



South Dakota Secretary of State

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Secretary of State

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SECRETARY OF STATE ANNOUNCES UNSUCCESSFUL CHALLENGE TO U.S. HOUSE PETITIONS

(Pierre, S.D.) – Secretary of State Monae L. Johnson has announced that James Bialota’s challenge to Attorney General Marty Jackley’s candidate petitions was unsuccessful. Attorney General Jackley will remain on the ballot as a Republican candidate for the U.S. House of Representatives at the Primary Election held on June 2, 2026.

A Republican candidate for U.S. House requires 2,171 valid signatures to appear on the ballot. April 1, 2026, the Secretary of State’s office completed the random sample of the petition signatures and found 86.7 percent to be valid. Based on the results of the random sample, 3,168 signatures were deemed valid.

Mr. Bialota’s challenge resulted in seven additional signatures within the random sample being deemed invalid. This impacted the overall validity rate by a little over one percent leaving Jackley with 3,126 valid signatures.

For more information on candidates who will be on the ballot at the Primary Election, please see the candidate list on the Secretary of State’s website: <https://vip.sdsos.gov/candidatelist.aspx?eid=773>.