

HB 521 -- Recall of Ambulance District Board Members

Sponsor: Wells

This bill establishes a procedure by which an ambulance district board member may be recalled from office by the registered voters of the member's election district. No board member can be recalled during the first or last 180 days of the member's current term or if a previous recall election was in the member's favor during the current term.

A notice of intention to circulate a recall petition, including a short statement of the reasons for the proposed recall, must be served on the particular board member personally or by certified mail; and a copy of the notice must be filed with the election authority. If the member chooses to file a short answer with the election authority, the member has seven days after the filing of the notice to do so and must serve a copy of the answer to the petitioner personally or by certified mail.

The person circulating the recall petition must sign an affidavit attesting to the information in the petition, and the petition must be filed with the election authority within 180 days after the filing of the notice of intention. The number of qualified signatures needed to recall a board member must be equal to at least 25% of the number of persons who voted in the most recent gubernatorial election in the election district.

The election authority has 20 days to determine if the petition has the required number of qualified signatures. If the petition is certified to be insufficient, it may be supplemented by filing additional qualified signatures within 10 days of the certification. If the election authority finds the signatures on the petition and any supplements are sufficient, it must submit its certificate to the ambulance district board of directors prior to the board's next meeting. The election authority must order a recall election on a statutory election day, not less than 45 days but not more than 120 days from the date the ambulance board receives the certified petition.

If the ambulance district board member being recalled resigns at any time prior to 42 days before the election, the recall question must be removed from the ballot and the vacant seat will be filled as specified by law. The resigning member cannot fill the vacancy.