
SENATE BILL 5048

State of Washington

69th Legislature

2025 Regular Session

By Senators J. Wilson, McCune, Christian, and Holy

Prefiled 12/13/24.

1 AN ACT Relating to notifying legislators of initiative signature
2 challenges; and amending RCW 29A.72.240.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 29A.72.240 and 2003 c 111 s 1824 are each amended to
5 read as follows:

6 (1)(a) Any citizen dissatisfied with the determination of the
7 secretary of state that an initiative or referendum petition contains
8 or does not contain the requisite number of signatures of legal
9 voters may, within five days after such determination, apply to the
10 superior court of Thurston county for a citation requiring the
11 secretary of state to submit the petition to said court for
12 examination, and for a writ of mandate compelling the certification
13 of the measure and petition, or for an injunction to prevent the
14 certification thereof to the legislature, as the case may be. Such
15 application and all proceedings had thereunder shall take precedence
16 over other cases and shall be speedily heard and determined.

17 (b) The decision of the superior court granting or refusing to
18 grant the writ of mandate or injunction may be reviewed by the
19 supreme court within five days after the decision of the superior
20 court, and if the supreme court decides that a writ of mandate or
21 injunction, as the case may be, should issue, it shall issue the writ

1 directed to the secretary of state; otherwise, it shall dismiss the
2 proceedings. The clerk of the supreme court shall forthwith notify
3 the secretary of state of the decision of the supreme court.

4 (2) The secretary of state must notify the chair and ranking
5 member of appropriate legislative committees within five days of any
6 challenge to the sufficiency of the number of signatures for any
7 initiative.

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