

By Senator Jones

40-616A-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to initiative petitions;
3 amending s. 100.371, F.S.; requiring the
4 Secretary of State to adopt rules that allow
5 the sponsor of an initiative proposing a
6 constitutional amendment to obtain valid
7 signatures or electronic signatures from
8 registered electors via the Internet; requiring
9 that signatures submitted via the Internet be
10 verified by the appropriate supervisor of
11 elections; providing an effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 100.371, Florida
16 Statutes, is amended to read:

17 100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on
18 ballot.--

19 (4) The sponsor shall submit signed and dated forms to
20 the appropriate supervisor of elections for verification as to
21 the number of registered electors whose valid signatures
22 appear thereon. The Secretary of State shall adopt rules
23 pursuant to s. 120.54 which provide a procedure for the
24 sponsor to obtain valid signatures or electronic signatures
25 from registered electors via the Internet. Each signature
26 submitted via the Internet must be verified by the appropriate
27 supervisor of elections as required by rule.The supervisor
28 shall promptly verify the signatures upon payment of the fee
29 required by s. 99.097. Upon completion of verification, the
30 supervisor shall execute a certificate indicating the total
31 number of signatures checked, the number of signatures

1 verified as valid and as being of registered electors, and the
2 distribution by congressional district. This certificate
3 shall be immediately transmitted to the Secretary of State.
4 The supervisor shall retain the signature forms for at least 1
5 year following the election in which the issue appeared on the
6 ballot or until the Division of Elections notifies the
7 supervisors of elections that the committee which circulated
8 the petition is no longer seeking to obtain ballot position.

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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11 SENATE SUMMARY

12 Requires that the Secretary of State adopt rules by which
13 the sponsor of an initiative petition for a
14 constitutional amendment may obtain signatures or
15 electronic signatures from registered electors through
16 the Internet. Requires that the signatures be verified by
17 the appropriate supervisor of elections.