AN ACT to amend the election law, in relation to decreasing the number of signatures needed for designating petitions and independent nominations in counties with coronavirus 2019

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

§ 1. Section 6-136 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 6 to read as follows:

6. For designating petitions for political subdivisions, wholly or in part, within a county in which one or more residents have been confirmed to be diagnosed with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and notwithstanding subdivision two of this section, for petitions made in the year two thousand twenty, the signature requirement numbers stated in paragraphs (a) through (l) of subdivision two of this section shall be reduced by one-third, rounded down to the nearest whole number.

§ 2. Section 6-142 of the election law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3 to read as follows:

3. For independent nominations for political subdivisions, wholly or in part, within a county in which one or more residents have been confirmed to be diagnosed with coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and notwithstanding subdivision two of this section, for nominations made in the year two thousand twenty, the signature requirement numbers stated in paragraphs (a) through (i) of subdivision two of this section shall be reduced by one-third, rounded down to the nearest whole number.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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