

**Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1158
(Representatives Stemen, Berg, Dockter, Hagert, Louser, Pyle)
(Senators Klein, Meyer, Roers)

AN ACT to create and enact a new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the exempt status of records related to petitions in possession of the secretary of state.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. A new section to chapter 44-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

Secretary of state - Petition records - Exempt.

A record received by the secretary of state, which is related to a request for approval of a petition to initiate or refer a measure, is an exempt record until the secretary of state has passed upon the sufficiency of the petition under section 16.1-01-10, or thirty-five days have passed since the secretary of state received the record, whichever occurs first.

Kelli Wiley
Speaker of the House

Michelle L. Alvarado
President of the Senate

Buell J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

Sharon Meyer
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1158.

House Vote: Yeas 90 Nays 0 Absent 4

Senate Vote: Yeas 45 Nays 1 Absent 1

Buell J. Reich
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 10:38 A.M. on March 25th, 2025.

Approved at 1:20 P.M. on March 26th, 2025.

[Signature]
Governor

Filed in this office this 27th day of March, 2025,
at 2:28 o'clock P M.

Michael Howe
Secretary of State