

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 385

2 INTRODUCED BY S. GUNDERSON

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN
 5 AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XIV, SECTION 9, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO INCREASE THE
 6 NUMBER OF QUALIFIED ELECTORS REQUIRED TO SIGN AN INITIATIVE PETITION FOR A
 7 CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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11 **Section 1.** Article XIV, section 9, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

12 **"Section 9. Amendment by initiative.** (1) The people may also propose constitutional amendments
 13 by initiative. Petitions including the full text of the proposed amendment shall be signed by at least ~~ten~~twenty
 14 percent of the qualified electors of the state. That number shall include at least ~~ten~~twenty percent of the
 15 qualified electors in each of ~~two-fifths~~three-fifths of the legislative districts.

16 (2) The petitions shall be filed with the secretary of state. If the petitions are found to have been
 17 signed by the required number of electors, the secretary of state shall cause the amendment to be published as
 18 provided by law twice each month for two months previous to the next regular state-wide election.

19 (3) At that election, the proposed amendment shall be submitted to the qualified electors for approval
 20 or rejection. If approved by a majority voting thereon, it shall become a part of the constitution effective the first
 21 day of July following its approval, unless the amendment provides otherwise."

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23 NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Two-thirds vote required.** Because [section 1] is a legislative proposal
 24 to amend the constitution, Article XIV, section 8, of the Montana constitution requires an affirmative roll call vote
 25 of two-thirds of all the members of the legislature, whether one or more bodies, for passage.

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27 NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Effective date.** [This act] is effective upon approval by the electorate.

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