HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Authors: Johnson, B.

Subject: Affidavits of candidacy; filing petition

Analyst: Matt Gehring, 651-296-5052

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Overview

This bill requires candidates filing for office to file a petition containing a specified number of signatures, if the candidate does not meet certain residency requirements.

Section

- Form of affidavit. Requires a candidate filing for office to affirm, on the affidavit of candidacy, that the candidate meets the residency requirements for submitting a filing fee in place of a petition, if applicable. These new requirements are contained in section 2 of the bill.
- **Petition.** Requires a candidate filing for office to present a petition, containing a specified number of signatures, if the candidate has not met certain residency requirements: a petition is required if the candidate has resided in the state for less than one year, as of the date of the election, and will have resided in the election district for less than six months as of the date of the election, or less than one month prior to the start of the filing period, whichever is earlier.

Filing a petition is currently an option for all candidates, in lieu of paying a filing fee. The current law specifying the number of signatures that are required on a petition is unchanged.