

## Part 1 General Provisions

### 20A-7-101 Definitions.

As used in this chapter:

- (1) "Budget officer" means:
  - (a) for a county, the person designated as budget officer in Section 17-19a-203;
  - (b) for a city, the person designated as budget officer in Subsection 10-6-106(5);
  - (c) for a town, the town council; or
  - (d) for a metro township, the person described in Subsection (1)(a) for the county in which the metro township is located.
- (2) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the signature of a registered voter.
- (3) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative or referendum petition to legal voters for their signature.
- (4) "Eligible voter" means a legal voter who resides in the jurisdiction of the county, city, or town that is holding an election on a ballot proposition.
- (5) "Final fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared after voters approve an initiative that contains the information required by Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2) or 20A-7-502.5(2).
- (6) "Initial fiscal impact estimate" means:
  - (a) a financial statement prepared under Section 20A-7-202.5 after the filing of an application for an initiative petition; or
  - (b) a financial and legal statement prepared under Section 20A-7-502.5 or 20A-7-602.5 for an initiative or referendum petition.
- (7) "Initiative" means a new law proposed for adoption by the public as provided in this chapter.
- (8) "Initiative packet" means a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the proposed law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.
- (9) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:
  - (a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and
  - (b) have been certified and verified as provided in this chapter.
- (10) "Legal voter" means a person who:
  - (a) is registered to vote; or
  - (b) becomes registered to vote before the county clerk certifies the signatures on an initiative or referendum petition.
- (11) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney in whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- (12) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- (13)
  - (a) "Local law" includes:
    - (i) an ordinance;
    - (ii) a resolution;
    - (iii) a master plan;
    - (iv) a comprehensive zoning regulation adopted by ordinance or resolution; or
    - (v) other legislative action of a local legislative body.
  - (b) "Local law" does not include an individual property zoning decision.

- (14) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, town, or metro township.
- (15) "Local obligation law" means a local law passed by the local legislative body regarding a bond that was approved by a majority of qualified voters in an election.
- (16) "Local tax law" means a law, passed by a political subdivision with an annual or biannual calendar fiscal year, that increases a tax or imposes a new tax.
- (17) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or referendum.
- (18) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or by a local legislative body is submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection.
- (19) "Referendum packet" means a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of the law being submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.
- (20)
  - (a) "Signature" means a holographic signature.
  - (b) "Signature" does not mean an electronic signature.
- (21) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used to collect signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.
- (22) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and who sign the application for petition copies.
- (23) "Sufficient" means that the signatures submitted in support of an initiative or referendum petition have been certified and verified as required by this chapter.
- (24) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as required in Sections 20A-7-205 and 20A-7-305.

Amended by Chapter 53, 2016 General Session  
Amended by Chapter 176, 2016 General Session  
Amended by Chapter 365, 2016 General Session

**20A-7-102 Initiatives and referenda authorized -- Restrictions.**

By following the procedures and requirements of this chapter, Utah voters may, subject to the restrictions of Article VI, Sec. 1, Utah Constitution and this chapter:

- (1) initiate any desired legislation and cause it to be submitted to:
  - (a) the Legislature or to a vote of the people for approval or rejection if it is a proposed state law;  
or
  - (b) a local legislative body or to a vote of the people if it is a local law;
- (2) require any law passed by the Legislature, except those laws passed by a two-thirds vote of the members elected to each house of the Legislature, to be referred to the voters for their approval or rejection before the law takes effect; and
- (3) require any law or ordinance passed by a local legislative body to be referred to the voters for their approval or rejection before the law takes effect.

Amended by Chapter 272, 1994 General Session

**20A-7-103 Constitutional amendments and other questions submitted by the Legislature -- Publication -- Ballot title -- Procedures for submission to popular vote.**

- (1) The procedures contained in this section govern when the Legislature submits a proposed constitutional amendment or other question to the voters.
- (2) In addition to the publication in the voter information pamphlet required by Section 20A-7-702, the lieutenant governor shall, not more than 60 days or less than 14 days before the date of the

election, publish the full text of the amendment, question, or statute in at least one newspaper in every county of the state where a newspaper is published.

- (3) The legislative general counsel shall:
  - (a) entitle each proposed constitutional amendment "Constitutional Amendment \_\_\_" and assign it a letter according to the requirements of Section 20A-6-107;
  - (b) entitle each proposed question "Proposition Number \_\_\_" with the number assigned to the proposition under Section 20A-6-107 placed in the blank;
  - (c) draft and designate a ballot title for each proposed amendment or question submitted by the Legislature that summarizes the subject matter of the amendment or question; and
  - (d) deliver each number and title to the lieutenant governor.
- (4) The lieutenant governor shall certify the number and ballot title of each amendment or question to the county clerk of each county no later than 65 days before the date of the election.
- (5) The county clerk of each county shall:
  - (a) ensure that both the number and title of each amendment and question is printed on the sample ballots and official ballots; and
  - (b) publish them as provided by law.

Amended by Chapter 327, 2011 General Session