

## HB 1749 -- Circulation and Approval of Initiative Petitions

Sponsor: Storch

This bill changes the laws regarding the circulation and approval of initiative petitions. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Prohibits the compensation of petition circulators based on the number of signatures obtained;

(2) Specifies that a petition circulator cannot have been convicted of, found guilty of, or pled guilty to any offense involving or considered forgery;

(3) Specifies that anyone who knowingly signs a name other than his or her own name to a petition will be guilty of a class one election offense;

(4) Specifies that signatures obtained prior to the date the official ballot title is certified by the Secretary of State will not be counted; and

(5) Requires, within 45 days after a petition form is approved, the person who submitted the petition to provide at least 1,000 signatures of registered voters in support of the petition. Requirements for the verification of signatures, preparation of a fiscal note, and notification in case a petition is not certified by an election authority are specified in the bill.