

104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**State of Illinois****2025 and 2026****SB1954**

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Sen. Doris Turner

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

55 ILCS 5/Div. 3-16 heading new
55 ILCS 5/3-16001 new
55 ILCS 5/3-16002 new
55 ILCS 5/3-16003 new

Amends the Counties Code. Creates the Recall of Countywide Elected Officials Division within the Code. Authorizes a county to establish a process by which countywide elected officials may be recalled by the electors of the county by referendum or petition. Provides that, if a county board adopts a resolution calling for a referendum on the proposal to adopt a process by which countywide elected officials may be recalled by the electors of the county, then the county clerk and county board shall provide for the submission of the proposition to the electors of the county at the next general election held in an even-numbered year. Provides that, if there is filed with the clerk of the circuit court of the county, within the time provided in the general election law, a petition that is signed by the specified number of registered voters in the county and that requests the establishment of a process by which countywide elected officials may be recalled by the electors of that county, the clerk of the circuit court shall transmit the petition to the chief judge of the circuit court who shall determine the sufficiency of the petition or shall assign the determination of the sufficiency of the petition to a circuit judge who shall make the determination. Specifies that, if the judge determines that the petition is sufficient, the judge shall certify the sufficiency of the petition and shall issue an order directing the county clerk and the county board to provide for the submission of the proposition to the electors of the county at the next general election held in an even-numbered year. Authorizes the recall of a countywide elected official to be proposed by petition by the electors of the county. Sets forth requirements for the petition. Provides that, if the petition is valid and sufficient, then the State Board of Elections shall certify the petition, and the question must be submitted to the electors at a special election. Prohibits more than one recall petition per official per term of office. Effective immediately.

LRB104 10305 JDS 20379 b

1 AN ACT concerning recall of countywide elected officials.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Counties Code is amended by adding Division
5 3-16 as follows:

6 (55 ILCS 5/Div. 3-16 heading new)

7 Division 3-16. Recall of Countywide Elected Officials

8 (55 ILCS 5/3-16001 new)

9 Sec. 3-16001. Recall of a countywide elected official. Any
10 county may establish a process by which countywide elected
11 officials may be recalled by the electors of that county by
12 submission to and approval by the electors of the county of the
13 proposition at a referendum as provided in Section 3-16002. A
14 referendum to adopt a process by which countywide elected
15 officials may be recalled by the electors may be called by a
16 resolution adopted by the county board of the county or by the
17 filing of a petition as provided in Section 3-16002.

18 (55 ILCS 5/3-16002 new)

19 Sec. 3-16002. Referendum on resolution of county board.

20 (a) If the county board adopts a resolution calling for a
21 referendum on the proposal to adopt a process by which

1 countywide elected officials may be recalled by the electors
2 of that county, within the time provided in the general
3 election law, the county clerk and the county board shall
4 provide for the submission of such proposition to the electors
5 of the county in accordance with this Section at the next
6 general election held in an even-numbered year.

7 (b) If there is filed with the clerk of the circuit court
8 of the county, within the time provided in the general
9 election law, a petition that is signed by the number of
10 registered voters described in this subsection and that
11 requests the establishment of a process by which countywide
12 elected officials may be recalled by the electors of that
13 county, the clerk of the circuit court shall transmit the
14 petition to the chief judge of the circuit court who shall
15 determine the sufficiency of the petition or shall assign the
16 determination of the sufficiency of the petition to a circuit
17 judge who shall make the determination. For a county with a
18 population that is greater than or equal to 500,000, the
19 petition under this subsection (b) shall be signed by 5% of the
20 registered voters in the county or 10,000 individuals,
21 whichever is less. For a county with a population that is less
22 than 500,000, the petition under this subsection (b) shall be
23 signed by 5% of the registered voters in the county or 1,000
24 individuals, whichever is less. If the judge determines that
25 the petition is sufficient, the judge shall certify the
26 sufficiency of the petition and shall issue an order directing

the county clerk and the county board to provide for the submission of the proposition to the electors of the county at the next general election held in an even-numbered year.

The referendum shall be conducted in such a manner as is prescribed in the general election law.

The proposition shall be in substantially the following form:

Shall the County of

..... adopt a process YES

by which countywide elected -----

officials may be recalled by NO

the electors of the county as

provided for by Illinois statute?

(55 TTCS 5/3-16003 new)

Sec. 3-16003. Recall of countywide elected officials.

(a) The recall of the countywide elected official may be proposed by a petition signed by a number of electors equal in number to at least 15% of the total votes cast for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election in the county. A petition shall have been signed by the petitioning electors not more than 150 days after an affidavit has been filed with the State Board of Elections providing notice of intent to circulate a petition to recall the countywide elected official. The

1 affidavit may be filed no sooner than 6 months after the
2 beginning of the countywide elected official's term of office
3 and may not be filed in the last 6 months of a term.

4 (b) The form of the petition, circulation, and procedure
5 for determining the validity and sufficiency of a petition
6 shall be as provided by law. If the petition is valid and
7 sufficient, the State Board of Elections shall certify the
8 petition not more than 100 days after the date the petition was
9 filed, and the question "Shall (name) be recalled from the
10 office of (name of office)?" must be submitted to the electors
11 at a special election called by the State Board of Elections,
12 to occur not more than 100 days after certification of the
13 petition. A recall petition certified by the State Board of
14 Elections may not be withdrawn and another recall petition may
15 not be initiated against the countywide elected official
16 during the remainder of the current term of office. Any recall
17 petition or recall election pending on the date of the next
18 general election at which a candidate for the same countywide
19 office is elected is moot.

20 (c) The countywide elected official is immediately removed
21 upon certification of the recall election results if a
22 majority of the electors voting on the question vote to recall
23 the countywide elected official. If the countywide elected
24 official is removed, the vacancy shall be filled as provided
25 in the Election Code or this Code.

1 becoming law.