



**Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Committee Statement
LB 298**

Hearing Date: January 25, 2007

Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

Introducer(s): (Burling, 33)

Title: Change the number of signatures required on nominating petitions

Roll Call Vote – Final Committee Action:

- Advanced to General File
 - X Advanced to General File with Amendments
 - Indefinitely Postponed
-

Vote Results:

7	Yes	Senators Adams, Aguilar, Avery, Friend, Karpisek, Mines, Rogert
0	No	
0	Present, not voting	
1	Absent	Senator Pahls

Proponents:

Senator Carroll Burling
Neal Erickson

Representing:

Introducer
Secretary of State

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 298 changes the number of signatures required on nominating petitions.

For nonpartisan offices, other than members of the Board of Regents or Class III school districts, the number of signatures required is capped at 2000. Currently, there is no cap. If the district in which the petitions are circulated comprises more than two counties, and each of the counties comprising the district contains at least one hundred registered voters, at least 25 signatures will be obtained in each county comprising the district.

The bill also changes the number of signatures for partisan offices. For each partisan office to be filled by the registered voters of the entire state, the signature requirement is increased from at least 2000 to at least 4000 with the additional requirement that at least 50 signatures be obtained in each of one-third of the counties in the state.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

The committee amendment clarifies provisions relating to petitions for nonpartisan offices. If the district in which the petitions are circulated comprises two or more counties, at least twenty-five signatures will be obtained from each county which has at least one hundred registered voters in the district.

Senator Ray Aguilar, Chairperson