

## HOUSE BILL No. 2334

By Committee on Elections

2-9

1 AN ACT concerning gubernatorial elections; dealing with petition  
2 requirements for independent candidates; amending K.S.A. 2016 Supp.  
3 25-303 and repealing the existing section.  
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 Section 1. K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 25-303 is hereby amended to read as  
7 follows: 25-303. (a) This section shall not apply to city and school  
8 elections, nor to election of other officers provided by law to be elected in  
9 April.

10 (b) (1) All nominations other than party nominations shall be  
11 independent nominations. No person who has declared and retains a party  
12 affiliation in accordance with K.S.A. 25-3301, and amendments thereto,  
13 shall be eligible to accept an independent nomination for any office.

14 (2) *Except as provided in paragraph (3)*, independent nominations of  
15 candidates for any office to be filled by the voters of the state at large may  
16 be made by nomination petitions signed by not less than 5,000 qualified  
17 voters for each candidate and in the case of governor and lieutenant  
18 governor for each pair of such candidates.

19 (3) *Petitions for the nomination of the pair of candidates for the*  
20 *offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall be required to contain*  
21 *signatures of qualified electors from each congressional district in*  
22 *proportion to the number of votes cast for the offices of governor and*  
23 *lieutenant governor in the most recent election for such offices.*

24 (c) Independent nominations of candidates for offices to be filled by  
25 the voters of a county, district or other division less than a state may be  
26 made by nomination petitions signed by voters equal in number to not less  
27 than 4% of the current total of qualified voters of such county, district or  
28 other division as compiled by the office of the secretary of state in the case  
29 of state offices and as compiled in the office of the county election officer  
30 and certified to the secretary of state in accordance with K.S.A. 25-2311,  
31 and amendments thereto, in the case of local offices, and in no case to be  
32 signed by less than 25 nor more than 5,000 qualified voters of such county,  
33 district or division, for each candidate.

34 (d) Independent nominations of candidates for offices to be filled by  
35 the voters of a township may be made by nomination papers signed by not  
36 less than 5% of the current total of qualified voters of such township,

1 computed as above provided, for each candidate, and in no case to be  
2 signed by less than 10 such voters of such township for each candidate.

3 (e) The signatures to such nomination petitions need not all be  
4 appended to one paper, but each registered voter signing an independent  
5 certificate of nomination shall add to the signature such petitioner's place  
6 of residence and post office address. All signers of each separate  
7 nomination petition shall reside in the same county and election district of  
8 the office sought. The affidavit of the candidate or a petition circulator  
9 shall be appended to each petition and shall contain, at the end of each set  
10 of documents carried by each circulator or candidate, a verification, signed  
11 by the circulator or candidate, to the effect that such circulator or candidate  
12 personally witnessed the signing of the petition by each person whose  
13 name appears thereon.

14 (f) No such nomination paper shall contain the name of a candidate  
15 for governor without in the same such paper containing the name of a  
16 candidate for lieutenant governor, and if it does it shall be void.

17 (g) No person shall join in nominating more than one person for the  
18 same office, and if this is done, the name of such petitioner shall not be  
19 counted on any certificate.

20 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2016 Supp. 25-303 is hereby repealed.

21 Sec. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
22 publication in the statute book.