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Humane Care petition falls short of required signatures

LINCOLN – Nebraska Secretary of State John Gale announced today that the proposed Humane Care petition has not collected enough valid signatures to be placed on the Nov. 7 ballot. The proposed constitutional amendment would have required water and nutrition with end-of-life care unless a person has a valid advance directive or living will authorizing withholding of food or water.

Based on the reports from all 93 counties, the humane care petition had 109,780 valid signatures. The proposed constitutional amendment needed 113,693 valid signatures – equal to 10 percent of registered voters statewide – to be placed on the ballot.

After a petition is submitted to the Secretary of State's Office, county election offices have the job of verifying whether petition signatures are those of registered voters.

Thomas Mann of Omaha is the sponsor of the initiative.

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