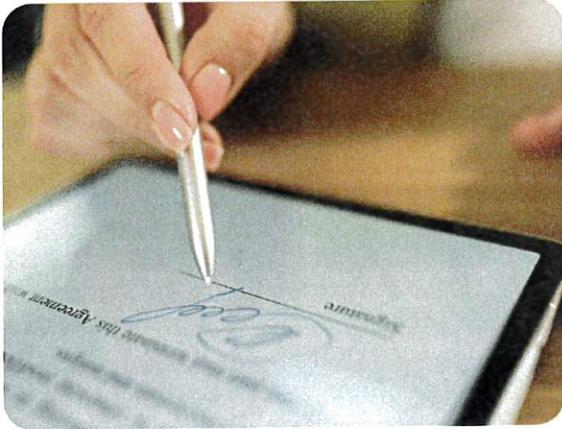


HB223 S01: Electronic Signature Collection Amendments

Sponsor: Rep. Teuscher; Floor Sponsor: Sen. Stevenson



CURRENT LAW

- HB218 (2022) created an electronic signature-gathering process for initiative, referendum, and candidate nominations.

WHAT DOES HB223 DO?

- Sunsets paper signature gathering in 2030.
- Requires the online signature gathering program to be able to scan a driver's license or other valid voter identification.
- Requires the electronic signature gathering program to be able to collect signatures while offline.
- Requires that the device used to gather signatures meet the security requirements established by the lieutenant governor.
- Requires the lieutenant governor to report to the Government Operations Interim Committee from 2026 to 2029 on the electronic signature gathering process

WHY IS HB223 IMPORTANT?

- **Lower Costs**
 - Groups are no longer required to print and manage expensive paper signature packets.
- **Greater Integrity in the Process**
 - Scanning a government-issued identification card is more reliable and accurate than relying on signature matching.
- **Reduced Administrative Burden**
 - County clerks are no longer required to manually compare and verify every handwritten signature.
- **Instant Verification**
 - Signature gatherers can immediately confirm how many valid signatures have been collected.
- **Broader Access and Participation**
 - This bill makes it possible to gather signatures from residents in rural and hard-to-reach areas using the electronic method.