

ONE HUNDRED FIRST LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2010
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LR300CA

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 17, 2010
Committee On: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs
Introducer: Nelson
One Liner: Constitutional amendment to change signature requirements for initiative petitions

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Avery, Giese, Karpisek, Krist, Price, Sullivan
Nay:	1	Senator Janssen
Absent:	1	Senator Pahls
Present Not Voting:		

Proponents:
Senator John Nelson

Representing:
Introducer

Opponents:
Michael Kelsey
Jerry Hoffman
Gary Krumland
Kent Bernbeck

Representing:
Nebraska Cattlemen
Nebraska State Education Association
League of Nebraska Municipalities
Self

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LR 300CA provides that initiatives to enact laws will be signed by three percent (3%) of the registered voters and will be distributed to include three percent (3%) of the registered voters of each of two-fifths of the counties of the state. Currently, initiatives to enact laws require signatures by seven percent (7%) of the voters and are distributed to include five percent (5%) of the registered voters in each of two-fifths of the counties.

For an initiative to change the Constitution, the petition will be signed by five percent (5%) of the registered voters and such voters will be distributed to include five percent (5%) of the registered voters of each of two-fifths of the counties. Currently, initiatives to change the Constitution require ten percent (10%) of the registered voters distributed to include five percent (5%) of the registered voters in each of two-fifths of the counties.

Explanation of amendments:

The committee amendment strikes the original sections and replaces them with the following new language:

For initiative petitions enacting a law, the petition will be signed by four percent (4%) of the registered voters of the state. Currently, these initiative petitions require signatures by seven percent (7%) of the registered voters.

Bill Avery, Chairperson