Bill No.: SB-1047
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING BALLOT ACCESS FOR PETITIONING CANDIDATES.
Vote Date: 3/20/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 3/13/2019
File No.: 546

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SPONSORS OF BILL:
Government Administration and Elections Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:
To make it easier for candidates, who seek statewide office and choose to petition their way onto the ballot in a party primary, by lowering the total number of signatures that need to be collected from registered voters across the state in the candidate’s party. Also this legislation requires that the Registrar of Voters and/or the Town Clerk in each municipality – whichever office tabulates and determines the validity of the collected signatures, to provide the petitioning candidate with a daily update on how many collected signatures have been deemed legitimate.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:
Denise Merrill, Secretary of the State: Supports the bill because it sets an upper limit for petition signatures and because it helps petitioning candidates keep track of how collected signatures have been validated.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:
Mark Bernacki, New Britain Town and City Clerk, The Connecticut Town Clerks Association: Supports the bill because the daily notification requirement helps petitioning candidates know where they stand on the validity of the collected signatures.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:
None Expressed