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I N   A S S E M B L Y

May 2, 2016

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Introduced by M. of A. RICHARDSON -- read once and referred to the  
Committee on Election Law

AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to signature requirement  
on designating and nominating petitions

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1     Section 1. Subdivisions 1 and 2 of section 6-136 of the election law,  
2     subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 200 of the laws of 1996, subdivision  
3     2 as amended by chapter 79 of the laws of 1992, the opening paragraph of  
4     subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 659 of the laws of 1994 and para-  
5     graph (c-1) of subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 418 of the laws of  
6     1993, are amended to read as follows:  
7     1. Petitions for any office to be filled by the voters of the entire  
8     state must be signed by not less than [fifteen thousand or five] SEVEN  
9     THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED OR TWO AND ONE-HALF per centum, whichever is less,  
10    of the then enrolled voters of the party in the state (excluding voters  
11    in inactive status), of whom not less than [one hundred or five] FIFTY  
12    OR TWO AND ONE-HALF per centum, whichever is less, of such enrolled  
13    voters shall reside in each of one-half of the congressional districts  
14    of the state.  
15    2. All other petitions must be signed by not less than [five] TWO AND  
16    ONE-HALF per centum, as determined by the preceding enrollment, of the  
17    then enrolled voters of the party residing within the political unit in  
18    which the office or position is to be voted for (excluding voters in  
19    inactive status), provided, however, that for the following public  
20    offices the number of signatures need not exceed the following limits:  
21    (a) For any office to be filled by all voters of the city of New York,  
22    [seven thousand five hundred] THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY signa-  
23    tures;  
24    (b) For any office to be filled by all the voters of any county or  
25    borough within the city of New York, [four] TWO thousand signatures;  
26    (c) For any office to be filled in the city of New York by all the  
27    voters of any municipal court district, [one thousand five hundred]  
28    SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY signatures;

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[ ] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (c-1) For any office to be filled in the city of New York by all the  
2 voters of any city council district, [nine hundred] FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY  
3 signatures;

4 (d) For any office to be filled by all the voters of cities or coun-  
5 ties, except the city of New York and counties therein, containing more  
6 than two hundred fifty thousand inhabitants according to the last  
7 preceding federal enumeration, [two] ONE thousand signatures;

8 (e) For any office to be filled by all the voters of cities or coun-  
9 ties containing more than twenty-five thousand and not more than two  
10 hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, according to the last preceding  
11 federal enumeration, [one thousand] FIVE HUNDRED signatures;

12 (f) For any office to be filled by all the voters of any other city or  
13 county, or of a councilmanic district in any city other than the city of  
14 New York, [five hundred] TWO HUNDRED FIFTY signatures;

15 (g) For any office to be filled by all the voters of any congressional  
16 district, [twelve hundred fifty] SIX HUNDRED FIFTY signatures;

17 (h) For any office to be filled by all the voters of any state senato-  
18 rial district, [one thousand] FIVE HUNDRED signatures;

19 (i) For any office to be filled by all voters of any assembly  
20 district, [five hundred] TWO HUNDRED FIFTY signatures;

21 (j) For any office to be filled by all the voters of any political  
22 subdivision, except as herein otherwise provided, contained within  
23 another political subdivision, not to exceed the number of signatures  
24 required for the larger subdivision;

25 (k) For any other office to be filled by the voters of a political  
26 subdivision containing more than one assembly district, county or other  
27 political subdivision, not to exceed the aggregate of the signatures  
28 required for the subdivisions or parts of subdivisions so contained; and

29 (l) For any county legislative district, [five hundred] TWO HUNDRED  
30 FIFTY signatures.

31 S 2. Section 6-142 of the election law, as amended by chapter 79 of  
32 the laws of 1992 and paragraph (d-1) of subdivision 2 as amended by  
33 chapter 418 of the laws of 1993, is amended to read as follows:

34 S 6-142. Independent nominations; number of signatures. 1. An inde-  
35 pendent nominating petition for candidates to be voted for by all the  
36 voters of the state must be signed by at least [fifteen thousand] SEVEN  
37 THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED voters, of whom at least [one hundred] FIFTY shall  
38 reside in each of one-half of the congressional districts of the State.

39 2. An independent nominating petition for the nomination of candidates  
40 for an office to be filled by the voters of any other political unit  
41 must be signed by voters numbering [five] TWO AND ONE-HALF per centum of  
42 the total number of votes cast for governor at the last gubernatorial  
43 election in such unit, excluding blank and void votes, except that not  
44 more than [three thousand five hundred] ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY  
45 signatures shall be required upon any such petition for any office to be  
46 filled in any political subdivision of the state wholly outside the city  
47 of New York, and not more than the following numbers of signatures shall  
48 be required upon any such petition for the following public offices  
49 respectively:

50 (a) for any office to be filled in any county or portion thereof  
51 outside the city of New York, [one thousand five hundred] SEVEN HUNDRED  
52 FIFTY;

53 (b) for any office to be filled by all the voters of the city of New  
54 York, [seven thousand five hundred] THREE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY;

55 (b-1) for any office to be filled by all the voters of any two coun-  
56 ties in such city, [four] TWO thousand;

1 (c) for any office to be filled by all the voters of any county or  
2 borough in such city, [four] TWO thousand;  
3 (d) for any office to be filled by all the voters of any municipal  
4 court district, [three thousand] ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED signatures;  
5 (d-1) for any office to be filled in the city of New York by all the  
6 voters of any city council district, [two thousand seven hundred] ONE  
7 THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED FIFTY;  
8 (e) for any office to be filled by all the voters of any congressional  
9 district, [three thousand five hundred] ONE THOUSAND SEVEN HUNDRED  
10 FIFTY;  
11 (f) for any office to be filled by all the voters of any state senato-  
12 rial district, [three thousand] ONE THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED;  
13 (g) for any office to be filled by all the voters of an assembly  
14 district, [one thousand five hundred] SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY;  
15 (h) for the office of trustee of the Long Island Power Authority,  
16 [five hundred] TWO HUNDRED FIFTY;  
17 (i) for any office to be filled by the voters of any political subdi-  
18 vision contained within another political subdivision except as herein  
19 otherwise provided, not to exceed the number of signatures required for  
20 the larger subdivision.  
21 S 3. This act shall take effect on the first of December next succeed-  
22 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.