a duly registered voter and a member of the
39	party, hereby nominate
40	(Here insert name and city)
41	and state of Kansas as a candidate for the office of governor, and
42	running with such candidate

(Here insert name and city)

and state of Kansas as a candidate for the office of lieutenant governor to be voted for at the primary to be held on the first Tuesday in August in ______, as representing the principles of such party; and I further declare that I intend to support the candidates herein named and that I have not signed and will not sign any petition or nomination paper for any other persons, for such offices at the next ensuing election.

(HEADING)

Name of	Street Number	Name of	Date of
Signers	or RR	City	Signing
-	(as Registered)	·	0 0

All nomination papers shall have substantially the foregoing form, written or printed at the top thereof. No signature shall be counted unless it is upon a sheet having such written or printed form at the top thereof.

Each signer of a nomination paper shall sign but one such paper for governor and lieutenant governor, and shall declare that such signer intends to support the candidates therein named, and shall add to the signer's signature the signer's residence, if in a city, by street and number (if any); or, otherwise by address as shown on such signer's registration. No signature shall be counted unless the place of residence of the signer is clearly indicated and the date of signing given as herein required and if ditto marks are used to indicate address they shall be continuous and clearly made. Such sheets shall not be cut or pasted together.

All signers of each separate nomination paper shall reside in the same county. The affidavit of a petition circulator—who is a resident of the state of Kansas and has the qualifications of an elector of the state of Kansas as defined in section 9, and amendments thereto, shall be appended to each such nomination paper, stating that to the best of such petition circulator's knowledge and belief, all the signers thereof are qualified electors of that county; that the petition circulator knows that they signed the same with full knowledge of the contents thereof; that their respective residences are correctly stated therein; that each signer signed the same on the date stated opposite such signer's name, and that the affiant intends to support the candidates therein named. Such affidavit shall be prima facie evidence of the facts therein stated.

Such nomination papers shall be signed by not less than 1% of the total vote of the party designated in the state. The basis of the percentage shall be the vote of the party for secretary of state at the last preceding general election of secretary of state; or, in case of a new party, the basis of a percentage shall be the vote cast for the successful candidate for secretary of state at the last preceding general election of secretary of

state.

Sec. 7. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-4310 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4310. The petitions may be circulated-only by a sponsor who is a resident of the state of Kansas and possesses the qualifications of an elector of the state of Kansas and by a petition circulator, as defined in section 9, and amendments thereto, only in person throughout the state or election district of the state officer sought to be recalled. No copy of a petition shall be circulated in more than one county, and the county election officer of the county in which each petition is circulated shall certify to the secretary of state the sufficiency of the signatures on the petition. Any registered elector of such election district or of the state, as the case may be, may subscribe to the petition by signing the elector's name and address as the same appears on the voter registration books. A person who has signed the petition may withdraw such person's name only by giving written notice to the secretary of state before the date the petition is filed. The necessary signatures on a petition shall be secured within 90 days from the date that the petitions prepared by the secretary of state pursuant to K.S.A. 25-4309, and amendments thereto, are delivered to the recall committee. The petition shall be signed only in ink. Illegible signatures unless accompanied by a legible printed name may be rejected by the secretary of state or by any county election officer assisting the secretary of state.

- Sec. 8. K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-4320 is hereby amended to read as follows: 25-4320. (a) Each petition for recall of a local officer shall include: (1) The name and office of the local officer sought to be recalled; (2) the grounds for recall described in particular in not more than 200 words; (3) a statement that the petition signers are registered electors of the election district of the local officer sought to be recalled; (4) the names and addresses of three registered electors of the election district of the officer sought to be recalled who shall comprise the recall committee; (5) the statement of warning required in K.S.A. 25-4321, and amendments thereto; and (6) a statement that a list of all-sponsorspetition circulators, as defined in section 9, and amendments thereto, authorized to circulate recall petitions for such recall may be examined in the office of the county election officer where the petition is required to be filed.—Each sponsor shall be a resident of the state of Kansas and possess the qualifications of an elector of the state of Kansas.
- (b) Each page of a petition for recall of a local officer shall be in substantially the following form:

I, the	undersigned, hereby seek the recall of	[from the
office of	, on the ground(s) that	, (state
specific	grounds) and declare that I am a	registered elector of
	County, Kansas, and of the	election district of the

	Street Number		
Name of	or RR	Name of	Date of
Signer	(as Registered)	City	Signing
NOTE:			
	a class B misdemeanor to	sion a name other	than your own
name recali petitic	e to this petition, to know l of the same officer at on knowing you are not a	ingly sign more tha the same election o registered elector.	n once for the
2. The	following comprise	e the recall	committee:
	(names and resident	t addresses)	
3. A list	of all-sponsors petition c		ed in section 9,
	amendments thereto, auti		
	ecall may be examined i		1 3
	ity election officer.	33 3 -	
(c) A cou	unty election officer sha	ll provide a sampl	e of the form
	subsection (b) upon requ		
(d) The	affidavit required by K.	S.A. 25-4325, and	l amendments
	be appended to each petit		
New Sec. 9	9. (a) For purposes of the	his act, "petition cir	culator" shall
mean a person	n who is:	_	
(1) A Uni	ited States citizen;		
	. 10 0 1		
(2) at lea	st 18 years of age; and		
	st 18 years of age; and ot been convicted of a felo	ony.	
(3) has n		•	esidents of the
(3) has n (b) All pe	ot been convicted of a fel	er residents or nonr	
(3) has n (b) All pe state of Kansa state, includin	ot been convicted of a felo etition circulators, whethe	er residents or nonr to submit to the juri subdivisions and ele	sdiction of the ction officials,

reliability of the petition process.

Sec. 2. 10. K.S.A. 25-3304-is and K.S.A. 2012 Supp. 25-205, 25-302a, 25-303, 25-3602, 25-4005, 25-4310 and 25-4320 are hereby repealed.

Sec. 3. 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its publication in the statute book.