

**First Regular Session  
Seventy-first General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**INTRODUCED**

LLS NO. 17-0126.01 Kate Meyer x4348

**HOUSE BILL 17-1163**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Everett, Ransom, Williams D.**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Neville T. and Marble,**

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**House Committees**

State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101      **CONCERNING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS AFFECTING CANDIDATES**  
102              **SEEKING ACCESS TO THE BALLOT BY MEANS OF A PETITION, AND,**  
103              **IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, ALTERING THE DEADLINES BY**  
104              **WHICH CANDIDATE PETITIONS ARE REQUIRED TO BE FILED AND**  
105              **INCREASING THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES NEEDED TO QUALIFY**  
106              **PETITIONS FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.**

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**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 <http://leg.colorado.gov/>.)*

The bill extends the amount of time that elections officials may

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*  
*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

review candidate petitions by making a concomitant reduction in the amount of time that candidates may circulate such petitions.

The bill also increases the number of signers needed to qualify petitions for candidates for certain partisan public offices.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-801, **amend** (5)  
3 as follows:

4 **1-4-801. Designation of party candidates by petition.** (5) Party  
5 petitions shall not be circulated nor any signatures be obtained prior to the  
6 first Monday in February. Petitions shall be filed no later than ~~eighty-five~~  
7 ONE HUNDRED days before the primary election.

8 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-802, **amend**  
9 (1)(c) introductory portion, (1)(c)(IV), (1)(c)(V), and (1)(f) as follows:

10 **1-4-802. Petitions for nominating minor political party and**  
11 **unaffiliated candidates for a partisan office.** (1) Candidates for  
12 partisan public offices to be filled at a general or congressional vacancy  
13 election who do not wish to affiliate with a major political party may be  
14 nominated, other than by a primary election or a convention, in the  
15 following manner:

16 (c) Every petition for the office of president and vice president,  
17 for statewide office, for congressional district office, for the office of  
18 member of the general assembly, for district attorney, and for county  
19 office ~~shall~~ MUST be signed by eligible electors residing within the district  
20 or political subdivision in which the officer is to be elected. Except as  
21 otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, the number of  
22 signatures of eligible electors on a petition ~~shall be~~ IS as follows:

23 (IV) The lesser of ~~six hundred~~ ONE THOUSAND SIGNERS or ~~two~~

1 SIGNERS EQUAL TO THIRTY percent of the votes cast in the senate district  
2 in the most recent general election for the office of member of the state  
3 senate;

4 (V) The lesser of ~~four hundred~~ ONE THOUSAND SIGNERS or ~~two~~  
5 SIGNERS EQUAL TO THIRTY percent of votes cast in the house district in the  
6 most recent general election for the office of member of the state house  
7 of representatives;

8 (f) (I) Except as provided by ~~subparagraph (H) of this paragraph~~  
9 ~~(f)~~ SUBSECTION (1)(f)(II) OF THIS SECTION, petitions ~~shall~~ MUST be filed  
10 no later than 3 p.m. on the ~~one hundred seventeenth~~ HUNDREDTH day  
11 before the general election or, for a congressional vacancy election, no  
12 later than 3 p.m. on the ~~twentieth~~ THIRTY-FOURTH day after the date of the  
13 order issued by the governor.

14 (II) Petitions to nominate candidates of minor political parties  
15 ~~shall~~ MUST be filed no later than ~~eighty-five~~ ONE HUNDRED days before  
16 the primary election as specified in section 1-4-101.

17 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 1-4-803, **amend** (2)  
18 as follows:

19 **1-4-803. Petitions for nominating school district directors.**

20 (2) The nomination petition must be filed no later than ~~sixty-seven~~  
21 EIGHTY-ONE days before the election date.

22 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 1-4-805 as  
23 follows:

24 **1-4-805. Petitions for nominating municipal candidates in**

25 **coordinated elections.** Any person who desires to be a candidate for a  
26 municipal office in a coordinated election shall, in lieu of the  
27 requirements of this ~~article~~ ARTICLE 4, comply with the nominating

1 petition procedure set forth in the "Colorado Municipal Election Code of  
2 1965", article 10 of title 31; ~~C.R.S.~~; except that part 11 of this article  
3 ARTICLE 4, concerning write-in candidate affidavits, ~~shall apply~~ APPLIES  
4 in such municipal elections, and any nominating petition may be  
5 circulated and signed beginning on the ninety-first day prior to the  
6 election and shall be filed with the municipal clerk no later than the  
7 ~~seventy-first~~ EIGHTY-FIFTH day prior to the date of the election. The  
8 petition may be amended to correct or replace signatures that the clerk  
9 finds are not in apparent conformity with the requirements of the  
10 municipal election code at any time before the sixty-seventh day before  
11 the election.

12           **SECTION 5. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
13 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
14 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
15 9, 2017, if adjournment sine die is on May 10, 2017); except that, if a  
16 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
17 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
18 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
19 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
20 November 2018 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
21 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.