



From the Office of Secretary of State John A. Gale

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Organizers petition to add party to November ballot

LINCOLN – A new political party wants to be included on the ballot in November. Secretary of State John Gale says petitions submitted for the Marijuana Party of Nebraska will be processed by his office next week and then mailed to the county election officials for signature verification.

“There are several steps involved in getting a new party and its nominees on the ballot,” noted Gale. “The first step is meeting the two-pronged signature requirement.”

The first threshold that must be met is that valid signatures must have been collected from at least one percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2014 general election. That year, Pete Ricketts received 539,657 votes, excluding write-in candidates.

In addition, organizers must submit valid signatures equaling at least one percent of the total votes cast for Ricketts in each of the state’s three congressional districts in 2014.

Gale will have ten days from the day the petitions were submitted to his office to determine if the requirements were met, then he will certify the new political party. The party will have 20 days from that period to submit a constitution, bylaws and a list of its officers.

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