

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 694

103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MURRAY.

1812H.01I

DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 116, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to obtaining electronic signatures on initiative petitions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 116, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 116.055, to read as follows:

116.055. 1. The secretary of state shall create and maintain a website allowing for the submission of electronic signatures for every initiative and referendum petition. Any voter may choose whether to submit his or her electronic signature for petition or sign the petition manually.

2. The secretary of state and each local election authority shall accept an electronic signature meeting the requirements of this section and include the signature in the count of signatures necessary to validate the petition. No circulator signature or notarization shall be required for electronic signatures.

3. The use of an electronic signature shall have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature on a petition only if the electronic signature complies with the following requirements:

(1) The electronic signature is submitted by a voter to a website established under subsection 1 of this section;

(2) A voter, at the time of submitting the electronic signature, also submits:

(a) His or her name, address, county of residence, and date of birth as shown on his or her voter registration record;

(b) His or her assent to the petition document; and

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets ~~thus~~ in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

18 (c) A unique identifier that shall be provided to each registered voter by the
19 secretary of state;

20 (3) The electronic signature is correlated with the voter as evidenced by a
21 reasonable match with voter registration records and voting records that correspond to
22 at least one item of state-qualified data;

23 (4) The electronic signature has not been subsequently repudiated by the voter
24 through a process established by the secretary of state;

25 (5) The electronic signature has not been previously submitted and verified as a
26 signature on the same petition; and

27 (6) The electronic signature conforms to reasonable rules promulgated by the
28 secretary of state.

29 4. The secretary of state shall promulgate rules to carry out this section. The
30 rules and regulations shall require, at a minimum, the maintenance of an audit trail of
31 public internet protocol addresses identified with the session in which the electronic
32 signature was submitted, the data submitted by the voter, the time and date of the
33 submission, and the state-qualified data used for verification.

34 5. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section 536.010, that is
35 created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective only if it
36 complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if applicable,
37 section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the powers
38 vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the
39 effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,
40 then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August
41 28, 2025, shall be invalid and void.

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