

HB 333 -- INITIATIVE PETITION REGULATIONS

SPONSOR: Simmons

This bill changes the format of signature sheets and requires the Secretary of State to make petition sheets available in an electronic format for printing and circulation.

There is a \$500 filing fee for each initiative or referendum petition sample sheet with an additional \$25 fee per page of text in excess of two pages. The fee is refundable if the petition is approved for circulation.

This bill changes the maximum number of words that the official summary statement can contain from 50 to 150 words and requires signatures on petitions to be in black or blue ink.

Initiative petitions may not invalidate or modify federal statutes, regulations, executive orders, or court decisions, amend federal or Constitutional provisions, or accomplish any act delegated to the General Assembly under the Constitution of the United States.

This bill changes the "Publications Fund" to the "Secretary of State's Petition Publications Fund".

The deadline for submitting sample sheets to circulate petitions for signatures under Section 116.332, RSMo will be no earlier than 12 weeks following a general election.

The procedure for counting or evaluating signatures are specified in the bill. The bill specifies that any court ordered changes to a ballot title results in the invalidation of signatures collected prior to the order.

This bill is the same as HB 1811 (2020).