

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 60th Legislature (2026)

3 SENATE BILL 2168

By: Bullard

6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to initiative petitions; amending 34  
8 O.S. 2021, Sections 6, as amended by Section 2,  
Chapter 275, O.S.L. 2025, and 8, as last amended by  
9 Section 3, Chapter 275, O.S.L. 2025 (34 O.S. Supp.  
2025, Sections 6 and 8), which relate to signatures;  
10 modifying requirements for persons gathering  
signatures; updating statutory language; updating  
statutory reference; and providing an effective date.

12  
13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

14 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 34 O.S. 2021, Section 6, as  
15 amended by Section 2, Chapter 275, O.S.L. 2025 (34 O.S. Supp. 2025,  
16 Section 6), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 6. Any person who circulates a ~~sheet of the~~ petition  
18 shall be a ~~registered voter~~ bona fide resident of this state for not  
19 less than one (1) year and shall verify the signatures included on  
20 any signature sheets he or she circulates by executing his or her  
21 affidavit thereon and as a part thereof. The Secretary of State  
22 shall cause to be affixed onto the back of the signature form an  
23 affidavit, subject to change, for the circulator to verify the  
24 signatures.

1 State of Oklahoma, )  
2 ) ss.  
3 County of \_\_\_\_\_ )  
4 I, \_\_\_\_\_, being first duly sworn, say: That I am at least  
5 eighteen (18) years old, a ~~registered voter~~ bona fide resident of  
6 this state for not less than one (1) year, and that all signatures  
7 on the signature sheet were signed in my presence; I believe that  
8 each has stated his or her name, mailing address, county of  
9 residence, and date of birth associated with his or her Oklahoma  
10 voter registration record, and that each signer is a legal voter of  
11 the State of Oklahoma and county of \_\_\_\_\_ or of the city of \_\_\_\_\_  
12 (as the case may be). (Signature and complete address of affiant.)  
13 Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D.  
14 20\_\_.

15 (Signature and title of the Oklahoma notarial officer before  
16 whom oath is made, and his or her complete address, commission  
17 number and expiration date, and official Oklahoma notary public  
18 seal.)

19 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 34 O.S. 2021, Section 8, as last  
20 amended by Section 3, Chapter 275, O.S.L. 2025 (34 O.S. Supp. 2025,  
21 Section 8) is amended to read as follows:

22 Section 8. A. When a citizen or citizens desire to circulate a  
23 petition initiating a proposition of any nature, whether to become a  
24 statute law or an amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution, or for the

1 purpose of invoking a referendum upon legislative enactments, such  
2 citizen or citizens shall, when such petition is prepared, and  
3 before the same is circulated or signed by electors, file a true and  
4 exact copy of same in the office of the Secretary of State and shall  
5 at the same time file a separate ballot title, which shall not be  
6 part of or printed on the petition.

7       B. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to cause to  
8 be published, in at least one newspaper of general circulation in  
9 the state, a notice of such filing and the apparent sufficiency or  
10 insufficiency of the petition, and shall include notice that any  
11 citizen or citizens of the state may file a protest as to the  
12 constitutionality of the petition, by a written notice to the  
13 Supreme Court and to the proponent or proponents filing the  
14 petition. Any such protest shall be filed within ninety (90) days  
15 after publication. A copy of the protest shall be filed with the  
16 Secretary of State.

17       C. Upon the filing of a protest to the petition, the Supreme  
18 Court shall then fix a day, not less than ten (10) business days  
19 thereafter, at which time it will hear testimony and arguments for  
20 and against the sufficiency of such petition.

21       D. A protest filed by anyone hereunder may, if abandoned by the  
22 party filing same, be revived within five (5) business days by any  
23 other citizen. After such hearing the Supreme Court shall decide  
24 whether such petition is in the form required by the statutes. If

1 the Court is at the time adjourned, the Chief Justice shall  
2 immediately convene the same for such hearing. No objection to the  
3 sufficiency shall be considered unless it has been made and filed as  
4 herein provided.

5       E. Signature-gathering Deadline for Initiative Petitions. When  
6 an initiative petition has been filed in the office of the Secretary  
7 of State and all appeals, protests, and rehearings have been  
8 resolved or the period for such has expired, the Secretary of State  
9 shall set the date for circulation of signatures for the petition to  
10 begin but in no event shall the date be less than fifteen (15) days  
11 nor more than thirty (30) days from the date when all appeals,  
12 protests, and rehearings have been resolved or have expired.

13 Notification shall be sent to the proponent or proponents specifying  
14 the date on which circulation of the petition shall begin and that  
15 the signatures are due within ninety (90) days of the date set. Any  
16 person who circulates the petition to collect signatures shall be a  
17 ~~registered voter in~~ bona fide resident of this state for not less  
18 than one (1) year and shall display a conspicuous notice in any  
19 location where the person is collecting signatures whether the  
20 person is being paid to circulate the petition and if so, by what  
21 person or entity. Each elector shall sign his or her name and  
22 legibly print his or her name, birth date, address, and county of  
23 residence associated with his or her Oklahoma voter registration  
24 record. An elector's signature shall serve as an attestation that

1 the elector read the gist in full or that the person who solicited  
2 the elector's signature read the gist in full to the elector. The  
3 Secretary of State shall establish procedures by which an elector  
4 can request to have his or her signature removed from the petition.  
5 Any petition not filed in accordance with this provision shall not  
6 be considered. The proponent or proponents of an initiative  
7 petition, any time before the final submission of signatures, may  
8 withdraw the initiative petition upon written notification to the  
9 Secretary of State.

10 F. Signature-gathering Deadline for Referendum Petitions. All  
11 signed signatures supporting a referendum petition shall be filed  
12 with the Secretary of State not later than ninety (90) days after  
13 the adjournment of the legislative session in which the measure  
14 which is the subject of the referendum petition was enacted.

15 G. 1. Any person who circulates the petition to collect  
16 signatures shall disclose to the Secretary of State any employer or  
17 entity that is compensating the person for the circulation of the  
18 petition. No compensation shall be based on number of signatures  
19 collected, number of signature sheets submitted, or any other  
20 similar incentives. No person or entity who does not reside or do  
21 business in this state shall contribute to or compensate a person  
22 for circulation of a petition. Any person or entity that employs a  
23 person for circulation of a petition shall follow federal labor  
24 standards ~~and~~.

1       2. Any person or entity expending funds on the circulation of a  
2 petition shall submit a weekly report to the Secretary of State that  
3 details such expenditures and that attests that all donated funds  
4 were received from sources in this state. The Secretary of State  
5 shall publish such reports on the Secretary's website until the vote  
6 on the measure has occurred.

7       H. 1. The total number of signatures collected to meet the  
8 requirements for an initiative petition or referendum petition,  
9 amending the Oklahoma Statutes, from a single county shall not  
10 exceed eleven and five-tenths percent (11.5%) of the number of votes  
11 cast in that county during the most recent statewide general  
12 election for Governor. The State Election Board shall determine the  
13 number of votes cast in each county; ~~and~~.

14       2. The total number of signatures collected to meet the  
15 requirements for an initiative petition or referendum petition,  
16 amending the Oklahoma Constitution, from a single county shall not  
17 exceed twenty and eight-tenths percent (20.8%) of the number of  
18 votes cast in that county during the most recent statewide general  
19 election for Governor. The State Election Board shall determine the  
20 number of votes cast in each county.

21       I. The proponent or proponents of a referendum or an initiative  
22 petition may terminate the circulation period any time during the  
23 ninety-day circulation period by certifying to the Secretary of  
24 State that:

1       1. All signed petitions have already been filed with the  
2       Secretary of State;  
3       2. No more petitions are in circulation; and  
4       3. The proponent or proponents will not circulate any more  
5       petitions.

6       If the Secretary of State receives such a certification from the  
7       proponent or proponents, the Secretary of State shall begin the  
8       counting and review process.

9       J. When the signed copies of a petition pamphlet are timely  
10      filed, the Secretary of State shall file a copy of the proponent's  
11      ballot title with the Attorney General and, after conducting a count  
12      and review of the filed, signed petition pamphlets, the Secretary of  
13      State shall certify to the Supreme Court of the state:

14      1. The total number of signatures counted pursuant to  
15      procedures set forth in this title; and  
16      2. The total number of votes cast for ~~the office of~~ Governor at  
17      the last general election.

18       The Supreme Court shall make the determination of the numerical  
19      sufficiency or insufficiency of the signatures counted and reviewed  
20      by the Secretary of State.

21       K. Upon order of the Supreme Court, it shall be the duty of the  
22      Secretary of State to ~~forthwith~~ cause to be published, in at least  
23      one newspaper of general circulation in the state, a notice of the  
24      filing of the signed petitions and the apparent sufficiency or

1 insufficiency thereof, and shall to also publish the text of the  
2 ballot title as reviewed and approved or, if applicable, as  
3 rewritten by the Attorney General pursuant to the provisions of  
4 subsection D of Section 9 of this title and notice that any citizen  
5 or citizens of the state may file an objection to the count made by  
6 the Secretary of State, by a written notice to the Supreme Court and  
7 to the proponent or proponents filing the petition. Any such  
8 objection shall be filed within ninety (90) days after publication  
9 and shall relate only to the validity or number of the signatures or  
10 a challenge to the ballot title. A copy of the objection to the  
11 count or ballot title shall be filed with the Supreme Court, the  
12 Attorney General, and the Secretary of State.

13 L. Upon appeal and if ordered or directed by the Supreme Court,  
14 the Secretary of State shall deliver the bound volumes of signatures  
15 to the Supreme Court.

16 M. Upon the filing of an objection to the signature count or  
17 ballot title, the Supreme Court shall resolve the objection with  
18 dispatch. The Supreme Court shall adopt rules to govern proceedings  
19 to apply to the challenge of a measure on the grounds that the  
20 proponent or proponents failed to gather sufficient signatures.

21 N. If in the opinion of the Supreme Court, any objection to the  
22 count or protest to the petition is frivolous, the Court may impose  
23 appropriate sanctions, including an award of costs and attorney fees  
24 to either party as the Court deems equitable.

1       0. Whenever reference is made in this ~~act~~ section to the  
2 Supreme Court, such reference shall include the members of the  
3 Supreme Court, or any officer constitutionally designated to perform  
4 the duties herein prescribed.

5       SECTION 3. This act shall become effective November 1, 2026.

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7       60-2-2898

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