

HOUSE BILL NO. 521

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES WELLS (Sponsor) AND DUGGER (Co-sponsor).

1360L.011

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 190, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to recalls of ambulance district board members.

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

Section A. Chapter 190, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 190.056, to read as follows:

190.056. 1. Each member of an ambulance district board of directors shall be subject to recall from office by the registered voters of the election district from which the member was elected. Proceedings may be commenced for the recall of any such member by the filing of a notice of intention to circulate a recall petition under this section.

2. Proceedings may not be commenced against any member if, at the time of commencement, such member:

(1) Has not held office during the member's current term for a period of more than one hundred eighty days; or

(2) Has one hundred eighty days or less remaining in the member's term; or

(3) Has had a recall election determined in the member's favor within the current term of office.

3. The notice of intention to circulate a recall petition shall be served personally, or by certified mail, on the board member sought to be recalled. A copy thereof shall be filed, along with an affidavit of the time and manner of service, with the election authority, as defined in chapter 115. A separate notice shall be filed for each board member sought to be recalled and shall contain all of the following:

(1) The name of the board member sought to be recalled;

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 (2) A statement, not exceeding two hundred words in length, of the reasons for the
19 proposed recall; and

20 (3) The names and business or residential addresses of at least one but not more
21 than five proponents of the recall.

22 4. Within seven days after the filing of the notice of intention, the board member
23 may file with the election authority a statement, not exceeding two hundred words in
24 length, in answer to the statement of the proponents. If an answer is filed, the board
25 member shall also serve a copy of it, personally or by certified mail, on one of the
26 proponents named in the notice of intention. The statement and answer are intended solely
27 to be used for the information of the voters. No insufficiency in form or substance of such
28 statements shall affect the validity of the election proceedings.

29 5. Before any signature shall be affixed to a recall petition, the petition is required
30 to bear all of the following:

31 (1) A request that an election be called to elect a successor to the board member;

32 (2) A copy of the notice of intention, including the statement of grounds for recall;

33 (3) The answer of the board member sought to be recalled, if any exists. If the
34 board member has not answered, the petition shall so state; and

35 (4) A place for each signer to affix the signer's signature, printed name, and
36 residential address, including any address in a city, town, village, or unincorporated
37 community.

38 6. Each section of the petition, when submitted to the election authority, shall have
39 attached to it an affidavit signed by the person circulating such section, setting forth all of
40 the following:

41 (1) The printed name of the affiant;

42 (2) The residential address of the affiant;

43 (3) That the affiant circulated that section and saw the appended signatures be
44 written;

45 (4) That according to the best information and belief of the affiant, each signature
46 is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be;

47 (5) That the affiant is a registered voter of the election district of the board member
48 sought to be recalled; and

49 (6) The dates between which all the signatures to the petition were obtained.

50 7. A recall petition shall be filed with the election authority not more than one
51 hundred eighty days after the filing of the notice of intention.

52 **8. The number of qualified signatures required in order to recall a board member**
53 **shall be equal in number to at least twenty-five percent of the number of voters who voted**
54 **in the most recent gubernatorial election in such election district.**

55 **9. Within twenty days from the filing of the recall petition the election authority**
56 **shall determine whether the petition was signed by the required number of qualified**
57 **signatures. The election authority shall file with the petition a certificate showing the**
58 **results of the examination. The election authority shall give the proponents a copy of the**
59 **certificate upon their request.**

60 **10. If the election authority certifies the petition to be insufficient, it may be**
61 **supplemented within ten days of the date of certification by filing additional petition**
62 **sections containing all of the information required by this section. Within ten days after**
63 **the supplemental copies are filed, the election authority shall file with them a certificate**
64 **stating whether the petition as supplemented is sufficient.**

65 **11. If the certificate shows that the petition as supplemented is insufficient, no**
66 **action shall be taken on it; however, the petition shall remain on file.**

67 **12. If the election authority finds the signatures on the petition, together with any**
68 **supplementary petition sections, to be sufficient, it shall submit its certificate as to the**
69 **sufficiency of the petition to the ambulance district board of directors prior to its next**
70 **meeting. The certificate shall contain:**

- 71 **(1) The name of the member whose recall is sought;**
72 **(2) The number of signatures required by law;**
73 **(3) The total number of signatures on the petition; and**
74 **(4) The number of valid signatures on the petition.**

75 **13. Following the ambulance district board's receipt of the certificate, the election**
76 **authority shall order an election to be held on one of the election days specified in section**
77 **115.123. The election shall be held not less than forty-five days but not more than one**
78 **hundred twenty days from the date the ambulance district board receives the petition.**
79 **Nominations for board membership openings under this section shall be made by filing a**
80 **statement of candidacy with the election authority.**

81 **14. At any time prior to forty-two days before the election, the member sought to**
82 **be recalled may offer the member's resignation. If the member's resignation is offered, the**
83 **recall question shall be removed from the ballot and the office declared vacant. The**
84 **member who resigned shall not fill the vacancy, which shall be filled as otherwise provided**
85 **by law.**

86 **15. The provisions of chapter 115 governing the conduct of elections shall apply,**
87 **where appropriate, to recall elections held under this section. The costs of the election shall**
88 **be paid as provided in chapter 115.**

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