

# INITIATIVE PETITION

For Secretary of State Use Only

# HCBE

The object of this petition is to: (See reverse side for actual text of measure)

## A constitutional amendment to require all elections in the State of Nebraska to be conducted exclusively using paper ballots that are counted by hand.

To the Honorable Robert Evnen, Secretary of State for the State of Nebraska:

We, the undersigned residents of the State of Nebraska and the county of \_\_\_\_\_, respectfully demand that the following proposed amendment to the Constitution of Nebraska shall be referred to the registered voters of the state for their approval or rejection at the general election to be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 2026, and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition on the date opposite my name; I am a registered voter of the State of Nebraska and county of \_\_\_\_\_ and am qualified to sign this petition or I will be so registered and qualified on or before the date on which this petition is required to be filed with the Secretary of State; and my printed name, date of birth, street and number or voting precinct, and city, village, or post office address are correctly written after my signature.

**WARNING TO PETITION SIGNERS-- VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF LAW MAY RESULT IN THE FILING OF CRIMINAL CHARGES: Any person who signs any name other than his or her own to any petition or who is not qualified to sign the petition shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor. Any person who falsely swears to a circulator's affidavit on a petition, who accepts money or other things of value for signing a petition, or who offers money or other things of value in exchange for a signature upon any petition shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.**

#	DATE (mm/dd/yy)	SIGNATURE	PRINTED NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	ADDRESS (Street Number & Name, City or Village, Zip Code)
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					
16					
17					
18					
19					
20					

Not more than twenty signatures on one sheet shall be counted. Nebraska Revised Statute §32-1409

STATE OF NEBRASKA )  
 ) ss \_\_\_\_\_, (name of circulator) being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he or she is the circulator  
 COUNTY OF \_\_\_\_\_ ) of this petition containing \_\_\_\_\_ signatures, that he or she is at least eighteen years of age, that each person whose name appears on the petition personally signed the petition in the presence of the affiant, that the date to the left of each signature is the correct date on which the signature was affixed to the petition and that the date was personally affixed by the person signing such petition, that the affiant believes that each signer has written his or her name, street and number or voting precinct, and city, village, or post office address correctly, that the affiant believes that each signer was qualified to sign the petition, and that the affiant stated to each signer the object of the petition as printed on the petition before he or she affixed his or her signature to the petition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Circulator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, Nebraska.  
(City or village of notarial act.)

(Seal)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public's Signature

## **Proposed Constitutional Amendment Language:**

(underscored language indicates added language, ~~strike through~~ indicates language being removed)

### **Article VI, section 6, of the Constitution of Nebraska, shall be amended as follows:**

(1) All elections conducted within the State of Nebraska for federal, state, and local offices, and for all ballot measures, shall be conducted exclusively using paper ballots. All votes shall be by paper ballot ~~or by other means authorized by the Legislature~~ whereby the vote and the secrecy of the elector's vote will be preserved.

(2) Each voter shall be provided with a physical paper ballot to be marked by the voter, and such ballot shall constitute the official record of the voter's intent. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a voter with a disability from receiving assistance in marking a ballot as provided for by law. Electronic voting machines that do not produce a voter-verifiable paper record shall be prohibited.

(3) All paper ballots cast in any election in the State of Nebraska shall be counted by hand. Vote counting devices are prohibited. Hand counting shall be conducted in a transparent manner, open to observation by the public and designated election observers, in accordance with procedures established by law to ensure accuracy and prevent fraud.

(4) The Legislature shall enact laws to implement this section including laws establishing:

(a) Procedures for the design, printing, and secure handling of paper ballots;

(b) Procedures for the training and certification of election workers for hand-counting procedures;

(c) Procedures for the secure storage of and maintenance of a proper chain of custody for all ballots and other election materials;

(d) Procedures for the recount and audit of hand-counted ballots; and

(e) Penalties for violations of laws enacted pursuant to this section.

(5) The changes to this section shall apply to all elections held on or after July 1, 2027.