

**DE 87-19 - October 27, 1987**

**Number of Signatures Required in Single Member Districts  
Section 99.095(3), F.S.**

*To: Honorable Penny Halyburton, Supervisor of Elections, St. Johns County, County Courthouse,  
Room 337, St. Augustine, Florida 32084*

*Prepared by: Division of Elections*

This is in reference to your request for an advisory opinion as to the number of signatures required by Section 99.095(3), Florida Statutes, when a candidate seeks to qualify for office by petition and the office he is seeking is a single-member school board or county commission office.

Section 99.095(3), Florida Statutes, provides in pertinent part:

A candidate ... shall obtain the signatures of a number of qualified electors of the district, county, or other geographical entity equal to at least 3 percent of the total number of registered voters of the party by which he seeks nomination that are registered within the district, county, or other geographical entity represented by the office sought....

You inquire as to whether the 3 percent is based upon the number of registered voters of the party in the county or upon the number of registered voters of the party within that single-member district.

The qualifying language "represented by the office sought" indicates that the Legislature intended the petitioner to obtain the signatures of 3 percent of the voters of the party within the single-member district. Therefore, when a candidate seeks to qualify for office by petition and the office he is seeking is a single-member school board or county commission office, he must obtain the signatures of 3 percent of the registered voters of the party within that single-member district.

**SUMMARY**

When a candidate seeks to qualify for office by petition and the office he is seeking is a single-member school board or county commission office, he must obtain the signatures of 3 percent of the registered voters of the party within that single-member district.