

**Initiatives and Referenda Amendments**  
2025 GENERAL SESSION  
STATE OF UTAH  
**Chief Sponsor: Jennifer Dailey-Provost**

---

---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies provisions relating to statewide initiatives and statewide referenda.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- defines terms;
- requires the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to draft an impartial

petition summary of:

- a law proposed by a statewide initiative; or
- a law that a statewide referendum seeks to overturn;

- establishes requirements and procedures for drafting and for challenging a petition

summary;

- requires that the petition summary is included with the signature packets for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum and provides that a petition signer may read the petition summary rather than the entire text of the law that is the subject of the petition;

- provides that an individual who signs an initiative packet or a referendum packet must read the entire statement included with the packet;

- provides that the attestation relating to reading a statement provided with an initiative packet or a referendum packet or reading the law to which the initiative or referendum relates, does not require an attestation that the individual understands the statement or law; and

- makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:**

AMENDS:

**20A-7-101**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Third Special Session, Chapter 3

- 32 **20A-7-104**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 33 **20A-7-105**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapters 442, 465
- 34 **20A-7-202.7**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 35 **20A-7-203**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 36 **20A-7-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 37 **20A-7-204.1**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 435 and last
- 38 amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 39 **20A-7-209**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 40 **20A-7-215**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 41 **20A-7-216**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 42 **20A-7-303**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 43 **20A-7-304**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 44 **20A-7-304.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 45 **20A-7-308**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 46 **20A-7-313**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442
- 47 **20A-7-314**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

ENACTS:

- 49 **20A-7-202.3**, Utah Code Annotated 1953
- 50 **20A-7-302.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

---

---

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **20A-7-101** is amended to read:

**20A-7-101 . Definitions.**

As used in this chapter:

- 56 (1) "Approved device" means a device described in Subsection 20A-21-201(4) used to
- 57 gather signatures for the electronic initiative process, the electronic referendum process,
- 58 or the electronic candidate qualification process.
- 59 (2) "Budget officer" means:
  - 60 (a) for a county, the person designated as finance officer as defined in Section 17-36-3;
  - 61 (b) for a city, the person designated as budget officer in Subsection 10-6-106(4); or
  - 62 (c) for a town, the town council.
- 63 (3) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the
- 64 signature of a registered voter.
- 65 (4) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative petition or a referendum

- 66 petition to legal voters for their signature.
- 67 (5) "Electronic initiative process" means:
- 68 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-215  
69 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or
- 70 (b) as it relates to a local initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-514 and  
71 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.
- 72 (6) "Electronic referendum process" means:
- 73 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-313  
74 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or
- 75 (b) as it relates to a local referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-614 and  
76 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.
- 77 (7) "Eligible voter" means a legal voter who resides in the jurisdiction of the county, city, or  
78 town that is holding an election on a ballot proposition.
- 79 (8) "Final fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared after voters  
80 approve an initiative that contains the information required by Subsection 20A-7-202.5  
81 (2) or 20A-7-502.5(2).
- 82 (9) "Initial fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared under Section  
83 20A-7-202.5 after the filing of a statewide initiative application.
- 84 (10) "Initial fiscal impact and legal statement" means a financial and legal statement  
85 prepared under Section 20A-7-502.5 or 20A-7-602.5 for a local initiative or a local  
86 referendum.
- 87 (11) "Initiative" means a new law proposed for adoption by the public as provided in this  
88 chapter.
- 89 (12) "Initiative application" means:
- 90 (a) for a statewide initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2) that  
91 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
92 required under Subsection 20A-7-202(2); or
- 93 (b) for a local initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2) that  
94 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
95 required under Subsection 20A-7-502(2).
- 96 (13) "Initiative packet" means:
- 97 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the  
98 petition summary, a copy of the proposed law, and the signature sheets, all of which  
99 have been bound together as a unit; or

- 100 (b) as it relates to a local initiative, a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the  
101 proposed law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a  
102 unit.
- 103 (14) "Initiative petition":
- 104 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 105 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a), petitioning for  
106 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and  
107 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
108 Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(b);
- 109 (b) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 110 (i) means the form described in Subsections 20A-7-215(2) and (3), petitioning for  
111 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and  
112 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
113 Subsection 20A-7-215(5)(b);
- 114 (c) as it relates to a local initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 115 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a), petitioning for  
116 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and  
117 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
118 Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(b); or
- 119 (d) as it relates to a local initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 120 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-514(2)(a), petitioning for  
121 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and  
122 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
123 Subsection 20A-7-514(4)(a).
- 124 (15)(a) "Land use law" means a law of general applicability, enacted based on the  
125 weighing of broad, competing policy considerations, that relates to the use of land,  
126 including land use regulation, a general plan, a land use development code, an  
127 annexation ordinance, the rezoning of a single property or multiple properties, or a  
128 comprehensive zoning ordinance or resolution.
- 129 (b) "Land use law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-9a-103  
130 or 17-27a-103.
- 131 (16) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:
- 132 (a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and  
133 (b) have been obtained, certified, and verified as provided in this chapter.

- 134 (17) "Legal voter" means an individual who is registered to vote in Utah.
- 135 (18) "Legally referable to voters" means:
- 136 (a) for a proposed local initiative, that the proposed local initiative is legally referable to
- 137 voters under Section 20A-7-502.7; or
- 138 (b) for a proposed local referendum, that the proposed local referendum is legally
- 139 referable to voters under Section 20A-7-602.7.
- 140 (19) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney in whose
- 141 jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 142 (20) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose jurisdiction
- 143 a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 144 (21)(a) "Local law" includes:
- 145 (i) an ordinance;
- 146 (ii) a resolution;
- 147 (iii) a land use law;
- 148 (iv) a land use regulation, as defined in Section 10-9a-103; or
- 149 (v) other legislative action of a local legislative body.
- 150 (b) "Local law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-9a-103.
- 151 (22) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, or town.
- 152 (23) "Local obligation law" means a local law passed by the local legislative body
- 153 regarding a bond that was approved by a majority of qualified voters in an election.
- 154 (24) "Local tax law" means a law, passed by a political subdivision with an annual or
- 155 biannual calendar fiscal year, that increases a tax or imposes a new tax.
- 156 (25) "Manual initiative process" means the process for gathering signatures for an initiative
- 157 using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 158 (26) "Manual referendum process" means the process for gathering signatures for a
- 159 referendum using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 160 (27)(a) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or
- 161 referendum.
- 162 (b) "Measure" does not include a ballot proposition for the creation of a new school
- 163 district under Section 53G-3-301.1, 53G-3-301.3, or 53G-3-301.4.
- 164 (28) "Petition summary" means:
- 165 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, the summary described in Section 20A-7-202.3;
- 166 or
- 167 (b) as it relates to a statewide referendum, the summary described in Section

168           20A-7-302.5.

169   ~~[(28)]~~ (29) "Presiding officers" means the president of the Senate and the speaker of the  
170       House of Representatives.

171   ~~[(29)]~~ (30) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or by a  
172       local legislative body is submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection.

173   ~~[(30)]~~ (31) "Referendum application" means:

174       (a) for a statewide referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2) that  
175           includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
176           required under Subsection 20A-7-302(2); or

177       (b) for a local referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-602(2) that  
178           includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
179           required under Subsection 20A-7-602(2).

180   ~~[(31)]~~ (32) "Referendum packet" means:

181       (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of  
182           the petition summary, a copy of the law being submitted or referred to the voters for  
183           their approval or rejection, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound  
184           together as a unit; or

185       (b) as it relates to a local referendum, a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of the  
186           law being submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection, and the  
187           signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.

188   ~~[(32)]~~ (33) "Referendum petition" means:

189       (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the manual referendum process, the  
190           form described in Subsection 20A-7-303(2)(a), petitioning for submission of a law  
191           passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or rejection;

192       (b) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the  
193           form described in Subsection 20A-7-313(2), petitioning for submission of a law  
194           passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or rejection;

195       (c) as it relates to a local referendum, using the manual referendum process, the form  
196           described in Subsection 20A-7-603(2)(a), petitioning for submission of a local law to  
197           legal voters for their approval or rejection; or

198       (d) as it relates to a local referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the form  
199           described in Subsection 20A-7-614(2), petitioning for submission of a local law to  
200           legal voters for their approval or rejection.

201   ~~[(33)]~~ (34) "Signature":

- 202 (a) for a statewide initiative:
- 203 (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature  
204 collected under Section 20A-7-215 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 205 (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 206 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
207 described in Section 20A-7-203;
- 208 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
209 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
210 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
211 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
212 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 213 (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 214 (b) for a statewide referendum:
- 215 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature  
216 collected under Section 20A-7-313 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 217 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 218 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
219 described in Section 20A-7-303;
- 220 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
221 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
222 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
223 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
224 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 225 (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 226 (c) for a local initiative:
- 227 (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature  
228 collected under Section 20A-7-514 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 229 (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 230 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
231 described in Section 20A-7-503;
- 232 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
233 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
234 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
235 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in

- 236 Section 20A-7-106; and  
 237 (C) does not include an electronic signature; or  
 238 (d) for a local referendum:  
 239 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature  
 240 collected under Section 20A-7-614 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or  
 241 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:  
 242 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
 243 described in Section 20A-7-603;  
 244 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
 245 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
 246 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
 247 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
 248 Section 20A-7-106; and  
 249 (C) does not include an electronic signature.

250 ~~[(34)]~~ (35) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used  
 251 under the manual initiative process or the manual referendum process to collect  
 252 signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.

253 ~~[(35)]~~ (36) "Special local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition that is not a  
 254 standard local ballot proposition.

255 ~~[(36)]~~ (37) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and  
 256 who sign the initiative application or referendum application.

257 ~~[(37)]~~ (38)(a) "Standard local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition for an  
 258 initiative or a referendum.

259 (b) "Standard local ballot proposition" does not include a property tax referendum  
 260 described in Section 20A-7-613.

261 ~~[(38)]~~ (39) "Tax percentage difference" means the difference between the tax rate proposed  
 262 by an initiative or an initiative petition and the current tax rate.

263 ~~[(39)]~~ (40) "Tax percentage increase" means a number calculated by dividing the tax  
 264 percentage difference by the current tax rate and rounding the result to the nearest  
 265 thousandth.

266 ~~[(40)]~~ (41) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as required  
 267 in Section 20A-7-105.

268 Section 2. Section **20A-7-104** is amended to read:

269 **20A-7-104 . Signature gatherers -- Payments -- Badges -- Information --**



**270 Requirement to provide initiative or referendum for reading.**

- 271 (1) A person may not pay a person to gather signatures under this chapter based on a rate  
272 per signature, on a rate per verified signature, or on the initiative or referendum  
273 qualifying for the ballot.
- 274 (2) A person that pays a person to gather signatures under this section shall base the  
275 payment solely on an hourly rate.
- 276 (3) A person may not accept payment made in violation of this section.
- 277 (4) An individual who is paid to gather signatures for a petition described in this chapter  
278 shall, while gathering signatures, wear a badge on the front of the individual's torso that  
279 complies with the following, ensuring that the information on the badge is clearly visible  
280 to the individual from whom a signature is sought:
- 281 (a) the badge shall be printed in black ink on white cardstock and laminated; and
  - 282 (b) the information on the badge shall be in at least 24-point type and include the  
283 following information:
    - 284 (i) an identification number that is unique to the individual gathering signatures,  
285 assigned by:
      - 286 (A) for a statewide initiative or referendum, the lieutenant governor; or
      - 287 (B) for a local initiative or referendum, the local clerk;
    - 288 (ii) the title of the initiative or referendum;
    - 289 (iii) the words "Paid Signature Gatherer"; and
    - 290 (iv) the name of the entity paying the signature gatherer.
- 291 (5) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall offer a paper document to  
292 each individual who signs the petition that:
- 293 (a) is printed in black ink on white paper, white cardstock, or a white sticker, in at least  
294 12-point type; and
  - 295 (b)(i) for an initiative, includes the name of the initiative and the following statement:  
296 "You may view the initiative, its fiscal impact, and information on removing your  
297 signature from the petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the  
298 information described in Section 20A-7-202.7 or 20A-7-502.6, as applicable]."; or
  - 299 (ii) for a referendum, includes the name of the referendum and the following statement:  
300 "You may view the referendum and information on removing your signature from the  
301 petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the information described in  
302 Section 20A-7-304.5 or 20A-7-604.5, as applicable]."
  - 303 ~~[(6) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall, before collecting a~~

304 ~~signature from an individual, present to the individual a printed or digital copy of the~~  
 305 ~~initiative or referendum and wait for the individual to read the initiative or referendum.]~~

306 (6) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall:

307 (a) for a statewide initiative, present the individual with a printed or digital copy of the  
 308 petition summary and the law proposed by the initiative and wait for the individual to  
 309 read the petition summary or the law proposed by the initiative;

310 (b) for a statewide referendum, present the individual with a printed or digital copy of  
 311 the petition summary and the law that the referendum seeks to overturn and wait for  
 312 the individual to read the petition summary or the law that the referendum seeks to  
 313 overturn;

314 (c) for a local initiative, present the individual with a printed or digital copy of the law  
 315 proposed by the initiative and wait for the individual to read the law proposed by the  
 316 initiative; or

317 (d) for a local referendum, present the individual with a printed or digital copy of the  
 318 law that the referendum seeks to overturn and wait for the individual to read the law  
 319 that the referendum seeks to overturn.

320 (7) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

321 Section 3. Section **20A-7-105** is amended to read:

322 **20A-7-105 . Manual petition processes -- Obtaining signatures -- Verification --**  
 323 **Submitting the petition -- Certification of signatures -- Transfer to lieutenant governor --**  
 324 **Removal of signature.**

325 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process and the manual referendum  
 326 process.

327 (2) As used in this section:

328 (a) "Local petition" means:

329 (i) a manual local initiative petition described in Part 5, Local Initiatives -  
 330 Procedures; or

331 (ii) a manual local referendum petition described in Part 6, Local Referenda -  
 332 Procedures.

333 (b) "Packet" means an initiative packet or referendum packet.

334 (c) "Petition" means a local petition or statewide petition.

335 (d) "Statewide petition" means:

336 (i) a manual statewide initiative petition described in Part 2, Statewide Initiatives; or

337 (ii) a manual statewide referendum petition described in Part 3, Statewide Referenda.

- 338 (3)(a) A Utah voter may sign a statewide petition if the voter is a legal voter.
- 339 (b) A Utah voter may sign a local petition if the voter:
- 340 (i) is a legal voter; and
- 341 (ii) resides in the local jurisdiction.
- 342 (4)(a) The sponsors shall ensure that the individual in whose presence each signature
- 343 sheet was signed:
- 344 (i) is at least 18 years old;
- 345 (ii) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification printed on the last
- 346 page of each packet; and
- 347 (iii) is informed that each signer is required to read~~[-and understand]:~~
- 348 (A) for a statewide initiative petition, the petition summary or the law proposed by
- 349 the initiative;
- 350 ~~[(A)] (B) for [an] a local initiative petition, the law proposed by the initiative;[-or]~~
- 351 (C) for a statewide referendum petition, the petition summary or the law that the
- 352 referendum petition seeks to overturn; or
- 353 ~~[(B)] (D) for a local referendum petition, the law that the referendum petition seeks~~
- 354 to overturn.
- 355 (b) An individual may not sign the verification printed on the last page of a packet if the
- 356 individual signed a signature sheet in the packet.
- 357 (5)(a) The sponsors, or an agent of the sponsors, shall submit a signed and verified
- 358 packet to the county clerk of the county in which the packet was circulated before 5
- 359 p.m. no later than the earlier of:
- 360 (i) for a statewide initiative:
- 361 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the initiative packet;
- 362 (B) 316 days after the day on which the application for the initiative petition is
- 363 filed; or
- 364 (C) the February 15 immediately before the next regular general election
- 365 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202;
- 366 (ii) for a statewide referendum:
- 367 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the referendum
- 368 packet; or
- 369 (B) 40 days after the day on which the legislative session at which the law passed
- 370 ends;
- 371 (iii) for a local initiative:

- 372 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the initiative packet;  
373 (B) 316 days after the day on which the application is filed;  
374 (C) the April 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately  
375 after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local initiative is a  
376 county initiative; or  
377 (D) the April 15 immediately before the next municipal general election  
378 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local  
379 initiative is a municipal initiative; or  
380 (iv) for a local referendum:  
381 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the referendum  
382 packet; or  
383 (B) 45 days after the day on which the sponsors receive the items described in  
384 Subsection 20A-7-604(3) from the local clerk.  
385 (b) A person may not submit a packet after the applicable deadline described in  
386 Subsection (5)(a).  
387 (c) Before delivering an initiative packet to the county clerk under this Subsection (5),  
388 the sponsors shall send an email to each individual who provides a legible, valid  
389 email address on the signature sheet that includes the following:  
390 (i) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding  
391 Your Petition Signature"; and  
392 (ii) the body of the email shall include the following statement in 12-point type:  
393 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:  
394 [insert title of initiative]  
395 To access a copy of the initiative petition, the initiative, the fiscal impact statement, and  
396 information on the deadline for removing your signature from the petition, please visit the  
397 following link: [insert a uniform resource locator that takes the individual directly to the page  
398 on the lieutenant governor's or county clerk's website that includes the information referred to  
399 in the email]."  
400 (d) For a statewide initiative, the sponsors shall, no later than 5 p.m. on the day on which  
401 the sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the county clerk, submit to the  
402 lieutenant governor:  
403 (i) a list containing:  
404 (A) the name and email address of each individual the sponsors sent, or caused to  
405 be sent, the email described in Subsection (5)(c); and

- 406 (B) the date the email was sent;
- 407 (ii) a copy of the email described in Subsection (5)(c); and
- 408 (iii) the following written verification, completed and signed by each of the sponsors:
- 409 "Verification of initiative sponsor State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_,
- 410 of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:
- 411 I am a sponsor of the initiative petition entitled \_\_\_\_\_; and
- 412 I sent, or caused to be sent, to each individual who provided a legible, valid email
- 413 address on a signature sheet submitted to the county clerk in relation to the initiative petition,
- 414 the email described in Utah Code Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(c).
- 415 \_\_\_\_\_
- 416 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)".
- 417 (e) For a local initiative, the sponsors shall, no later than 5 p.m. on the day on which the
- 418 sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the local clerk, submit to the local clerk
- 419 the items described in Subsection (5)(d).
- 420 (f) Signatures gathered for an initiative petition are not valid if the sponsors do not
- 421 comply with Subsection (5)(c), (d), or (e).
- 422 (6)(a) Within 21 days after the day on which the county clerk receives the packet, the
- 423 county clerk shall:
- 424 (i) use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002, or 20A-7-106 if applicable,
- 425 to determine whether each signer is a legal voter and, as applicable, the
- 426 jurisdiction where the signer is registered to vote;
- 427 (ii) for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum:
- 428 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter;
- 429 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal
- 430 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's
- 431 website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and
- 432 (C) deliver the verified packet to the lieutenant governor;
- 433 (iii) for a local initiative or a local referendum:
- 434 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter who is
- 435 registered in the jurisdiction to which the initiative or referendum relates;
- 436 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal
- 437 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's
- 438 website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and
- 439 (C) deliver the verified packet to the local clerk.

- 440 (b) For a local initiative or local referendum, the local clerk shall post a link in a  
441 conspicuous location on the local government's website to the posting described in  
442 Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(B):
- 443 (i) for a local initiative, during the period of time described in Subsection 20A-7-507  
444 (3)(a); or
- 445 (ii) for a local referendum, during the period of time described in Subsection  
446 20A-7-607(2)(a)(i).
- 447 (7) The county clerk may not certify a signature under Subsection (6):
- 448 (a) on a packet that is not verified in accordance with Subsection (4); or  
449 (b) that does not have a date of signature next to the signature.
- 450 (8)(a) A voter who signs a statewide initiative petition may have the voter's signature  
451 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to  
452 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later  
453 than the earlier of:
- 454 (i) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk before December 1:
- 455 (A) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal  
456 statement; or
- 457 (B) 90 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name  
458 under Subsection 20A-7-207(2); or
- 459 (ii) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk on or after December 1:
- 460 (A) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal  
461 statement; or
- 462 (B) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name  
463 under Subsection 20A-7-207(2).
- 464 (b) A voter who signs a statewide referendum petition may have the voter's signature  
465 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to  
466 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later  
467 than the earlier of:
- 468 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the statement requesting removal; or  
469 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name  
470 under Subsection 20A-7-307(2).
- 471 (c) A voter who signs a local initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed  
472 from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
473 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than

- 474 the earlier of:
- 475 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement;
- 476 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under
- 477 Subsection 20A-7-507(2);
- 478 (iii) 316 days after the day on which the application is filed; or
- 479 (iv)(A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular
- 480 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section
- 481 20A-7-502; or
- 482 (B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal
- 483 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section
- 484 20A-7-502.
- 485 (d) A voter who signs a local referendum petition may have the voter's signature
- 486 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to
- 487 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later
- 488 than the earlier of:
- 489 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the statement requesting removal; or
- 490 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under
- 491 Subsection 20A-7-607(2)(a).
- 492 (e) In order for the signature to be removed, the county clerk must receive the statement
- 493 described in this Subsection (8) before 5 p.m. no later than the applicable deadline
- 494 described in this Subsection (8).
- 495 (f) A county clerk shall analyze a signature, for purposes of removing a signature from a
- 496 petition, in accordance with Subsection 20A-1-1003(3).
- 497 (9)(a) If the county clerk timely receives a statement requesting signature removal under
- 498 Subsection (8) and determines that the signature should be removed from the petition
- 499 under Subsection 20A-1-1003(3), the county clerk shall:
- 500 (i) ensure that the voter's name, voter identification number, and date of signature are
- 501 not included in the posting described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B) or (iii)(B); and
- 502 (ii) remove the voter's signature from the signature packets and signature packet
- 503 totals.
- 504 (b) The county clerk shall comply with Subsection (9)(a) before the later of:
- 505 (i) the deadline described in Subsection (6)(a); or
- 506 (ii) two business days after the day on which the county clerk receives a statement
- 507 requesting signature removal under Subsection (8).

508 (10) A person may not retrieve a packet from a county clerk, or make any alterations or  
509 corrections to a packet, after the packet is submitted to the county clerk.

510 Section 4. Section **20A-7-202.3** is enacted to read:

511 **20A-7-202.3 . Petition summary -- Preparation -- Challenge.**

512 (1) Within three working days after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives an  
513 initiative application, the lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the initiative  
514 application to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

515 (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall prepare a petition  
516 summary that:

517 (a) is an impartial, general description of the law proposed by the initiative; and

518 (b) is as short as reasonably possible, given the length and complexity of the law  
519 proposed by the initiative.

520 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and  
521 General Counsel receives a copy of the initiative application from the lieutenant  
522 governor, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

523 (a) deliver a copy of the petition summary to the lieutenant governor's office; and

524 (b) mail a copy of the petition summary to the first five sponsors named in the initiative  
525 application.

526 (4)(a) Three or more of the sponsors of the initiative petition may, within 20 calendar  
527 days after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel  
528 delivers the petition summary to the lieutenant governor's office, challenge the  
529 wording of the petition summary to the appropriate court.

530 (b) After receipt of the challenge, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
531 notice of the challenge to:

532 (i) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; and

533 (ii) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
534 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
535 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the individual  
536 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the initiative.

537 (c) There is a presumption that the petition summary prepared by the Office of  
538 Legislative Research and General Counsel is an impartial and accurate general  
539 description of the law proposed by the initiative.

540 (d) The court may not revise the petition summary unless the plaintiffs rebut the  
541 presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the petition summary is



542 false or biased.

543 (e) The court shall:

544 (i) examine the petition summary;

545 (ii) hear arguments; and

546 (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

547 Section 5. Section **20A-7-202.7** is amended to read:

548 **20A-7-202.7 . Posting initiative information.**

549 (1) Within one business day after the later of the day on which the lieutenant governor  
550 receives the initial fiscal impact statement under Subsection 20A-7-202.5(3)(a) or the  
551 day on which the lieutenant governor receives the petition summary under Subsection  
552 20A-7-202.3(3)(a), the lieutenant governor shall post the following information together  
553 in a conspicuous place on the lieutenant governor's website:

554 (a) the initiative application;

555 (b) the initiative petition;

556 (c) the petition summary;

557 [~~e~~] (d) the text of the proposed law;

558 [~~d~~] (e) the initial fiscal impact statement; and

559 [~~e~~] (f) information describing how an individual may remove the individual's signature  
560 from the initiative petition.

561 (2) The lieutenant governor shall:

562 (a) promptly update the information described in Subsection (1) if the information  
563 changes; and

564 (b) maintain the information described in Subsection (1) on the lieutenant governor's  
565 website until the initiative fails to qualify for the ballot or is passed or defeated at an  
566 election.

567 Section 6. Section **20A-7-203** is amended to read:

568 **20A-7-203 . Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative petition and signature**  
569 **sheets.**

570 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

571 (2)(a) Each proposed initiative petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

572 "INITIATIVE PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

573 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the following proposed

574 law be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for their/its approval or rejection at the

575 regular general election/session to be held/ beginning on \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

576 Each signer says:

577 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
578 disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter the  
579 initials "AV" as my signature;

580 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
581 initiative petition;

582 I have personally read the [~~entire statement~~] petition summary or the text of the law  
583 proposed by the initiative, and the other statements included with this packet;

584 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

585 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name.

586 NOTICE TO SIGNERS:

587 Public hearings to discuss this initiative were held at: (list dates and locations of public  
588 hearings.)".

589 (b) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement shall appear, in at least  
590 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a):

591 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
592 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
593 increase in the current tax rate."

594 (c) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
595 proposed law to each initiative petition.

596 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

597 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

598 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above  
599 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

600 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least 14-point,  
601 bold type;

602 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch  
603 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

604 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

605 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
606 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

607 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

608 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

609 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

- 610 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
611 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
612 type;
- 613 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 614 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
615 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;
- 616 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 617 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;
- 618 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
619 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;
- 620 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 621 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
622 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;
- 623 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 624 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;
- 625 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
626 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;
- 627 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 628 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
629 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;
- 630 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and
- 631 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
632 and contain the following statement, "By signing this initiative petition, you are  
633 stating that you have read [~~and understand~~] the petition summary or the law  
634 proposed by this initiative petition." in 12-point type;
- 635 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
636 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and
- 637 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include in the following order:
- 638 (i) the words "Fiscal Impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at least  
639 12-point, bold type;
- 640 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (5), the initial fiscal impact statement issued by  
641 the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in accordance with Subsection  
642 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in accordance with Subsection  
643 20A-7-204.1(5), in not less than 12-point type;

644 (iii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:

645 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
646 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
647 increase in the current tax rate."; and

648 (iv) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not  
649 less than eight-point type:

650 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
651 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
652 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
653 that the individual is not a registered voter.

654 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
655 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
656 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
657 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records."

658 (4) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
659 statement:

660 Verification of signature collector

661 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_

662 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

663 I am at least 18 years old;

664 All the names that appear in this initiative packet were signed by individuals who  
665 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed  
666 the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
667 disability, I have signed this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the  
668 individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
669 signature;

670 I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this initiative  
671 packet by the initials "AV":

672 I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the initiative  
673 petition on the individual's behalf;

674 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the mental  
675 capacity to give direction or consent;

676 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
677 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the initiative petition on the individual's behalf;

678 I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
679 or consenting for me to, sign the initiative petition on the individual's behalf; and

680 I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature  
681 sheet;

682 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by  
683 the initiative;

684 I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written  
685 correctly, that each signer has read the petition summary or the law proposed by the initiative,  
686 and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah;

687 The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name; and

688 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this initiative  
689 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

690

---

691 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

692 (5) If the initial fiscal impact statement described in Subsection (3)(f)(ii), as updated in  
693 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5), exceeds 200 words, the Office of the  
694 Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare a shorter summary statement, for the purpose of  
695 inclusion on an initiative signature sheet, that does not exceed 200 words.

696 (6) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative petitions  
697 are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

698 Section 7. Section **20A-7-204** is amended to read:

699 **20A-7-204 . Manual initiative process -- Circulation requirements -- Lieutenant**  
700 **governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

701 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

702 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the sponsors  
703 or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described in  
704 Subsection (3), circulate initiative packets that meet the form requirements of this part.

705 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the initiative petition,  
706 the petition summary, and a signature sheet within three days after the day on which the  
707 following conditions are fulfilled:

708 (a) the sponsors hold the final hearing required under Section 20A-7-204.1;

709 (b) the sponsors provide to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor the video tape, audio  
710 tape, or comprehensive minutes described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(4) for each  
711 public hearing described in Section 20A-7-204.1;

- 712 (c) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has, in accordance with  
 713 Subsection 20A-7-202.3(3), provided the petition summary;
- 714 (d) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst has, in accordance with Subsection  
 715 20A-7-202.5(3), provided the initial fiscal impact statement;
- 716 ~~[(e)]~~ (e)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
 717 that the sponsors waive the opportunity to change the text of the proposed law  
 718 under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);
- 719 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(a), for changing the text of  
 720 the proposed law passes without the sponsors filing an application addendum in  
 721 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5); or
- 722 (iii) if the sponsors file an application addendum in accordance with Subsection  
 723 20A-7-204.1(5)~~[-]~~ :
- 724 (A) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel provides to the Office  
 725 of the Lieutenant Governor an updated petition summary, in accordance with  
 726 Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(b) or a written notice indicating that no changes to  
 727 the petition summary are necessary; and
- 728 (B) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst provides to the Office of the  
 729 Lieutenant Governor~~[-]~~
- 730 ~~[(A)]~~ an updated initial fiscal impact statement, in accordance with Subsection  
 731 20A-7-204.1(5)(b)~~[-]~~ or ~~[(B)]~~ a written notice indicating that no changes to  
 732 the initial fiscal impact statement are necessary;
- 733 ~~[(d)]~~ (f)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
 734 that the sponsors waive the opportunity to:
- 735 (A) challenge the petition summary in court; and
- 736 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated petition summary in court;
- 737 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.3(4)(a), for:
- 738 (A) challenging the petition summary in court passes without the sponsors filing a  
 739 petition to challenge; and
- 740 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated petition summary in court passes  
 741 without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or
- 742 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the petition summary in court or,  
 743 if applicable, the updated petition summary in court, the court's decision becomes  
 744 final;
- 745 (g)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that

- 746 the sponsors waive the opportunity to:
- 747 (A) challenge the initial fiscal impact statement in court; and
- 748 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court;
- 749 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.5(4)(a)(i), for:
- 750 (A) challenging the initial fiscal impact statement in court passes without the
- 751 sponsors filing a petition to challenge; and
- 752 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court
- 753 passes without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or
- 754 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the initial fiscal impact
- 755 statement in court or, if applicable, the updated initial fiscal impact statement in
- 756 court, and the court's decision becomes final; and
- 757 ~~(e)~~ (h) the sponsors sign an agreement, under Subsection (6)(a), with the Office of the
- 758 Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to
- 759 number the initiative packets.
- 760 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:
- 761 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative
- 762 packets; and
- 763 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)
- 764 meet the requirements of this part.
- 765 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for
- 766 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.
- 767 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create the initiative packets by binding
- 768 a copy of the initiative petition with the petition summary and the text of the
- 769 proposed law, including any modification made under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)
- 770 and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative
- 771 packets may be conveniently opened for signing.
- 772 (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 773 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 774 (i) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the
- 775 sponsors may use to number initiative packets;
- 776 (ii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying the
- 777 range of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the initiative packets; and
- 778 (iii) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers
- 779 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in

780 the range.

781 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:

782 (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's  
783 office; or

784 (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner  
785 directed by the lieutenant governor's office.

786 Section 8. Section **20A-7-204.1** is amended to read:

787 **20A-7-204.1 . Public hearings to be held before initiative petitions are circulated**

788 **-- Changes to a proposed law or an initial fiscal impact statement.**

789 (1)(a) After issuance of the initial fiscal impact statement by the Office of the  
790 Legislative Fiscal Analyst and before circulating initiative packets for signature  
791 statewide, sponsors of the initiative shall hold at least seven public hearings  
792 throughout Utah as follows:

793 (i) one in the Bear River region -- Box Elder, Cache, or Rich County;

794 (ii) one in the Southwest region -- Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, or Washington  
795 County;

796 (iii) one in the Mountain region -- Summit, Utah, or Wasatch County;

797 (iv) one in the Central region -- Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, or Wayne  
798 County;

799 (v) one in the Southeast region -- Carbon, Emery, Grand, or San Juan County;

800 (vi) one in the Uintah Basin region -- Daggett, Duchesne, or Uintah County; and

801 (vii) one in the Wasatch Front region -- Davis, Morgan, Salt Lake, Tooele, or Weber  
802 County.

803 (b) Of the seven public hearings, the sponsors of the initiative shall hold at least two of  
804 the public hearings in a first or second class county, but not in the same county.

805 (c) The sponsors may not hold a public hearing described in this section until the later of:

806 (i) one day after the day on which a sponsor receives a copy of the initial fiscal  
807 impact statement under Subsection 20A-7-202.5(3)(b); or

808 (ii) if three or more sponsors file a petition for an action challenging the accuracy of  
809 the initial fiscal impact statement under Section 20A-7-202.5, the day after the day  
810 on which the action is final.

811 (2)(a) The sponsors shall, before 5 p.m. at least 10 calendar days before the date of the  
812 public hearing, provide written notice of the public hearing, including the date, time,  
813 and location of the public hearing:



- 814 (i) to the lieutenant governor;
- 815 (ii) to the county clerk of each county in the region where the public hearing will be  
816 held;
- 817 (iii) each state senator, state representative, and county commission or county council  
818 member who is elected in whole or in part from the region where the public  
819 hearing will be held; and
- 820 (iv) in accordance with Section 45-1-101, for at least three calendar days before the  
821 day of the public hearing.
- 822 (b) The lieutenant governor shall post the notice described in Subsection (2)(a) on the  
823 lieutenant governor's website for at least three days before the day of the public  
824 hearing.
- 825 (c) The county clerk of each county in the region where the public hearing will be held:
- 826 (i) shall post the notice described in Subsection (2)(a) for the county, as a class A  
827 notice under Section 63G-30-102, for at least three days before the day of the  
828 public hearing; and
- 829 (ii) may bill the sponsors of the initiative for the cost of preparing, printing, and  
830 posting the notice described in Subsection (2)(c)(i).
- 831 (3) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the written notice described in Subsection (2) shall  
832 include the following statement, in bold, in the same font and point size as the largest font and  
833 point size appearing in the notice:
- 834 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
835 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
836 increase in the current tax rate."
- 837 (4)(a) During the public hearing, the sponsors shall either:
- 838 (i) video tape or audio tape the public hearing; or
- 839 (ii) take comprehensive minutes of the public hearing, detailing the names and titles  
840 of each speaker and summarizing each speaker's comments.
- 841 (b) The lieutenant governor shall make copies of the tapes or minutes available to the  
842 public.
- 843 (c) For each public hearing, the sponsors shall:
- 844 (i) during the entire time that the public hearing is held, post a copy of the petition  
845 summary and the initial fiscal impact statement in a conspicuous location at the  
846 entrance to the room where the sponsors hold the public hearing; and
- 847 (ii) place at least 50 copies of the petition summary and the initial fiscal impact

848 statement, for distribution to public hearing attendees, in a conspicuous location at  
849 the entrance to the room where the sponsors hold the public hearing.

850 (d) Regardless of whether an individual is present to observe or speak at a public hearing:

851 (i) the sponsors may not end the public hearing until at least one hour after the public  
852 hearing begins; and

853 (ii) the sponsors shall provide at least one hour at the public hearing that is open for  
854 public comment.

855 (5)(a) Before 5 p.m. within 14 days after the day on which the sponsors conduct the  
856 seventh public hearing described in Subsection (1)(a), and before circulating an  
857 initiative signature packet for signatures, the sponsors of the initiative may change  
858 the text of the proposed law if:

859 (i) a change to the text is:

860 (A) germane to the text of the proposed law filed with the lieutenant governor  
861 under Section 20A-7-202; and

862 (B) consistent with the requirements of Subsection 20A-7-202(5); and

863 (ii) each sponsor signs, attested to by a notary public, an application addendum to  
864 change the text of the proposed law.

865 (b)(i) Within three working days after the day on which the lieutenant governor  
866 receives an application addendum to change the text of the proposed law for an  
867 initiative, the lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the application addendum  
868 to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel and the Office of the  
869 Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

870 (ii) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

871 (A) update the petition summary by following the procedures and requirements of  
872 Section 20A-7-202.3; or

873 (B) provide notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that no changes to the  
874 petition summary are necessary.

875 [(ii)] (iii) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:

876 (A) update the initial fiscal impact statement, by following the procedures and  
877 requirements of Section 20A-7-202.5 to reflect a change to the text of the  
878 proposed law ; or

879 (B) provide written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor indicating that  
880 no changes to the initial fiscal impact statement are necessary.

881 Section 9. Section **20A-7-209** is amended to read:

882           **20A-7-209 . Short title and summary of initiative -- Duties of lieutenant governor**  
883 **and Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.**

884 (1) On or before June 5 before the regular general election, the lieutenant governor shall  
885 deliver a copy of all of the proposed laws that have qualified for the ballot to the Office  
886 of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

887 (2)(a) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

888           (i) entitle each statewide initiative that has qualified for the ballot "Proposition  
889           Number \_\_\_" and give it a number as assigned under Section 20A-6-107;

890           (ii) prepare for each initiative:

891                   (A) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the  
892                   subject of the initiative; and

893                   (B) an impartial summary of the contents of the initiative, not exceeding 125  
894                   words; and

895           (iii) provide each short title, and summary to the lieutenant governor on or before  
896           June 26.

897           (b) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the proposed law.

898 (c) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the Office of Legislative Research and General  
899 Counsel shall include the following statement, in bold, in the summary:

900           "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
901           percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
902           increase in the current tax rate."

903 (d) Subject to Subsection (4), for each statewide initiative, the official ballot shall show,  
904 in the following order:

905           (i) the number of the initiative, determined in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;

906           (ii) the short title;

907           (iii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(e):

908                   (A) the summary;

909                   (B) the text of the proposed law; and

910                   (C) a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may  
911                   review additional information relating to each initiative, including the  
912                   information described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2), the petition summary  
913                   described in Section 20A-7-202.3 as updated under Section 20A-7-204.1, the  
914                   initial fiscal impact statement described in Section 20A-7-202.5[~~5~~] as updated  
915                   under Section 20A-7-204.1, and the arguments relating to the initiative that are

- 916 included in the voter information pamphlet; and
- 917 (iv) the initial fiscal impact statement prepared under Section 20A-7-202.5, as
- 918 updated under Section 20A-7-204.1.
- 919 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) is shown on the official
- 920 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition
- 921 insert that includes the short title and summary for each initiative on the ballot and a
- 922 link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review the
- 923 additional information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(C).
- 924 (f) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) for all initiatives on the
- 925 ballot, and the information described in Subsection 20A-7-308(2)(c)(iii) for all
- 926 referenda on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following
- 927 statement at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures,
- 928 "The ballot proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary
- 929 of each initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed
- 930 directly on the ballot."
- 931 (3) On or before June 27, the lieutenant governor shall send a copy of the short title and
- 932 summary to any sponsor of the petition.
- 933 (4)(a)(i) At least three of the sponsors of the petition may, on or before July 6,
- 934 challenge the wording of the short title and summary prepared by the Office of
- 935 Legislative Research and General Counsel to the appropriate court.
- 936 (ii) After receipt of the challenge, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to
- 937 send notice of the challenge to:
- 938 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument for or against the initiative that
- 939 is the subject of the challenge; or
- 940 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has
- 941 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the
- 942 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the individual
- 943 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the initiative.
- 944 (b)(i) There is a presumption that the short title prepared by the Office of Legislative
- 945 Research and General Counsel is an impartial description of the contents of the
- 946 initiative.
- 947 (ii) The court may not revise the wording of the short title unless the plaintiffs rebut
- 948 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the short title is
- 949 false or biased.

- 950 (iii) There is a presumption that the summary prepared by the Office of Legislative  
 951 Research and General Counsel is an impartial summary of the contents of the  
 952 initiative.
- 953 (iv) The court may not revise the wording of the summary unless the plaintiffs rebut  
 954 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the summary is  
 955 false or biased.
- 956 (c) The court shall:
- 957 (i) examine the short title and summary;
- 958 (ii) hear arguments; and
- 959 (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.
- 960 (d) The lieutenant governor shall, in accordance with the court's order, certify the short  
 961 title and summary to the county clerks for inclusion in the ballot or ballot proposition  
 962 insert, as required by this section.

963 Section 10. Section **20A-7-215** is amended to read:

964 **20A-7-215 . Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative petition --**

965 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

- 966 (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.
- 967 (2)(a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:
- 968 "This INITIATIVE PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant  
 969 Governor:
- 970 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following  
 971 proposed law be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for their/its approval or  
 972 rejection at the regular general election/session to be held/beginning on  
 973 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year)."
- 974 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link  
 975 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [  
 976 ~~and understand~~]the information presented on this screen."
- 977 (3)(a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the following  
 978 statement:
- 979 "Public hearings to discuss this initiative were held at: (list dates and locations of public  
 980 hearings.)".
- 981 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
 982 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [  
 983 ~~and understand~~]the information presented on this screen."

- 984 (4)(a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of  
985 proposed law, described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2)(e)(i), followed by the petition  
986 summary, followed by the entire text of the proposed law.
- 987 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
988 at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [  
989 ~~and understand~~] the petition summary or the entire text of the proposed law."
- 990 (5) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
991 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to  
992 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement: "By clicking here, I  
993 attest that I have read [~~and understand~~]the information presented on this screen."  
994 (a) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the  
995 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;  
996 (b)(i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
997 initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
998 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage  
999 increase) percent increase in the current tax rate."; or  
1000 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1001 initiative does not propose a tax increase."  
1002 (c) the initial fiscal impact statement issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal  
1003 Analyst in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in  
1004 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(b);  
1005 (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition  
1006 may be paid for gathering signatures; and  
1007 (e) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":  
1008 "I have personally read the entirety of each statement presented on this device, except  
1009 that, in relation to the law proposed by the initiative, I have read either the entire petition  
1010 summary or the entire proposed law;  
1011 I am personally signing this initiative petition;  
1012 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
1013 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1014 accurate.  
1015 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
1016 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1017 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows

1018 that the individual is not a registered voter.

1019 WARNING

1020 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
1021 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
1022 made public.

1023 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

1024 (6)(a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1025 (5)(e), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your  
1026 time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1027 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1028 (5)(e), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
1029 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the initiative petition through the  
1030 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1031 Section 11. Section **20A-7-216** is amended to read:

1032 **20A-7-216 . Electronic initiative process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1033 **remove signature.**

1034 (1) This section applies to the electronic initiative process.

1035 (2) A Utah voter may sign an initiative petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1036 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from an  
1037 individual:

1038 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1039 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1040 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read [~~and understand~~] the petition summary  
1041 or the law proposed by the initiative.

1042 (4) A voter who signs an initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed from the  
1043 initiative petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the county  
1044 clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m. no later  
1045 than the earlier of:

1046 (a) for an electronic signature gathered before December 1:

1047 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

1048 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the county clerk posts the voter's name under  
1049 Subsection 20A-7-217(4); or

1050 (b) for an electronic signature gathered on or after December 1:

1051 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

- 1052 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the county clerk posts the voter's name under  
1053 Subsection 20A-7-217(4).
- 1054 (5)(a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection  
1055 (4) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a  
1056 signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and  
1057 Section 20A-21-201.
- 1058 (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from an initiative petition in  
1059 accordance with this section.
- 1060 (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing an  
1061 electronic signature from an initiative petition, in accordance with Subsection  
1062 20A-1-1003(3).
- 1063 Section 12. Section **20A-7-302.5** is enacted to read:
- 1064 **20A-7-302.5 . Petition summary -- Preparation -- Challenge.**
- 1065 (1) Within three working days after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives a  
1066 referendum application, the lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the referendum  
1067 application to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
- 1068 (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall prepare a petition  
1069 summary that:
- 1070 (a) is an impartial, general description of the law that is the subject of the proposed  
1071 referendum; and
- 1072 (b) is as short as reasonably possible, given the length and complexity of the law that is  
1073 the subject of the proposed referendum.
- 1074 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and  
1075 General Counsel receives a copy of the referendum application from the lieutenant  
1076 governor, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:
- 1077 (a) deliver a copy of the petition summary to the lieutenant governor's office; and  
1078 (b) mail a copy of the petition summary to the first five sponsors named in the  
1079 referendum application.
- 1080 (4)(a) Three or more of the sponsors of the referendum petition may, within 20 calendar  
1081 days after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel  
1082 delivers the petition summary to the lieutenant governor's office, challenge the  
1083 wording of the petition summary to the appropriate court.
- 1084 (b) After receipt of the challenge, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
1085 notice of the challenge to:



- 1086            (i) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; and  
 1087            (ii) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
 1088            filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
 1089            name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the individual  
 1090            designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the referendum.
- 1091            (c) There is a presumption that the petition summary prepared by the Office of  
 1092            Legislative Research and General Counsel is an impartial and accurate general  
 1093            description of the law that is the subject of the proposed referendum.
- 1094            (d) The court may not revise the petition summary unless the plaintiffs rebut the  
 1095            presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the petition summary is  
 1096            false or biased.
- 1097            (e) The court shall:
- 1098            (i) examine the petition summary;  
 1099            (ii) hear arguments; and  
 1100            (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

1101            Section 13. Section **20A-7-303** is amended to read:

1102            **20A-7-303 . Manual referendum process -- Form of referendum petition and**  
 1103            **signature sheets.**

1104            (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1105            (2)(a) Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1106            "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1107            We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that Senate (or House) Bill No.  
 1108            \_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set forth here  
 1109            the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the Legislature of the state of  
 1110            Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of Utah for their approval or rejection  
 1111            at a regular general election or a statewide special election;

1112            Each signer says:

1113            I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
 1114            qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
 1115            to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

1116            The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 1117            referendum petition;

1118            I have personally read [~~the entire statement~~] the petition summary or the text of the law  
 1119            that the referendum seeks to overturn, and the other statements included with this referendum

- 1120 packet;
- 1121 I am registered to vote in Utah; and
- 1122 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name.".
- 1123 (b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the
- 1124 law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.
- 1125 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:
- 1126 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;
- 1127 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above
- 1128 that line blank for the purpose of binding;
- 1129 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least
- 1130 14-point, bold type;
- 1131 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch
- 1132 from the left side of the paper, as follows:
- 1133 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;
- 1134 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For
- 1135 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;
- 1136 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;
- 1137 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1138 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;
- 1139 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1140 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point
- 1141 type;
- 1142 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1143 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1144 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;
- 1145 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1146 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;
- 1147 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1148 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;
- 1149 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1150 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1151 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;
- 1152 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1153 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;

- 1154 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1155 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;  
 1156 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;  
 1157 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1158 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;  
 1159 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and  
 1160 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
 1161 and contain the following words "By signing this referendum petition, you are  
 1162 stating that you have read [~~and understand~~] the petition summary or the law that  
 1163 this referendum petition seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;

1164 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
 1165 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and

1166 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by  
 1167 the following statement in not less than eight-point type:

1168 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
 1169 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
 1170 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
 1171 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

1172 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
 1173 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
 1174 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
 1175 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records."

1176 (4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 1177 statement:

1178 Verification of signature collector

1179 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_

1180 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1181 I am at least 18 years old;

1182 All the names that appear in this referendum packet were signed by individuals who  
 1183 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed  
 1184 the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
 1185 disability, I have signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of  
 1186 the individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
 1187 signature;

1188 I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum  
1189 packet by the initials "AV":

1190 I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the referendum  
1191 petition on the individual's behalf;

1192 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the mental  
1193 capacity to give direction or consent;

1194 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
1195 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's  
1196 behalf;

1197 I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
1198 or consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and

1199 I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature  
1200 sheet;

1201 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition  
1202 seeks to overturn;

1203 I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written  
1204 correctly, that each signer has read the petition summary or the law that the referendum seeks  
1205 to overturn, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah;

1206 The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name; and

1207 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
1208 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

1209 \_\_\_\_\_  
1210 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date).

1211 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
1212 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1213 Section 14. Section **20A-7-304** is amended to read:

1214 **20A-7-304 . Manual referendum process -- Circulation requirements --**

1215 **Lieutenant governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

1216 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1217 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the sponsors  
1218 or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described in  
1219 Subsection (3), circulate referendum packets that meet the form requirements of this part.

1220 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the referendum  
1221 petition, the petition summary, and a signature sheet within three days after the day on

- 1222 which all of the following conditions are fulfilled:
- 1223 (a) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has, in accordance with
- 1224 Subsection 20A-7-302.5(3), provided the petition summary;
- 1225 (b)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that
- 1226 the sponsors waive the opportunity to challenge the petition summary in court;
- 1227 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-302.5(4)(a), for challenging the
- 1228 petition summary in court passes without the sponsors filing a petition to
- 1229 challenge; or
- 1230 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the petition summary in court,
- 1231 the court's decision becomes final; and
- 1232 (c) the sponsors sign an agreement, under Subsection (6)(a), with the Office of the
- 1233 Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to
- 1234 number the referendum packets.
- 1235 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:
- 1236 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum
- 1237 packets; and
- 1238 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)
- 1239 meet the form requirements of this section.
- 1240 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets for
- 1241 circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.
- 1242 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding
- 1243 a copy of the referendum petition with the petition summary, the text of the law that
- 1244 is the subject of the referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the
- 1245 top in a manner that the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing.
- 1246 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 1247 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 1248 (i) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the
- 1249 sponsors may use to number referendum packets;
- 1250 (ii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying the
- 1251 range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum packets; and
- 1252 (iii) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers
- 1253 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in
- 1254 the range.
- 1255 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:

- 1256 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's  
 1257 office; or  
 1258 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner  
 1259 directed by the lieutenant governor's office.

1260 Section 15. Section **20A-7-304.5** is amended to read:

1261 **20A-7-304.5 . Posting referendum information.**

- 1262 (1) ~~On~~ Within one business day after the day on which the lieutenant governor ~~[complies~~  
 1263 ~~with Subsection 20A-7-304(3), or provides the sponsors with access to the website~~  
 1264 ~~defined in Section 20A-21-101]~~ receives the petition summary under Subsection  
 1265 20A-7-302.5(3), the lieutenant governor shall post the following information together in  
 1266 a conspicuous place on the lieutenant governor's website:  
 1267 (a) the referendum application;  
 1268 ~~[(a)]~~ (b) the referendum petition;  
 1269 (c) the petition summary;  
 1270 ~~[(b)]~~ (d) a copy of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition; and  
 1271 ~~[(c)]~~ (e) information describing how an individual may remove the individual's signature  
 1272 from the referendum petition.

1273 (2) The lieutenant governor shall:

- 1274 (a) promptly update the information described in Subsection (1) if the information  
 1275 changes; and  
 1276 (b) maintain the information described in Subsection (1) on the lieutenant governor's  
 1277 website until the referendum fails to qualify for the ballot or is passed or defeated at  
 1278 an election.

1279 Section 16. Section **20A-7-308** is amended to read:

1280 **20A-7-308 . Short title and summary of referendum -- Duties of lieutenant**  
 1281 **governor and Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.**

- 1282 (1) Whenever a referendum petition is declared sufficient for submission to a vote of the  
 1283 people, the lieutenant governor shall deliver a copy of the referendum petition and the  
 1284 law to which the referendum relates to the Office of Legislative Research and General  
 1285 Counsel.  
 1286 (2)(a) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:  
 1287 (i) entitle each statewide referendum that qualifies for the ballot "Proposition Number  
 1288 \_\_\_" and assign a number to the referendum in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;  
 1289 (ii) prepare for each referendum:

- 1290 (A) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the  
1291 law to which the referendum relates; and
- 1292 (B) an impartial summary of the contents of the law to which the referendum  
1293 relates, not exceeding 125 words; and
- 1294 (iii) submit the short title and summary to the lieutenant governor within 15 days  
1295 after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel  
1296 receives the petition under Subsection (1).
- 1297 (b) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the law that is the  
1298 subject of the referendum.
- 1299 (c) Subject to Subsection (4), for each statewide referendum, the official ballot shall  
1300 show, in the following order:
- 1301 (i) the number of the referendum, determined in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;  
1302 (ii) the short title; and  
1303 (iii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(d):
- 1304 (A) the summary;  
1305 (B) a copy of the law; and  
1306 (C) a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may  
1307 review additional information relating to each referendum, including the  
1308 information described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2), the petition summary  
1309 described in Section 20A-7-302.5, and the arguments relating to the  
1310 referendum that are included in the voter information pamphlet.
- 1311 (d) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii) is shown on the official  
1312 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition  
1313 insert that includes the short title and summary for each referendum on the ballot and  
1314 a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review the  
1315 additional information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii)(C).
- 1316 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection 20A-7-209(2)(d)(iii) for all initiatives  
1317 on the ballot, and the information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii) for all referenda  
1318 on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement  
1319 at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot  
1320 proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each  
1321 initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed directly on the  
1322 ballot."
- 1323 (3) Immediately after the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel submits the

1324 short title and summary to the lieutenant governor, the lieutenant governor shall mail or  
1325 email a copy of the short title and summary to any of the sponsors of the referendum  
1326 petition.

1327 (4)(a)(i) At least three of the sponsors of the referendum petition may, within 15  
1328 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor sends the short title and  
1329 summary, challenge the wording of the short title and summary prepared by the  
1330 Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to the appropriate court.

1331 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
1332 notice of the appeal to:

1333 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument for or against the law to which  
1334 the referendum relates; and

1335 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
1336 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
1337 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the person  
1338 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the referendum.

1339 (b)(i) There is a presumption that the short title prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1340 Research and General Counsel is an impartial description of the contents of the  
1341 referendum.

1342 (ii) The court may not revise the wording of the short title unless the plaintiffs rebut  
1343 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the short title is  
1344 false or biased.

1345 (iii) There is a presumption that the summary prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1346 Research and General Counsel is an impartial summary of the contents of the law  
1347 to which the referendum relates.

1348 (iv) The court may not revise the wording of the summary unless the plaintiffs rebut  
1349 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the summary is  
1350 false or biased.

1351 (c) The court shall:

1352 (i) examine the short title and summary;

1353 (ii) hear arguments; and

1354 (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

1355 (d) The lieutenant governor shall, in accordance with the court's order, certify the short  
1356 title and summary to the county clerks for inclusion in the ballot or ballot proposition  
1357 insert, as required by this section.



1358 Section 17. Section **20A-7-313** is amended to read:

1359 **20A-7-313 . Electronic referendum process -- Form of referendum petition --**  
1360 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

1361 (1) This section applies only to the electronic referendum process.

1362 (2)(a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

1363 "This REFERENDUM PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_, Lieutenant  
1364 Governor:

1365 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully order that Senate (or House) Bill  
1366 No. \_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set forth  
1367 here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the Legislature of the state  
1368 of Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of Utah for their approval or  
1369 rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special election."

1370 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link  
1371 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [  
1372 ~~and understand~~]the information presented on this screen."

1373 (3)(a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the entire text  
1374 of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition.

1375 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
1376 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [  
1377 ~~and understand~~]the entire text of the law that is the subject of the referendum  
1378 petition."

1379 (4)(a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include a statement  
1380 indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum petition may be  
1381 paid for gathering signatures.

1382 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
1383 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [  
1384 ~~and understand~~]the information presented on this screen."

1385 (5) The fourth screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement,  
1386 followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":

1387 "I have personally read the entirety of each statement presented on this device, except  
1388 that, in relation to the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, I have read either the entire  
1389 petition summary or the entire text of the law;

1390 I am personally signing this referendum petition;

1391 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1392 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1393 accurate.

1394 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
1395 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1396 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
1397 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

1398 **WARNING**

1399 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
1400 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this referendum petition will  
1401 be made public.

1402 Do you wish to continue and sign this referendum petition?"

1403 (6)(a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1404 (5), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time.  
1405 Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1406 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection (5),  
1407 the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
1408 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the referendum petition through the  
1409 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1410 Section 18. Section **20A-7-314** is amended to read:

1411 **20A-7-314 . Electronic referendum process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1412 **remove signature.**

1413 (1) This section applies to the electronic referendum process.

1414 (2) A Utah voter may sign a referendum petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1415 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from an  
1416 individual:

1417 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1418 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1419 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read [~~and understand~~] the petition summary  
1420 or the law that is the subject of the referendum petition.

1421 (4) A voter who signs a referendum petition may have the voter's signature removed from  
1422 the referendum petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
1423 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m.  
1424 no later than the earlier of:

1425 (a) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the statement requesting removal; or

1426 (b) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under  
1427 Subsection 20A-7-315(4).

1428 (5)(a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection  
1429 (4) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a  
1430 signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and  
1431 Section 20A-21-201.

1432 (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from a referendum petition in  
1433 accordance with this section.

1434 (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing an  
1435 electronic signature from a referendum petition, in accordance with Subsection  
1436 20A-1-1003(3).

1437 Section 19. **Effective Date.**

1438 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.