

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

NINETY-NINTH LEGISLATURE

SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 1154**

Introduced by Schimek, 27

Read first time January 17, 2006

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

A BILL

1 FOR AN ACT relating to elections; to amend section 32-716, Reissue  
2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions  
3 relating to new political parties; and to repeal the  
4 original section.

5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           Section 1. Section 32-716, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
2 Nebraska, is amended to read:

3           32-716 (1) Any person, group, or association desiring  
4 to form a new political party shall present to the Secretary of  
5 State petitions containing signatures totaling not less than one  
6 percent of the total votes cast for Governor at the most recent  
7 general election for such office. The signatures of registered  
8 voters on such petitions shall be so distributed as to include  
9 registered voters totaling at least one percent of the votes cast  
10 for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election in each of  
11 the three congressional districts in this state. Petition signers  
12 and petition circulators shall conform to the requirements of  
13 sections 32-629 and 32-630. The petitions shall be filed with the  
14 Secretary of State no later than February 1 before any statewide  
15 primary election for the new political party to be entitled to have  
16 ballot position in the primary election of that year. If the new  
17 political party desires to be established and have ballot position  
18 for the general election and not in the primary election of that  
19 year, the petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of State  
20 on or before August 1 of that year. Prior to the circulation of  
21 petitions to form a new political party, a sample copy of the  
22 petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of State by the person,  
23 group, or association seeking to establish the new party. The  
24 sample petition shall be accompanied by the name and address of the  
25 person or the names and addresses of the members of the group or

1 association sponsoring the petition to form a new political party.

2 (2) The petition shall conform to the requirements of  
 3 section 32-628. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form  
 4 of the petition for the formation of a new political party. The  
 5 petition shall be addressed to and filed with the Secretary of  
 6 State and shall state its purpose and the name of the party to  
 7 be formed. Such name shall not be or include ~~but~~ the name of  
 8 any political party then in existence or any word forming any  
 9 part of the name of any political party then in existence, and in  
 10 order to avoid confusion regarding party affiliation of a candidate  
 11 or registered voter, the name of the party to be formed shall  
 12 not include the word "independent" or "nonpartisan". ~~shall not be~~  
 13 ~~adopted.~~ The petition shall contain a statement substantially as  
 14 follows:

15 We, the undersigned registered voters of the State  
 16 of Nebraska and the county of ....., being severally  
 17 qualified to sign this petition, respectfully request that the  
 18 above-named new political party be formed in the State of Nebraska,  
 19 and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed  
 20 this petition on the date opposite my name; I am a registered  
 21 voter of the State of Nebraska and county of ..... and  
 22 am qualified to sign this petition; and my date of birth and city,  
 23 village, or post office address and my street and number or voting  
 24 precinct are correctly written after my name.

25 Sec. 2. Original section 32-716, Reissue Revised Statutes

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1 of Nebraska, is repealed.