

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 627

Introduced by Morfeld, 46.

Read first time January 20, 2021

Committee: Natural Resources

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to elections; to amend sections 32-512 and
2 70-611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions
3 relating to qualified voters in certain public power district
4 elections; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original
5 sections.
6 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 32-512, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
2 amended to read:

3 32-512 (1) After the selection of the original board of directors of
4 a public power district as provided for in sections 70-803 and 70-805 or
5 a district as provided for in sections 70-604 and 70-609, their
6 successors shall be nominated and elected on the nonpartisan ballot,
7 except that in districts receiving annual gross revenue of less than
8 forty million dollars, the candidates for the board of directors shall
9 not appear on the ballot in the primary election. The term of each
10 elected director shall be not more than six years or until his or her
11 successor is elected and qualified. Candidates for the board of directors
12 shall meet the qualifications found in sections 70-610 and 70-619.

13 (2) A registered voter (a) Registered voters residing within the
14 chartered territory, (b) residing within the incorporated or
15 unincorporated area of a county that includes a city of the metropolitan
16 class or a city of the primary class and in which county any portion of
17 the chartered territory of a district with an annual gross revenue of one
18 hundred fifty million dollars or more is included, or (c) and registered
19 voters duly certified in accordance with section 70-604.03 shall be
20 qualified to vote in the district as certified pursuant to section
21 70-611.

22 (3) The registered voters of a subdivision created under subsection
23 (1) of section 70-612 may only cast their ballots for candidates for
24 directors to be elected from such subdivision and for candidates for
25 directors to be elected at large from the whole district. The registered
26 voters of a subdivision created under subsection (2) or (3) of section
27 70-612 may only cast their ballots for candidates for directors to be
28 elected from such subdivision.

29 Sec. 2. Section 70-611, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
30 amended to read:

31 70-611 (1) Not later than January 5 in each even-numbered year, the

1 secretary of the district in districts grossing forty million dollars or
2 more annually shall certify to the Secretary of State on forms prescribed
3 by the Secretary of State the names of the counties in which all
4 registered voters are eligible to vote for public power district
5 candidates and for other counties the names of the election precincts
6 within each county, including those municipalities in which voters are
7 eligible to vote as provided in subsection (2) of section 32-512 and
8 excluding the municipalities in which voters are not eligible to vote on
9 public power district candidates. The secretary shall also certify the
10 number of directors to be elected and the length of terms for which each
11 is to be elected.

12 (2) Districts grossing less than forty million dollars annually
13 shall prepare the same type of certification as districts grossing over
14 forty million dollars annually and file such certification with the
15 Secretary of State not later than July 1 of each even-numbered year.

16 (3) The secretary of each district shall, at the time of filing the
17 certification, cause to be published once in a newspaper or newspapers of
18 general circulation within the district a list of the incumbent directors
19 and naming the counties or election precincts, including those
20 municipalities in which voters are eligible to vote as provided in
21 subsection (2) of section 32-512 and excluding those municipalities in
22 which voters are not eligible to vote for public power district
23 candidates, in the same general form as the certification filed with the
24 Secretary of State. A certified copy of the published notice shall be
25 filed with the Secretary of State within ten days after such publication.

26 Sec. 3. Original sections 32-512 and 70-611, Reissue Revised
27 Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.