

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0173

Independent candidate requirements.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Haroldson, Angelos, Bear, Brady, Bratten, Brown, G, Filer, Geringer, Hoelt, Johnson, Knapp, Lien, Locke, McCann, Rodriguez-Williams, Schmid, Singh, Smith, S, Webb, Webber, Wharff and Winter and Senator(s) Boner, Pearson, Smith, D and Steinmetz

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:

13

1 **22-5-301. Independent partisan candidates; form.**

2

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

6

7 PETITION FOR NOMINATION

8

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

1 candidate for the office of and declare that if
2 nominated and elected, I will qualify for the office.

3

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

12

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

16

17	(Residence)	(Date)
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18

19	1.
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20

21	2.
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22

23 Dated the day of,(year).

1

2

..... (Signature)

3

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

7

8 (Signature) (Printed Name) (Residence) (Date)

9

10 1.

11

12 2.

13

14 VERIFICATION BY CIRCULATORS

15

16 I,, do hereby certify that I am a circulator of this
17 petition, and I solely and personally circulated this
18 petition, that all the signatures appearing herein were
19 made in my presence from (month) (day),
20(year) through (month) (day),(year), and
21 to the best of my knowledge and belief such signatures are
22 those of the persons whose names they purport to be.

23

1 (Signature)

2

3 **22-5-304. Qualifications and number of signers**
4 **required.**

5

6 (a) For a statewide partisan office, a petition shall
7 be signed by registered electors, resident in the state and
8 eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering not less
9 than ~~two percent (2%)~~ three percent (3%) of the total
10 number of votes cast for representative in congress in the
11 last general election for the entire state.

12

13 (b) For a countywide partisan office, a petition
14 shall be signed by registered electors, resident in the
15 county and eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering
16 not less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ three percent (3%) of the
17 total number of votes cast for representative in congress
18 in the last general election for the entire county.

19

20 (c) For a district partisan election, a petition
21 shall be signed by registered electors, resident in the
22 district and eligible to vote for the petitioner, numbering
23 not less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%) of the

1 total number of votes cast for the office in that
2 particular district in the last general election. If a
3 district's boundaries have changed since the last general
4 election, then the required number of petition signatures
5 shall not be less than ~~two percent (2%)~~ five percent (5%)
6 of the number of ~~registered voters in the current district~~
7 ~~boundaries at the close of day on the day immediately~~
8 ~~preceding the primary election~~ votes cast for the
9 particular office in the last general election.

10
11 **22-5-307. Time for filing independent petitions.**

12
13 ~~Petitions filed with~~ An independent candidate for partisan
14 public office shall give notice of the candidate's
15 intention to be nominated by petition to the secretary of
16 state and ~~with~~ to the county clerk ~~shall be filed~~ not less
17 than ~~seventy (70) days~~ eighty-one (81) days before ~~a~~ the
18 date of the primary election in the applicable general
19 election year. The candidate shall have not more than
20 fourteen (14) additional days after giving notice of the
21 candidate's intention to be nominated by petition to file
22 the petition with the secretary of state and with the
23 county clerk.

1

2 **Section 2.** This act is effective July 1, 2025.

3

4 (END)