

BILL SUMMARY

1st Session of the 60th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB1027
Version:	CS
Request Number:	13523
Author:	Speaker Hilbert/ Sen. Bullard
Date:	4/22/2025
Impact:	State Budget: \$0

Research Analysis

The committee substitute to SB 1027 requires the gist statement of any initiative or referendum petition to be explained in basic words and prohibits the gist statement from including euphemisms, code words, or any words that have special meaning for a particular profession. Further, the gist statement cannot reflect any partiality and must indicate whether a proposed measure will have a fiscal impact on the state and the potential source of funding. A notice that the petition is a public record and subject to the Oklahoma Open Meetings Act must be printed under the gist statement. The Secretary of State is authorized to confirm gist statements comply with these requirements and can remove any gist statement found in violation.

Additionally, the measure requires any person who circulates a petition to be a registered voter in Oklahoma and to give notice to those signing the petition if they are being compensated to circulate the petition and by who. Any person being compensated to circulate the petition must disclose that information to the Secretary of State and cannot receive compensation from an entity outside of Oklahoma or be compensated based on the number of signatures. A report must be sent to the Secretary of State weekly detailing any expenditures related to the circulation of the petition and attest that all donated funds were received from resources within Oklahoma.

Citizens signing a petition must include the county of residence associated with their voter registration card. The Secretary of State is authorized to establish procedures by which citizens can request to have their signature removed from the petition.

Finally, the measure establishes that the total number of signatures collected to meet the requirements for an initiative or referendum petition amending the Oklahoma Statutes from a single county is not to exceed 11.5 percent of the number of votes cast in the county during the most recent statewide general election for governor determined by the State Election Board and the total number of signatures collected to meet the requirements for an initiative or referendum petition amending the Oklahoma Constitution from a single county is not to exceed 20.8 percent of the number of votes cast in the county during the most recent statewide general election for governor determined by the State Election Board.

If any section of the measure is proved to be invalid it will not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the measure. Upon the effective date, the provisions of this measure will only be applicable to initiative petitions for which the Secretary of State has not set the date for circulation.

Prepared By: Keana Swadley

Fiscal Analysis

SB 1027 in its current form modifies and clarifies aspects of the initiative and petition process. Such changes to the process are not anticipated to have a direct fiscal impact of the State Budget or State Revenues.

Prepared By: John McPhetridge, House Fiscal Director

Other Considerations

None.

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