

HB0041 (SB0267) - Unfavorable

Honorable Delegates

Please enter an Unfavorable decision to HB0041.

Proposed section 4-102(c)(3) on page 2 lines 14-17 would prohibit reusing the signatures on a petition should the petition fail to meet the unstated requirements in subsection B of Article 4-102 and the uncited subsection of Title 6.

Subsection B(2)(i) in 4-102 requires at least 10,000 valid signatures by a certain date to form a new political party.

Title 6, Subtitle 2, section 6-205(d) allows additional signatures to be added to a petition if the petition is rejected before the deadline by filing an amended information page with additional signature pages.

This bill would make a difficult process for obtaining valid signatures that much more difficult, if the number of valid signatures is determined to be less than 10,000. Currently, if time remains before the deadline, the organizers could keep the valid signatures and just obtain the signatures needed to reach the 10,000 threshold.

If this bill passes, the organizers would need to start over to obtain the needed 10,000 signatures.

This bill appears to be making the workload easier for the State Board of Elections by creating an unfair burden on the citizenry trying to follow an already difficult process.

Please enter an Unfavorable decision to HB0041.

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