Senate

939772

LEGISLATIVE ACTION House

Comm: RCS 03/11/2025

The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Gaetz and Grall) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

3 Delete lines 447 - 468

and insert:

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petition forms: prior to obtaining any signatures,

(a) Register as a political committee pursuant to s. 106.03 and submit the ballot title, ballot summary, article and section of the State Constitution being amended, and the full text of the proposed amendment to the Secretary of State. The proposed amendment and all forms filed in connection with this section

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must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats, with the form on which the signatures will be affixed, and shall obtain the approval of the Secretary of State of such form. Upon receipt, the Secretary of State shall assign the initiative petition a petition number and submit a copy of the proposed amendment to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for review, analysis, and estimation of the financial impact of the proposed amendment. After the review by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference, the division shall publish the form with the information provided for in subsection (3) and on which signatures for the initiative petition will be affixed The Secretary of State shall adopt rules pursuant to s. 120.54 prescribing the style and requirements of such form. Upon filing with the Secretary of State, the text of the proposed amendment and all forms filed in connection with this section must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats.

(b) 1. Post a \$1 million bond payable to the division. Such bond must be conditioned upon the payment of all fines adjudged against the sponsor. This requirement may be waived if a sponsor cannot post such a bond without imposing an undue burden on the sponsor's resources and provides a written certification of such inability given under oath to the division. However, a person may not be paid to circulate petitions if an undue burden oath has been filed pursuant to this paragraph. If a person is subsequently paid to circulate petitions, the waiver of the bond must be immediately rescinded, and signatures may not be validated until the bond is posted and any outstanding fines have been paid. If the sponsor receives a contribution as defined in s. 106.011:



- a. Monetary contributions must first be used to reimburse the supervisor of elections for any verification fees that were not paid because of the filing of an undue burden oath pursuant to s. 99.097(4).
- b. After the sponsor satisfies the obligation in subsubparagraph a., contributions must be used to secure a bond as required by this subsection.
- c. After the sponsor satisfies the obligations in subparagraphs a. and b., contributions may be used to pay petition circulators.
- 2. In lieu of a bond, the division may accept a cashier's check, official bank check, or money order in the amount of the bond.

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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =========

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 48

57 and insert:

> adopt certain rules; requiring a sponsor to post a certain bond before circulating petition forms; authorizing the waiver of such requirement if the sponsor provides a certain written certification under oath to the division; prohibiting sponsors from paying petition circulators if granted a waiver; providing that the waiver is rescinded and signatures may not be verified under a specified circumstance; requiring that monetary contributions received by the sponsor be used for specified purposes, in a specified order; authorizing the division to accept a cashier's check,



69	official ban	k check, or mo	ney order	in lieu of	f a bond;
70	providing th	e requirements	for		