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1	REFERENDUM BALLOT PROPOSITION
2	AMENDMENTS
3	2010 GENERAL SESSION
4	STATE OF UTAH
5	Chief Sponsor: Fred R Hunsaker
6	Senate Sponsor: Peter C. Knudson
7	
8	LONG TITLE
9	General Description:
10	This bill modifies the Election Code to amend the manner in which a ballot proposition
11	is worded for a statewide or local referendum.
12	Highlighted Provisions:
13	This bill:
14	clarifies that the definition of "referendum" is a process to submit or refer a certain
15	law to voters for their final approval or rejection;
16	provides that a vote "for" on a referendum question means the voter is in favor of
17	the law taking effect;
18	provides that a vote "against" on a referendum question means the voter is against
19	the law taking effect; and
20	makes technical changes.
21	Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
22	None
23	Other Special Clauses:
24	None
25	Utah Code Sections Affected:
26	AMENDS:
27	20A-7-101, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 202
28	20A-7-309, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 202
29	20A-7-609 , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 202

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31	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
32	Section 1. Section 20A-7-101 is amended to read:
33	20A-7-101. Definitions.
34	As used in this chapter:
35	(1) "Budget officer" means:
36	(a) for [counties] a county, the person designated as budget officer in Section
37	17-19-19;
38	(b) for [cities] a city, the person designated as budget officer in Subsection
39	10-6-106(5); or
40	(c) for [towns] <u>a town</u> , the town council.
41	(2) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the
42	signature of a registered voter.
43	(3) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative or referendum petition
44	to legal voters for their signature.
45	(4) "Final fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared after voters
46	approve an initiative that contains the information required by Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2) or
47	20A-7-502.5(2).
48	(5) "Initial fiscal impact estimate" means a financial statement prepared according to
49	the terms of Section 20A-7-202.5 or 20A-7-502.5 after the filing of an application for an
50	initiative petition.
51	(6) "Initiative" means a new law proposed for adoption by the public as provided in
52	this chapter.
53	(7) "Initiative packet" means a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the proposed
54	law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.
55	(8) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:
56	(a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and
57	(b) have been certified and verified as provided in this chapter

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- 58 (9) "Legal voter" means a person who: 59 (a) is registered to vote; or 60 (b) becomes registered to vote before the county clerk certifies the signatures on an 61 initiative or referendum petition. 62 [(11)] (10) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney 63 in whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated. 64 [(12)] (11) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated. 65 66 [(10)] (12) (a) "Local law" includes an ordinance, resolution, master plan, and any 67 comprehensive zoning [regulations] regulation adopted by ordinance or resolution. 68 (b) "Local law" does not include <u>an</u> individual property zoning [decisions] decision. 69 (13) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, or town. 70 (14) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or 71 referendum. 72 (15) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or by a 73 local legislative body [that is being submitted] is submitted or referred to the voters for their 74 approval or rejection. (16) "Referendum packet" means a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of the law 75 76 being submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection, and the signature 77 sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.
 - (17) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used to collect signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.

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- (18) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and who sign the application for petition copies.
 - (19) "Sufficient" means that the signatures submitted in support of an initiative or referendum petition have been certified and verified as required by this chapter.
- 84 (20) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as required 85 in Sections 20A-7-205 and 20A-7-305.

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86	Section 2. Section 20A-7-309 is amended to read:
87	20A-7-309. Form of ballot Manner of voting.
88	(1) The county clerks shall ensure that the number and ballot title verified to them by
89	the lieutenant governor are presented upon the official ballot with, immediately adjacent to
90	them, the words "For" and "Against," each word presented with an adjacent square in which
91	the elector may indicate [his] the elector's vote.
92	(2) [Voters] (a) (i) A voter desiring to vote in favor of [preventing] the law that is the
93	subject of the referendum [from taking effect] shall mark the square adjacent to the word
94	"For[," and those] <u>."</u>
95	(ii) The law that is the subject of the referendum takes effect if a majority of voters
96	mark "For."
97	(b) (i) A voter desiring to vote against [preventing] the law that is the subject of the
98	referendum petition [from taking effect] shall mark the square adjacent to the word "Against."
99	(ii) The law that is the subject of the referendum does not take effect if a majority of
100	voters mark "Against."
101	Section 3. Section 20A-7-609 is amended to read:
102	20A-7-609. Form of ballot Manner of voting.
103	(1) The local clerk shall ensure that the number and ballot title are presented upon the
104	official ballot with, immediately adjacent to them, the words "For" and "Against," each word
105	presented with an adjacent square in which the elector may indicate [his] the elector's vote.
106	(2) (a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(c), and unless the county legislative body
107	calls a special election, the county clerk shall ensure that county referenda that have qualified
108	for the ballot appear on the next regular general election ballot.
109	(b) Unless the municipal legislative body calls a special election, the municipal
110	recorder or clerk shall ensure that municipal referenda that have qualified for the ballot appear
111	on the next regular municipal election ballot.
112	(c) For referenda held in relation to the adoption of an ordinance imposing a county
113	option sales and use tax under Section 59-12-1102, the county clerk shall ensure that referenda

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114	that have qualified for the ballot appear on the ballot at the earlier of:
115	(i) the next regular general election that is more than 155 days after the date of the
116	adoption of the ordinance; or
117	(ii) the next municipal general election that is more than 155 days after the date of the
118	adoption of the ordinance.
119	(3) [Voters] (a) (i) A voter desiring to vote in favor of [repealing the law proposed by
120	the referendum petition] the law that is the subject of the referendum shall mark the square
121	adjacent to the word "For[," and those]."
122	(ii) The law that is the subject of the referendum is effective if a majority of voters
123	mark "For."
124	(b) (i) A voter desiring to vote against [repealing the law proposed by] the law that is
125	the subject of the referendum petition shall mark the square following the word "Against."
126	(ii) The law that is the subject of the referendum is not effective if a majority of voters
127	mark "Against."