



Secretary of State

Jason M. Gant

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April 18, 2012

Joy Howe
Constitution Party of South Dakota
48106 Spring Valley Place
Brandon, SD 57005

Dear Ms. Howe,

Thank you for filing your Declaration for a New Political Party petition. I have officially certified that your petition has a sufficient number of signatures.

The Constitution Party has been granted new party status for the 2012 and 2014 election cycles. Pursuant to SDCL § 12-5-1.4, a Constitution legislative candidate is required to gather five signatures from registered members of the Constitution Party; a Gubernatorial, US Congress, and US Senate candidate must gather two hundred and fifty signatures. Pursuant to SDCL § 12-5-21, candidates for Secretary of State, Attorney General, State Treasurer, State Auditor, Commissioner of School and Public Lands and Public Utilities Commissioner must be nominated at the South Dakota Constitution State Party Convention.

Pursuant to SDCL § 12-5-1.1 the party central committee shall certify and file with my office a copy of Constitution Party constitution and/or by-laws to govern your organization and the conduct of its affairs and exercise thereunder any power not inconsistent with the laws of South Dakota. The document must be filed in my office within thirty days of its approval.

Also, at your earliest convenience please submit to my office the contact information of your officers and directors of the Constitution Party.

Thank you again, and if you have any questions please feel free to contact my office.

Sincerely,



Jason M. Gant
Secretary of State

JMG:ap
Enclosures (3)

12-5-1.1. Party constitution or bylaws required--Filing with secretary of state. A political party shall adopt a Constitution or a set of bylaws to govern its organization and the conduct of its affairs and exercise thereunder any power not inconsistent with laws of this state. The party central committee shall certify to and file with the secretary of state a copy of the document and amendments thereof within thirty days of their approval.

Source: SL 1974, ch 118, § 27.

12-5-21. Nomination of state candidates not voted on at primary--Presidential electors and national committee members. The state convention shall nominate candidates for lieutenant governor, attorney general, secretary of state, state auditor, state treasurer, commissioner of school and public lands, and public utilities commissioner and in the years when a President of the United States is to be elected, presidential electors and national committeeman and national committeewoman of the party.

Source: SL 1917, ch 234, § 30; RC 1919, § 7108; SL 1929, ch 118, § 55; SL 1933, ch 100; SL 1937, ch 120, § 5; SDC 1939, § 16.0240; SL 1939, ch 77; SL 1941, ch 78; SL 1951, ch 91; SL 1965, ch 86; SL 1974, ch 118, § 35.

12-5-1.4. Nominating petitions of new party primary candidates. If a political party qualifies for the primary ballot under § 12-5-1, each candidate intending to participate in a primary election shall file a nominating petition pursuant to § 12-6-4. In each primary election following the qualification of a political party and prior to the next gubernatorial election, each:

- (1) State and federal candidate for that party shall file a petition bearing signatures of at least two hundred fifty registered voters in that party; and
- (2) Legislative and county candidate for that party shall file a petition bearing signatures of at least five registered voters in that party.

Source: SL 1984, ch 107, § 1A; SL 1993, ch 109, § 2; SL 2007, ch 74, § 3.
