

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0054

Elections-independent candidate requirements.

Sponsored by: Joint Corporations, Elections & Political
Subdivisions Interim Committee

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to elections; requiring independent
2 candidates to swear that they are unaffiliated or not
3 registered with a major or minor political party; revising
4 the number of signatures required for independent
5 candidates to appear on the general election ballot;
6 revising the deadline to file a petition as an independent
7 candidate; and providing for an effective date.

8

9 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

10

11 **Section 1.** W.S. 22-5-301(a), 22-5-304 and 22-5-307
12 are amended to read:

13

14 **22-5-301. Independent partisan candidates; form.**

15

1 (a) Independent candidates for partisan public
2 offices may be nominated by filing a signed petition in
3 substantially the following form:

4
5 PETITION FOR NOMINATION
6

7 I,, swear or affirm that I was born on,
8(year), that I have been a resident of the State of
9 Wyoming since, and that I am a registered voter of
10 Election District No., in Precinct No., County of
11, residing at, (if for the office of state senator
12 or representative, commissioner or other district office)
13 in Senate (House) (Commissioner or other) District,
14 State of Wyoming, (if for the office of governor), that I
15 am an unaffiliated voter or am otherwise not registered in
16 a major or minor political party and that I resided at the
17 physical residential addresses listed below during the past
18 five (5) years, and having obtained the number of
19 signatures required by law for nomination by petition, I
20 hereby request that my name be printed on the official
21 ballot at the next general election as an independent
22 candidate for the office of and declare that if
23 nominated and elected, I will qualify for the office.

1

2 (If for the office of United States senator or
3 representative in congress) I have not, at any time when
4 knowingly seeking nomination or election to this office,
5 claimed or been currently claiming any residence or
6 received the benefits of residency from any other state,
7 excluding the benefits of residency related to or
8 incidental from maintaining a residence at or near the
9 United States capital.

10

11 (If for the office of governor) I have resided at the
12 following physical residential addresses during the past
13 five (5) years:

14

15 (Residence) (Date)

16

17 1.

18

19 2.

20

21 Dated the day of,(year).

22

23 (Signature)

1

2 The eligible, registered electors supporting my nomination,
3 and numbering not less than the number required under W.S.
4 22-5-304, are as follows:

5

6 (Signature) (Printed Name) (Residence) (Date)

7

8 1.

9

10 2.

11

12 VERIFICATION BY CIRCULATORS

13

14 I,, do hereby certify that I am a circulator of this
15 petition, and I solely and personally circulated this
16 petition, that all the signatures appearing herein were
17 made in my presence from (month) (day),
18(year) through (month) (day),(year), and
19 to the best of my knowledge and belief such signatures are
20 those of the persons whose names they purport to be.

21

22 (Signature)

23

1 **22-5-304. Qualifications and number of signers**
2 **required.**

3
4 (a) For a statewide partisan office, a petition shall
5 be signed by registered electors, resident in the state and
6 eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering not less
7 than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%) of the total number
8 of votes cast for representative in congress in the last
9 general election for the entire state.

10
11 (b) For a countywide partisan office, a petition
12 shall be signed by registered electors, resident in the
13 county and eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering
14 not less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%) of the
15 total number of votes cast for representative in congress
16 in the last general election for the entire county.

17
18 (c) For a district partisan election, a petition
19 shall be signed by registered electors, resident in the
20 district and eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering
21 not less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%) of the
22 total number of votes cast for the office in that
23 particular district in the last general election. If a

1 district's boundaries have changed since the last general
2 election, then the required number of petition signatures
3 shall not be less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%)
4 of the number of ~~registered voters in the current district~~
5 ~~boundaries at the close of day on the day immediately~~
6 ~~preceding the primary~~ votes cast for the particular office
7 in the last general election.

8
9 **22-5-307. Time for filing independent petitions.**

10
11 ~~Petitions filed~~ An independent candidate for partisan
12 public office shall obtain approval to circulate the
13 petition as required by W.S. 22-5-301(b) with the secretary
14 of state ~~and with or~~ the county clerk ~~shall be filed~~ not
15 less than ~~seventy (70)~~ eighty-one (81) days before ~~a the~~
16 date of the primary election in the applicable general
17 election year. The candidate shall have not more than
18 fourteen (14) additional days after obtaining approval of
19 the candidate's petition to file the petition with the
20 appropriate filing office.

1 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
4 Constitution.

5

6

(END)