

**DRAFT ONLY
NOT APPROVED FOR
INTRODUCTION**

HOUSE BILL NO.

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:

1

2 **22-5-301. Independent partisan candidates; form.**

3

4 (a) Independent candidates for partisan public
5 offices may be nominated by filing a signed petition in
6 substantially the following form:

7

8 PETITION FOR NOMINATION

9

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

1 official ballot at the next general election as an
2 independent candidate for the office of and declare
3 that if nominated and elected, I will qualify for the
4 office.

5

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

14

15 (If for the office of governor) I have resided at the
16 following physical residential addresses during the past
17 five (5) years:

18

19 (Residence)	(Date)
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20

21 1.	
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22

23 2.	
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1

2 Dated the day of,(year).

3

4 (Signature)

5

6 The eligible, registered electors supporting my nomination,
7 and numbering not less than the number required under W.S.
8 22-5-304, are as follows:

9

10 (Signature) (Printed Name) (Residence) (Date)

11

12 1.

13

14 2.

15

16 VERIFICATION BY CIRCULATORS

17

18 I,, do hereby certify that I am a circulator of this
19 petition, and I solely and personally circulated this
20 petition, that all the signatures appearing herein were
21 made in my presence from (month) (day),
22(year) through (month) (day),(year), and

1 to the best of my knowledge and belief such signatures are
2 those of the persons whose names they purport to be.

3
4 (Signature)

5
6 **22-5-304. Qualifications and number of signers**
7 **required.**

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

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

1 (c) For a district partisan election, a petition
2 shall be signed by registered electors, resident in the
3 district and eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering
4 not less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%) of the
5 total number of votes cast for the office in that
6 particular district in the last general election. If a
7 district's boundaries have changed since the last general
8 election, then the required number of petition signatures
9 shall not be less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%)
10 of the number of ~~registered voters in the current district~~
11 ~~boundaries at the close of day on the day immediately~~
12 ~~preceding the primary~~ votes cast for the particular office
13 in the last general election.

14

15 **22-5-307. Time for filing independent petitions.**

16

17 ~~Petitions filed with~~ An independent candidate for partisan
18 public office shall obtain approval to circulate the
19 petition as required by W.S. 22-5-301(b) from the secretary
20 of state ~~and with or~~ the county clerk ~~shall be filed~~ not
21 less than ~~seventy (70)~~ eighty-one (81) days before ~~a~~ the
22 date of the primary election in the applicable general
23 election year. The candidate shall have not more than

1 fourteen (14) additional days after obtaining approval of
2 the candidate's petition to file the petition with the
3 appropriate filing office.

4

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

9

10 (END)