

AMENDMENTS TO LB285

Introduced by Brewer, 43.

1           1. Insert the following new sections:

2           Sec. 12. Section 32-716, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
3 amended to read:

4           32-716 (1) Any person, group, or association desiring to form a new  
5 political party shall present to the Secretary of State petitions  
6 containing signatures totaling not less than one percent of the total  
7 votes cast for Governor at the most recent general election for such  
8 office. The signatures of registered voters on such petitions shall be so  
9 distributed as to include registered voters totaling at least one percent  
10 of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election  
11 in each of the three congressional districts in this state. Petition  
12 signers and petition circulators shall conform to the requirements of  
13 sections 32-629 and 32-630. The petitions shall be filed with the  
14 Secretary of State no later than January 15 ~~February 1~~ before any  
15 statewide primary election for the new political party to be entitled to  
16 have ballot position in the primary election of that year. If the new  
17 political party desires to be established and have ballot position for  
18 the general election and not in the primary election of that year, the  
19 petitions shall be filed with the Secretary of State on or before July 15  
20 ~~August 1~~ of that year. Prior to the circulation of petitions to form a  
21 new political party, a sample copy of the petitions shall be filed with  
22 the Secretary of State by the person, group, or association seeking to  
23 establish the new party. The sample petition shall be accompanied by the  
24 name and address of the person or the names and addresses of the members  
25 of the group or association sponsoring the petition to form a new  
26 political party. The sponsor or sponsors of the petition shall file, as  
27 one instrument, all petition papers comprising a new political party

1 petition for signature verification with the Secretary of State. All  
2 signed petitions in circulation but not filed with the Secretary of State  
3 shall become invalid after July 15 in the year of the statewide general  
4 election.

5 (2) The petition shall conform to the requirements of section  
6 32-628. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form of the petition  
7 for the formation of a new political party. The petition shall be  
8 addressed to and filed with the Secretary of State and shall state its  
9 purpose and the name of the party to be formed. Such name shall not be or  
10 include the name of any political party then in existence or any word  
11 forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence,  
12 and in order to avoid confusion regarding party affiliation of a  
13 candidate or registered voter, the name of the party to be formed shall  
14 not include the word "independent" or "nonpartisan". The petition shall  
15 contain a statement substantially as follows:

16 We, the undersigned registered voters of the State of Nebraska and  
17 the county of ....., being severally qualified to sign this  
18 petition, respectfully request that the above-named new political party  
19 be formed in the State of Nebraska, and each for himself or herself says:  
20 I have personally signed this petition on the date opposite my name; I am  
21 a registered voter of the State of Nebraska and county of .....  
22 and am qualified to sign this petition; and my date of birth and city,  
23 village, or post office address and my street and number or voting  
24 precinct are correctly written after my name.

25 Sec. 13. Section 32-717, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
26 amended to read:

27 32-717 Within twenty business ~~ten~~ days after all the petitions to  
28 form a new political party which contain signatures are filed with the  
29 Secretary of State, he or she shall determine the validity and  
30 sufficiency of such petitions and signatures. Clerical and technical  
31 errors in a petition shall be disregarded if the forms prescribed by the

1 Secretary of State are substantially followed. If the petitions are  
2 determined to be sufficient and valid, the Secretary of State shall issue  
3 a certification establishing the new political party. Copies of such  
4 certification shall be issued to the person, group, or association  
5 forming the new political party. Within twenty days after the  
6 certification of establishment of the new political party by the  
7 Secretary of State, the person, group, or association forming the new  
8 political party or its new officers shall file with the Secretary of  
9 State the constitution and bylaws of such party along with a certified  
10 list of the names and addresses of the officers of the new political  
11 party.

12 2. On page 6, after line 27 insert the following new subsection:

13 "(7) Nothing in this section shall prevent a political party or  
14 candidate from using the list of registered voters for campaign  
15 activities."

16 3. Renumber the remaining sections and correct the repealer  
17 accordingly.