

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-Seventh General Assembly  
STATE OF SAN ANDREAS**

**REENGROSSED**

LLS NO. 26-0728.03 Asa Miller x2741

**HOUSE BILL 26-023**

---

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Castillo**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Sarah Gomes, Mabrey, Medrano**

---

**House Committees**

Elections, Campaigns, and Ethics

**Senate Committees**

Not assigned

---

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

**CONCERNING PETITION SIGNATURE THRESHOLDS FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION  
BALLOT.**

---

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <https://saleg.uscgov.com>)*

This bill establishes uniform statewide petition signature requirements for candidates seeking placement on primary election ballots and refers the measure to the voters for approval at the November 2026 general election as Proposition A.

The bill sets fixed signature thresholds based on the scope of the office sought. Candidates for school board, city council, and mayor must submit at least 500 valid

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.

Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

signatures. Candidates for the State House of Representatives must submit 1,000 signatures. Candidates for county commissioner and other county offices must submit 1,300 signatures. Candidates for the State Senate must submit 1,500 signatures. Candidates for statewide executive branch offices, including Governor and other constitutional officers, must submit 3,000 valid signatures.

All signatures must be obtained from eligible electors residing within the jurisdiction of the office sought. The Secretary of State and relevant election officials are responsible for verification and certification of submitted petitions.

The purpose of the Act is to create clear, consistent, and proportionate ballot access standards designed to ensure candidates demonstrate a measurable level of public support prior to appearing on primary election ballots.

The Act is referred to the people and will take effect only if approved by a majority of voters at the November 2026 general election. If approved, it will take effect upon the Governor’s official declaration of the vote.

---

**1** *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of San*  
**2** *Andreas:*  
**3** **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.** This act shall be known and cited  
**4** as the “Primary Ballot Petition Signature Threshold Act.”  
**5** **SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND INTENT.** (a) The  
**6** General Assembly finds and declares that: (I) Ballot access  
**7** requirements should ensure that candidates demonstrate a  
**8** meaningful level of public support prior to appearing on a primary  
**9** election ballot; (II) Signature thresholds should be clear, uniform,  
**10** and proportionate to the scope of the office sought; (III)  
**11** Reasonable petition requirements promote orderly elections while  
**12** preserving open access to candidacy; (IV) It is the intent of the  
**13** General Assembly to establish fixed statewide petition signature  
**14** thresholds for placement on primary election ballots for specified  
**15** public offices. (b) The General Assembly further finds that

1 signature requirements should not unduly burden ballot access or  
2 disadvantage candidates with limited financial resources.

3 **SECTION 3. DEFINITIONS.** For purposes of this Act, unless the  
4 context otherwise requires: (a) “Primary election” means an  
5 election conducted for the purpose of nominating candidates of a  
6 political party for public office. (b) “Petition candidate” means a  
7 candidate seeking placement on the primary ballot through the  
8 submission of voter signatures. (c) “Eligible elector” means a  
9 registered voter qualified to vote in the relevant jurisdiction and  
10 party primary. (d) “Valid signature” means a signature that has  
11 been verified by the appropriate election official as belonging to  
12 an eligible elector and complying with all statutory petition

13 requirements. **SECTION 4. PETITION SIGNATURE**

14 **REQUIREMENTS FOR PRIMARY BALLOT ACCESS.** (a) A  
15 petition candidate seeking placement on a primary election ballot  
16 shall submit valid signatures from eligible electors in the  
17 following amounts: (I) School Board, City Council, or Mayor:  
18 Not fewer than five hundred (500) valid signatures, or one percent  
19 of the eligible electors within the jurisdiction, whichever is less.  
20 (II) State House of Representatives: Not fewer than one thousand  
21 (1,000) valid signatures, or one percent of the registered electors  
22 within the district, whichever is less. (III) County Commissioner  
23 or County Office: Not fewer than one thousand three hundred  
24 (1,300) valid signatures, or one percent of the registered electors  
25 within the jurisdiction, whichever is less. (IV) State Senate: Not  
26 fewer than one thousand five hundred (1,500) valid signatures, or  
27 one percent of the registered electors within the district,  
28 whichever is less. (V) State Executive Branch Offices, including  
29 Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney  
30 General, and State Treasurer: Not fewer than three thousand  
31 (3,000) valid signatures, or one-half of one percent of registered  
32 electors statewide, whichever is less. (b) All signatures must be  
33 obtained from eligible electors residing within the jurisdiction of

1 the office sought. (c) The Secretary of State shall verify signatures  
2 in accordance with existing election procedures. (d) The General  
3 Assembly shall adjust signature thresholds every four years based  
4 on updated voter registration data, consistent with the  
5 percentage-based limits established in this section. **SECTION 5.**  
6 **VERIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION.** (a) Petition signatures  
7 shall be submitted not later than seventy days before the  
8 scheduled primary election. (b) The Secretary of State or  
9 appropriate county election official shall review and certify  
10 whether the required number of valid signatures has been  
11 submitted. (c) Candidates failing to meet the required threshold  
12 shall not be placed on the primary ballot. (d) A candidate shall be  
13 provided a cure period of not less than five business days to  
14 submit additional signatures if the initial submission is determined  
15 to be insufficient. **SECTION 6. UNIFORM APPLICATION.** The  
16 signature thresholds established in this Act shall apply uniformly  
17 across all political parties and petition candidates unless otherwise  
18 required by federal law, and shall be administered in a manner  
19 that ensures equal access to the ballot. **SECTION 7.**  
20 **PARTY-AFFILIATED SIGNATURE REQUIREMENTS.** (a)  
21 Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, a petition  
22 candidate seeking placement on a political party's primary  
23 election ballot shall obtain petition signatures only from eligible  
24 electors who are registered members of the same political party as  
25 the candidate at the time the signature is collected, provided that  
26 unaffiliated electors may sign petitions for any party primary  
27 candidate if permitted under state election law. (b) Election  
28 officials shall verify that each petition signature corresponds to a  
29 registered elector affiliated with the political party for which the  
30 candidate seeks nomination. Signatures from electors not  
31 affiliated with that political party shall be deemed invalid. (c)  
32 **Minor Party Exception.** (I) If, within the jurisdiction of the office  
33 sought, the total number of registered electors affiliated with a

1 political party is less than three times the required petition  
2 signature threshold established in Section 4 of this Act, the  
3 candidate may obtain signatures from: Registered electors  
4 affiliated with the candidate’s political party; and Unaffiliated  
5 registered electors residing within the jurisdiction. (II) In no event  
6 shall a candidate rely exclusively on signatures from a different  
7 political party. (d) The Secretary of State shall publish annually  
8 the number of registered electors affiliated with each political  
9 party by jurisdiction to determine eligibility for the minor party  
10 exception. (e) Nothing in this section shall apply to independent  
11 or unaffiliated candidates where separate statutory provisions  
12 govern ballot access. (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed  
13 to prohibit a political party from adopting less restrictive signature  
14 requirements for candidates seeking placement on its primary  
15 ballot, consistent with state law. **SECTION 8. REFERENDUM.**  
16 ~~Pursuant to Section 4 of Article VII of the Constitution of the~~  
17 ~~State of San Andreas, this Act shall be submitted to the registered~~  
18 ~~electors of the State of San Andreas for their approval or rejection~~  
19 ~~at the general election to be held in November 2026. The ballot~~  
20 ~~title shall be designated as “PROPOSITION A”, and the measure~~  
21 ~~shall take effect only if approved by a majority of the votes cast~~  
22 ~~thereon. If approved, this Act shall take effect upon the official~~  
23 ~~declaration of the vote by the Governor. If approved, this Act shall~~  
24 ~~apply to all primary elections occurring on or after January 1,~~  
25 ~~2027.~~ **SECTION 8. FORM OF PETITION — PROHIBITION**  
26 **ON ONLINE OR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES.** (a) Petition  
27 signatures required under this Act shall be collected only in  
28 physical, written form on paper petition sheets. (b) Each petition  
29 signature must be: (I) Signed by hand by the elector; (II)  
30 Accompanied by the printed name, residential address, and date of  
31 signing; and (III) Collected in the physical presence of a petition  
32 circulator. (c) Electronic, digital, scanned, photocopied, or  
33 electronically transmitted signatures shall not be valid for

1 purposes of satisfying the petition signature requirements of this  
2 Act. (d) Signatures collected through internet-based platforms,  
3 including but not limited to online petition websites or electronic  
4 signature services, shall be deemed invalid and shall not be  
5 counted toward ballot qualification. (e) Nothing in this section  
6 prohibits the electronic filing of completed petition forms by a  
7 candidate, provided the underlying signatures were collected in  
8 compliance with subsections (a) through (d). **SECTION 9.**  
9 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** Act subject to petition – effective date. This  
10 act takes effect on August 18, 2026, assuming the general  
11 assembly adjourns sine die on May 18, 2026; except that, if a veto  
12 petition is filed pursuant to Article II, Section 15 of the state  
13 constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
14 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
15 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be  
16 held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the  
17 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.