

Section 1: An Act to Establish Signature Thresholds for Independent Candidates to Earn Ballot Access

Section 2: Amendments to 10 ILCS 5/10-3

Sec. 10-3. Nomination of independent candidates (not candidates of any political party), for any office to be filled by the voters of the State at large may also be made by nomination papers signed in the aggregate for each candidate by 1% of the number of voters who voted in the next preceding Statewide general election or ~~25,000~~ 10,000 qualified voters of the State, whichever is less. Nominations of independent candidates for public office within any district or political subdivision less than the State, may be made by nomination papers signed in the aggregate for each candidate by qualified voters of such district, or political subdivision, equaling not less than ~~5%~~ 2%, nor more than ~~8%~~ 5% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the number of persons, who voted at the next preceding regular election in such district or political subdivision in which such district or political subdivision voted as a unit for the election of officers to serve its respective territorial area. However, whenever the minimum signature requirement for an independent candidate petition for a district or political subdivision office shall exceed the minimum number of signatures for an independent candidate petition for an office to be filled by the voters of the State at large at the next preceding State-wide general election, such State-wide petition signature requirement shall be the minimum for an independent candidate petition for such district or political subdivision office. For the first election following a redistricting of congressional districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for congressperson shall be signed by at least ~~5,000~~ 2,000 qualified voters of the congressional district. For the first election following a redistricting of legislative districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for State Senator in the General Assembly shall be signed by at least ~~3,000~~ 1,000 qualified voters of the legislative district. For the first election following a redistricting of representative districts, nomination papers for an independent candidate for State Representative in the General Assembly shall be signed by at least ~~1,500~~ 900 qualified voters of the representative district. For the first election following redistricting of county board districts, or of municipal wards or districts, or for the first election following the initial establishment of such districts or wards in a county or municipality, nomination papers for an independent candidate for county board member, or for alderperson or trustee of such

municipality, shall be signed by qualified voters of the district or ward equal to not less than ~~5%~~
2%-nor more than ~~8%~~ 5% (or 50 more than the minimum, whichever is greater) of the total
number of votes cast at the preceding general or general municipal election, as the case may be,
for the county or municipal office voted on throughout such county or municipality for which the
greatest total number of votes were cast for all candidates, divided by the number of districts or
wards, but in any event not less than 25 qualified voters of the district or ward. Each voter
signing a nomination paper shall add to his signature his place of residence, and each voter may
subscribe to one nomination for such office to be filled, and no more: Provided that the name of
any candidate whose name may appear in any other place upon the ballot shall not be so added
by petition for the same office.

Section 3. If any provision of this act is found to be invalid, the remaining provisions shall
remain in full force and effect.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon passage.