

1 **Signature Gathering and Verification Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Paul A. Cutler**

Senate Sponsor: Ronald M. Winterton

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2  
3 **LONG TITLE**

4 **General Description:**

5 This bill modifies requirements for petitions.

6 **Highlighted Provisions:**

7 This bill:

8 ▶ amends, standardizes, and makes technical revisions to the signature collector verification  
9 form included in petition packets;

10 ▶ specifies how an individual may be paid for collecting petition signatures;

11 ▶ beginning on July 1, 2027, requires a clerk who verifies signatures for a petition to send  
12 an email and text message notice to the signer of the petition notifying the signer of the  
13 status of the signer's signature;

14 ▶ requires the lieutenant governor to develop and maintain an online training course to  
15 educate individuals who collect signatures for a petition;

16 ▶ requires an individual who collects signatures for a petition to complete the training  
17 course described above before collecting any signatures for the petition;

18 ▶ requires an election official to reject a signature packet if the individual who collects  
19 signatures for the petition did not complete the online training course described above;

20 ▶ modifies requirements related to statewide initiative and referendum packets by:

21 • removing the requirement that the county clerk deliver each packet to the lieutenant  
22 governor;

23 • requiring the county clerk who verifies packets to certify certain statistical information  
24 to the lieutenant governor; and

25 • directing the county clerk to retain and preserve each packet for at least 22 months;

26 ▶ designates the existing initiative and referendum packet format as one packet type and  
27 creates an alternative packet type with different content and assembly requirements;

- 28           ▶ requires an alternative packet type to provide access to the text of a proposed or referable  
29 law through a QR code rather than a printed copy;
- 30           ▶ for an alternative packet type, requires the initiative petition and each signature sheet to  
31 contain a brief, plain-language description of the principal provisions of the law  
32 proposed by the initiative;
- 33           ▶ allows the sponsors of an initiative or referendum petition to circulate packets using a  
34 traditional packet type, an alternative packet type, or both;
- 35           ▶ repeals provisions permitting an individual to optionally provide the individual's email  
36 address when signing an initiative or referendum signature sheet;
- 37           ▶ updates the formatting and spacing requirements for initiative and referendum signature  
38 sheets;
- 39           ▶ prohibits the sponsors of an initiative or referendum petition from marking or redacting a  
40 signature sheet in a manner that obscures, conceals, or renders illegible a signer's date of  
41 signature or other voter information used for verification;
- 42           ▶ provides that a county clerk may not certify a signature if the date of signature is later  
43 than the applicable deadline for submitting an initiative or referendum packet;
- 44           ▶ on January 1, 2027, repeals provisions requiring the sponsors of an initiative petition to:
- 45               • send an informational email to each initiative petition signer who provides a legible  
46 email address on a signature sheet; and
- 47               • send a list to the lieutenant governor identifying the recipients of the email described  
48 above;
- 49           ▶ beginning on January 1, 2027, requires an election officer to send the email described  
50 above to each eligible voter who signs an initiative petition within two business days of  
51 verifying the voter's signature;
- 52           ▶ makes technical revisions to the required statements that appear on initiative and  
53 referendum signature sheets;
- 54           ▶ modifies certain statements appearing on initiative and referendum packets to provide that:
- 55               • the signer of the packet had an opportunity to read and understand the proposed or  
56 referable law; and
- 57               • for the signature gatherer, the signature gatherer believes that the signer had an  
58 opportunity to read and understand the proposed or referable law; and
- 59           ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

60 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

61 None

62 **Other Special Clauses:**

63 This bill provides a special effective date.

64 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**65 **AMENDS:**66 **20A-1-102 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special  
67 Session, Chapter 668 **20A-1-609 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 32569 **20A-1-1001 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special  
70 Session, Chapter 1671 **20A-1-1002 (Effective 07/01/27)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 11672 **20A-7-101 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special  
73 Session, Chapter 1674 **20A-7-104 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44275 **20A-7-105 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44876 **20A-7-201 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44877 **20A-7-202 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 11778 **20A-7-202.5 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44879 **20A-7-202.7 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 10780 **20A-7-203 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44281 **20A-7-204 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44882 **20A-7-213 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44283 **20A-7-215 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44284 **20A-7-302 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44885 **20A-7-303 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44286 **20A-7-304 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44887 **20A-7-502 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 10788 **20A-7-503 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44289 **20A-7-504 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44890 **20A-7-514 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44291 **20A-7-602 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 10792 **20A-7-603 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 44293 **20A-7-604 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 44894 **20A-8-103 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 38, 44895 **20A-9-405 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 38

96 **20A-9-502 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Second Special  
 97 Session, Chapter 2

98 **20A-21-201 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381,  
 99 448

100 **63I-2-220 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Forth Special  
 101 Session, Chapter 2

102 ENACTS:

103 **20A-1-1004 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

104 **20A-1-1005 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

105

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

107 Section 1. Section **20A-1-102** is amended to read:

108 **20A-1-102 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

109 As used in this title:

110 (1) "Active voter" means a registered voter who has not been classified as an inactive voter  
 111 by the county clerk.

112 (2) "Automatic tabulating equipment" means apparatus that automatically examines and  
 113 counts votes recorded on ballots and tabulates the results.

114 (3)(a) "Ballot" means the storage medium, including a paper, mechanical, or electronic  
 115 storage medium, that records an individual voter's vote.

116 (b) "Ballot" does not include a record to tally multiple votes.

117 (4) "Ballot proposition" means a question, issue, or proposal that is submitted to voters on  
 118 the ballot for their approval or rejection including:

119 (a) an opinion question specifically authorized by the Legislature;

120 (b) a constitutional amendment;

121 (c) an initiative;

122 (d) a referendum;

123 (e) a bond proposition;

124 (f) a judicial retention question;

125 (g) an incorporation of a city or town; or

126 (h) any other ballot question specifically authorized by the Legislature.

127 (5) "Bind," "binding," or "bound" means securing more than one piece of paper together  
 128 using staples, a spiral binder, or another means in at least three places across the top of  
 129 the paper in the blank space reserved for securing the paper.

- 130 (6) "Board of canvassers" means the entities established by Sections 20A-4-301 and  
131 20A-4-306 to canvass election returns.
- 132 (7) "Bond election" means an election held for the purpose of approving or rejecting the  
133 proposed issuance of bonds by a government entity.
- 134 (8) "Business day" means a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday that is not  
135 a holiday.
- 136 (9) "Business reply mail envelope" means an envelope that may be mailed free of charge by  
137 the sender.
- 138 (10) "Calendar day" means any day, regardless of whether the day is a weekend, a holiday,  
139 a business day, or any other type of day.
- 140 (11) "Canvass" means the review of election returns and the official declaration of election  
141 results by the board of canvassers.
- 142 (12) "Canvassing judge" means a poll worker designated to assist in counting ballots at the  
143 canvass.
- 144 (13) "Contracting election officer" means an election officer who enters into a contract or  
145 interlocal agreement with a provider election officer.
- 146 (14) "Convention" means the political party convention at which party officers and  
147 delegates are selected.
- 148 (15) "Counting center" means one or more locations selected by the election officer in  
149 charge of the election for the automatic counting of ballots.
- 150 (16) "Counting judge" means a poll worker designated to count the ballots during election  
151 day.
- 152 (17) "Counting room" means a suitable and convenient private place or room for use by the  
153 poll workers and counting judges to count ballots.
- 154 (18) "County officers" means those county officers that are required by law to be elected.
- 155 (19) "Date of the election" or "election day" or "day of the election":
- 156 (a) means the day that is specified in the calendar year as the day on which the election  
157 occurs; and
- 158 (b) does not include:
- 159 (i) deadlines established for voting by mail, military-overseas voting, or emergency  
160 voting; or
- 161 (ii) any early voting or early voting period as provided under Chapter 3a, Part 6,  
162 Early Voting.
- 163 (20) "Elected official" means:

- 164 (a) a person elected to an office under Section 20A-1-303 or Chapter 4, Part 6,  
165 Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project;
- 166 (b) a person who is considered to be elected to a municipal office in accordance with  
167 Subsection 20A-1-206(1)(c)(ii); or
- 168 (c) a person who is considered to be elected to a special district office in accordance  
169 with Subsection 20A-1-206(3)(b)(ii).
- 170 (21) "Election" means a regular general election, a municipal general election, a statewide  
171 special election, a local special election, a regular primary election, a municipal primary  
172 election, and a special district election.
- 173 (22) "Election Assistance Commission" means the commission established by the Help  
174 America Vote Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-252.
- 175 (23) "Election cycle" means the period beginning on the first day on which individuals are  
176 eligible to file declarations of candidacy and ending when the canvass is completed.
- 177 (24) "Election judge" means a poll worker that is assigned to:
- 178 (a) preside over other poll workers at a polling place;  
179 (b) act as the presiding election judge; or  
180 (c) serve as a canvassing judge, counting judge, or receiving judge.
- 181 (25) "Election material" includes:
- 182 (a) the verification documentation described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(9)(b)(iv);  
183 (b) the list of voters contacted to cure a ballot described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(10)(b);  
184 (c) the record of rejected and resolved ballots described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(11)(a);  
185 (d) any chain of custody documentation described in Section 20A-3a-401.1, including:  
186 (i) the count of ballots described in Subsection 20A-3a-401.1(3); and  
187 (ii) the batch log described in Subsection 20A-3a-401.1(5);  
188 (e) the record of signature verification audits described in Subsection 20A-3a-402.5(4);  
189 (f) the affidavit of compliance described in Subsection 20A-3a-404(2);  
190 (g) the physical and electronic log of replicated ballots described in Subsection  
191 20A-4-104(3);  
192 (h) the physical or electronic log of adjudicated ballots described in Section 20A-5-802.5;  
193 (i) the record of voter database access described in Subsection 20A-5-905(2);  
194 (j) the reports on military and overseas voters described in Section 20A-16-202;  
195 (k) scanned copies of return envelopes;  
196 (l) a copy of the final election results database described in Section 20A-5-802.5; and  
197 (m) the materials used in the programming of the automatic tabulating equipment.

- 198 (26) "Election officer" means:
- 199 (a) the lieutenant governor, for all statewide ballots and elections;
- 200 (b) the county clerk for:
- 201 (i) a county ballot and election; and
- 202 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section
- 203 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5;
- 204 (c) the municipal clerk for:
- 205 (i) a municipal ballot and election; and
- 206 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section
- 207 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5;
- 208 (d) the special district clerk or chief executive officer for:
- 209 (i) a special district ballot and election; and
- 210 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section
- 211 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5; or
- 212 (e) the business administrator or superintendent of a school district for:
- 213 (i) a school district ballot and election; and
- 214 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section
- 215 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5.
- 216 (27) "Election official" means any election officer, election judge, or poll worker.
- 217 (28) "Election results" means:
- 218 (a) for an election other than a bond election, the count of votes cast in the election and
- 219 the election returns requested by the board of canvassers; or
- 220 (b) for bond elections, the count of those votes cast for and against the bond proposition
- 221 plus any or all of the election returns that the board of canvassers may request.
- 222 (29) "Election results database" means the following information generated by voting
- 223 equipment:
- 224 (a) one or more electronic files that contains a digital interpretation of each ballot that is
- 225 counted in an election;
- 226 (b) a ballot image; and
- 227 (c) other information related to a ballot that is adjudicated under Section 20A-4-105.
- 228 (30) "Election returns" means:
- 229 (a) the pollbook;
- 230 (b) the military and overseas absentee voter registration and voting certificates;
- 231 (c) one of the tally sheets;

- 232 (d) any unprocessed ballots;
- 233 (e) all counted ballots;
- 234 (f) all excess ballots;
- 235 (g) all unused ballots;
- 236 (h) all spoiled ballots;
- 237 (i) all ballot disposition forms, including any provisional ballot disposition forms;
- 238 (j) the final election results database described in Section 20A-5-802.5;
- 239 (k) all return envelopes;
- 240 (l) any provisional ballot envelopes; and
- 241 (m) the total votes cast form.
- 242 (31) "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or  
243 logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to  
244 sign the record.
- 245 (32) "Holiday" means a legal holiday described in Subsections 63G-1-301(1) and (2).
- 246 (33) "Inactive voter" means a registered voter who is listed as inactive by a county clerk  
247 under Subsection 20A-2-505(4)(c)(i) or (ii).
- 248 (34) "Judicial office" means the office filled by any judicial officer.
- 249 (35) "Judicial officer" means any justice or judge of a court of record or any county court  
250 judge.
- 251 (36) "Local election" means a regular county election, a regular municipal election, a  
252 municipal primary election, a local special election, a special district election, and a  
253 bond election.
- 254 (37) "Local political subdivision" means a county, a municipality, a special district, or a  
255 local school district.
- 256 (38) "Local special election" means a special election called by the governing body of a  
257 local political subdivision in which all registered voters of the local political subdivision  
258 may vote.
- 259 (39) "Manual ballot" means a paper document produced by an election officer on which an  
260 individual records an individual's vote by directly placing a mark on the paper document  
261 using a pen or other marking instrument.
- 262 (40) "Mechanical ballot" means a record, including a paper record, electronic record, or  
263 mechanical record, that:
- 264 (a) is created via electronic or mechanical means; and
- 265 (b) records an individual voter's vote cast via a method other than an individual directly

- 266 placing a mark, using a pen or other marking instrument, to record an individual  
267 voter's vote.
- 268 (41) "Municipal executive" means:
- 269 (a) the mayor in the council-mayor form of government defined in Section 10-3b-102; or  
270 (b) the mayor in the council-manager form of government defined in Subsection  
271 10-3b-103(6).
- 272 (42) "Municipal general election" means the election held in municipalities and, as  
273 applicable, special districts on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of  
274 each odd-numbered year for the purposes established in Section 20A-1-202.
- 275 (43) "Municipal legislative body" means the council of the city or town in any form of  
276 municipal government.
- 277 (44) "Municipal office" means an elective office in a municipality.
- 278 (45) "Municipal officers" means those municipal officers that are required by law to be  
279 elected.
- 280 (46) "Municipal primary election" means an election held to nominate candidates for  
281 municipal office.
- 282 (47) "Municipality" means a city or town.
- 283 (48) "Official ballot" means the ballots distributed by the election officer for voters to  
284 record their votes.
- 285 (49) "Official endorsement" means the information on the ballot that identifies:
- 286 (a) the ballot as an official ballot;  
287 (b) the date of the election; and  
288 (c)(i) for a ballot prepared by an election officer other than a county clerk, the  
289 facsimile signature required by Subsection 20A-6-401(1)(a)(iii); or  
290 (ii) for a ballot prepared by a county clerk, the words required by Subsection  
291 20A-6-301(1)(b)(iii).
- 292 (50) "Official register" means the official record furnished to election officials by the  
293 election officer that contains the information required by Section 20A-5-401.
- 294 (51) "Political party" means an organization of registered voters that has qualified to  
295 participate in an election by meeting the requirements of Chapter 8, Political Party  
296 Formation and Procedures.
- 297 (52)(a) "Poll worker" means a person assigned by an election official to assist with an  
298 election, voting, or counting votes.  
299 (b) "Poll worker" includes election judges.

- 300 (c) "Poll worker" does not include a watcher.
- 301 (53) "Pollbook" means a record of the names of voters in the order that the voters appear to  
302 cast votes.
- 303 (54) "Polling place" means a building where voting is conducted.
- 304 (55) "Position" means a square, circle, rectangle, or other geometric shape on a ballot in  
305 which the voter marks the voter's choice.
- 306 (56) "Presidential Primary Election" means the election established in Chapter 9, Part 8,  
307 Presidential Primary Election.
- 308 (57) "Primary convention" means the political party conventions held during the year of the  
309 regular general election.
- 310 (58) "Protective counter" means a separate counter, which cannot be reset, that:  
311 (a) is built into a voting machine; and  
312 (b) records the total number of movements of the operating lever.
- 313 (59) "Provider election officer" means an election officer who enters into a contract or  
314 interlocal agreement with a contracting election officer to conduct an election for the  
315 contracting election officer's local political subdivision in accordance with Section  
316 20A-5-400.1.
- 317 (60) "Provisional ballot" means a ballot voted provisionally by a person:  
318 (a) whose name is not listed on the official register at the polling place;  
319 (b) whose legal right to vote is challenged as provided in this title; or  
320 (c) whose identity was not sufficiently established by a poll worker.
- 321 (61) "Provisional ballot envelope" means an envelope printed in the form required by  
322 Section 20A-6-105 that is used to identify provisional ballots and to provide information  
323 to verify a person's legal right to vote.
- 324 (62)(a) "Public figure" means an individual who, due to the individual being considered  
325 for, holding, or having held a position of prominence in a public or private capacity,  
326 or due to the individual's celebrity status, has an increased risk to the individual's  
327 safety.
- 328 (b) "Public figure" does not include an individual:  
329 (i) elected to public office; or  
330 (ii) appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected public office.
- 331 (63) "Qualify" or "qualified" means to take the oath of office and begin performing the  
332 duties of the position for which the individual was elected.
- 333 (64) "Receiving judge" means the poll worker that checks the voter's name in the official

- 334 register at a polling place and provides the voter with a ballot.
- 335 (65) "Registration form" means a form by which an individual may register to vote under  
336 this title.
- 337 (66) "Regular ballot" means a ballot that is not a provisional ballot.
- 338 (67) "Regular general election" means the election held throughout the state on the first  
339 Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year for the  
340 purposes established in Section 20A-1-201.
- 341 (68) "Regular primary election" means the election, held on the date specified in Section  
342 20A-1-201.5, to nominate candidates of political parties and candidates for nonpartisan  
343 local school board positions to advance to the regular general election.
- 344 (69) "Resident" means a person who resides within a specific voting precinct in Utah.
- 345 (70) "Return envelope" means the envelope, described in Subsection 20A-3a-202(4),  
346 provided to a voter with a manual ballot:
- 347 (a) into which the voter places the manual ballot after the voter has voted the manual  
348 ballot in order to preserve the secrecy of the voter's vote; and
- 349 (b) that includes the voter affidavit and a place for the voter's signature.
- 350 (71) "Sample ballot" means a mock ballot similar in form to the official ballot, published as  
351 provided in Section 20A-5-405.
- 352 (72) "Special district" means a local government entity under Title 17B, Limited Purpose  
353 Local Government Entities - Special Districts, and includes a special service district  
354 under Title 17D, Chapter 1, Special Service District Act.
- 355 (73) "Special district officers" means those special district board members who are required  
356 by law to be elected.
- 357 (74) "Special election" means an election held as authorized by Section 20A-1-203.
- 358 (75) "Spoiled ballot" means each ballot that:
- 359 (a) is spoiled by the voter;
- 360 (b) is unable to be voted because it was spoiled by the printer or a poll worker; or
- 361 (c) lacks the official endorsement.
- 362 (76) "Statewide special election" means a special election called by the governor or the  
363 Legislature in which all registered voters in Utah may vote.
- 364 (77) "Tabulation system" means a device or system designed for the sole purpose of  
365 tabulating votes cast by voters at an election.
- 366 (78) "Ticket" means a list of:
- 367 (a) political parties;

- 368 (b) candidates for an office; or  
369 (c) ballot propositions.
- 370 (79) "Transfer case" means the sealed box used to transport voted ballots to the counting  
371 center.
- 372 (80) "Vacancy" means:
- 373 (a) except as provided in Subsection (80)(b), the absence of an individual to serve in a  
374 position created by state constitution or state statute, whether that absence occurs  
375 because of death, disability, disqualification, resignation, or other cause; or
- 376 (b) in relation to a candidate for a position created by state constitution or state statute,  
377 the removal of a candidate due to the candidate's death, resignation, or  
378 disqualification.
- 379 (81) "Valid voter identification" means:
- 380 (a) a form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter which may  
381 include:
- 382 (i) a currently valid Utah driver license;
- 383 (ii) a currently valid identification card issued under Title 53, Chapter 3, Part 8,  
384 Identification Card Act;
- 385 (iii) a currently valid identification card that is issued by:
- 386 (A) the state; or  
387 (B) a branch, department, or agency of the United States;
- 388 (iv) a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon;
- 389 (v) a currently valid United States passport; or  
390 (vi) a currently valid United States military identification card;
- 391 (b) one of the following identification cards, regardless of whether the card includes a  
392 photograph of the voter:
- 393 (i) a valid tribal identification card;
- 394 (ii) a Bureau of Indian Affairs card; or  
395 (iii) a tribal treaty card; or
- 396 (c) two forms of identification not listed under Subsection (81)(a) or (b) but that bear the  
397 name of the voter and provide evidence that the voter resides in the voting precinct,  
398 which may include:
- 399 (i) before January 1, 2029, an original or copy of a current utility bill, dated no more  
400 than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 401 (ii) before January 1, 2029, an original or copy of a bank or other financial account

- 402 statement, dated no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 403 (iii) a certified birth certificate;
- 404 (iv) a valid social security card;
- 405 (v) an original or copy of a check issued by the state or the federal government, dated
- 406 no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 407 (vi) an original or copy of a paycheck from the voter's employer, dated no more than
- 408 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 409 (vii) a currently valid Utah hunting or fishing license;
- 410 (viii) certified naturalization documentation;
- 411 (ix) a currently valid license issued by an authorized agency of the United States;
- 412 (x) a certified copy of court records showing the voter's adoption or name change;
- 413 (xi) a valid Medicaid card, Medicare card, or Electronic Benefits Transfer [~~Card~~] card;
- 414 (xii) a currently valid identification card issued by:
- 415 (A) a local government within the state;
- 416 (B) an employer for an employee; or
- 417 (C) a college, university, technical school, or professional school located within
- 418 the state; or
- 419 (xiii) a current Utah vehicle registration.
- 420 (82) "Valid write-in candidate" means a candidate who has qualified as a write-in candidate
- 421 by following the procedures and requirements of this title.
- 422 (83) "Vote by mail" means to vote, using a manual ballot that is mailed to the voter, by:
- 423 (a) mailing the ballot to the location designated in the mailing; or
- 424 (b) depositing the ballot in a ballot drop box designated by the election officer.
- 425 (84) "Voter" means an individual who:
- 426 (a) meets the requirements for voting in an election;
- 427 (b) meets the requirements of election registration;
- 428 (c) is registered to vote; and
- 429 (d) is listed in the official register.
- 430 (85) "Voter registration deadline" means the registration deadline provided in Section
- 431 20A-2-102.5.
- 432 (86) "Voting area" means the area within six feet of the voting booths, voting machines,
- 433 and ballot box.
- 434 (87) "Voting booth" means:
- 435 (a) the space or compartment within a polling place that is provided for the preparation

- 436 of ballots, including the voting enclosure or curtain; or  
 437 (b) a voting device that is free standing.
- 438 (88) "Voting device" means any device provided by an election officer for a voter to vote a  
 439 mechanical ballot.
- 440 (89) "Voting precinct" means the smallest geographical voting unit, established under  
 441 Chapter 5, Part 3, Duties of the County and Municipal Legislative Bodies.
- 442 (90) "Watcher" means an individual who complies with the requirements described in  
 443 Section 20A-3a-801 to become a watcher for an election.
- 444 (91) "Write-in ballot" means a ballot containing any write-in votes.
- 445 (92) "Write-in vote" means a vote cast for an individual, whose name is not printed on the  
 446 ballot, in accordance with the procedures established in this title.
- 447 Section 2. Section **20A-1-609** is amended to read:
- 448 **20A-1-609 (Effective 05/06/26). Omnibus penalties.**
- 449 (1)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a person who violates any provision of  
 450 this title is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
- 451 (b) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to a provision of this title for which another penalty  
 452 is expressly stated.
- 453 (c) An individual is not guilty of a crime for, by signing a petition for an initiative or  
 454 referendum, falsely making the statement described in Subsection [  
 455 ~~20A-7-203(3)(d)(xx), 20A-7-303(3)(d)(xx), 20A-7-503(3)(d)(xx), or~~  
 456 ~~20A-7-603(3)(d)(xx)] 20A-7-203(3)(f)(ii), 20A-7-303(3)(f)(ii), 20A-7-503(3)(f)(ii),  
 457 or 20A-7-603(3)(f)(ii).~~
- 458 (2) Except as provided by Section 20A-2-101.3 or 20A-2-101.5, an individual convicted of  
 459 any offense under this title may not:
- 460 (a) file a declaration of candidacy for any office or appear on the ballot as a candidate  
 461 for any office during the election cycle in which the violation occurred;
- 462 (b) take or hold the office to which the individual was elected; and
- 463 (c) receive the emoluments of the office to which the individual was elected.
- 464 (3)(a) Any individual convicted of any offense under this title forfeits the right to vote at  
 465 any election unless the right to vote is restored as provided in Section 20A-2-101.3 or  
 466 20A-2-101.5.
- 467 (b) Any person may challenge the right to vote of a person described in Subsection (3)(a)  
 468 by following the procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-803.
- 469 Section 3. Section **20A-1-1001** is amended to read:

470           **20A-1-1001 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

471           As used in this part:

472           (1)(a) "Clerk" means the lieutenant governor, a county clerk, municipal clerk, town  
473           clerk, city recorder, or municipal recorder.474           (b) "Clerk" includes a board of trustees under Title 17B, Chapter 1, Provisions  
475           Applicable to All Special Districts.

476           (2) "Local petition" means:

477           (a) a manual or electronic local initiative petition described in Chapter 7, Part 5, Local  
478           Initiatives - Procedures; or479           (b) a manual or electronic local referendum petition described in Chapter 7, Part 6, Local  
480           Referenda - Procedures.481           (3) "Petition" means one of the following written requests, signed by registered voters,  
482           appealing to an authority with respect to a particular cause:

483           (a) a local petition;

484           (b) a petition to consolidate two or more municipalities under Section 10-2-601;

485           (c) a petition for disincorporation of a municipality under Section 10-2-701;

486           (d) a petition to incorporate a proposed municipality under Section 10-2a-208;

487           (e) a petition to consolidate adjoining counties under Section 17-61-201;

488           (f) a petition to annex a portion of a county to an adjoining county under Section  
489           17-61-301;

490           (g) a petition for the creation of a new county under Section 17-61-401;

491           (h) a petition for the removal of a county seat under Section 17-60-302;

492           (i) a petition for the adoption of an optional plan under Section 17-62-303;

493           (j) a petition for the repeal of an optional plan under Section 17-62-505;

494           (k) a petition to create a special district under Section 17B-1-203;

495           (l) a petition to withdraw an area from a special district under Section 17B-1-504;

496           (m) a petition to dissolve a special district under Section 17B-1-1303;

497           (n) a petition for issuance of local building authority bonds under Section 17D-2-502;

498           (o) a petition to become a registered political party under Section 20A-8-103;

499           (p) a nomination petition for municipal office under Section 20A-9-203;

500           (q) a nomination petition for a regular primary election under Subsection  
501           20A-9-403(3)(a) and Section 20A-9-405;502           (r) a petition for a political party to qualify as a municipal political party under Section  
503           20A-9-404;

- 504 (s) a petition for the nomination of a qualified political party under Section 20A-9-408;  
 505 (t) a nomination petition for a candidate not affiliated with a political party under  
 506 Section 20A-9-502;  
 507 (u) a nomination petition to become a delegate to a ratification convention under Section  
 508 20A-15-103;  
 509 (v) a petition to create a new school district under Section 53G-3-301;  
 510 (w) a petition to consolidate school districts under Section 53G-3-401;  
 511 (x) a petition to transfer a portion of a school district to another district under Section  
 512 53G-3-501;  
 513 (y) a petition to determine whether a privatization project agreement should be approved  
 514 under Section 73-10d-4; or  
 515 (z) a statewide petition.

516 (4) "Petition packet" means:

- 517 (a) a candidate signature packet, as defined in Section 20A-9-401.1;  
 518 (b) an initiative packet, as defined in Section 20A-7-101;  
 519 (c) a referendum packet, as defined in Section 20A-7-101; or  
 520 (d) any other packet of signature sheets that:  
 521 (i) is bound together and circulated to gather signatures for a petition; and  
 522 (ii) includes a cover sheet at the front of the packet and a circulator verification sheet  
 523 at the end of the packet.

524 [~~(4)~~] (5) "Statewide petition" means:

- 525 (a) a manual or electronic statewide initiative petition described in Chapter 7, Part 2,  
 526 Statewide Initiatives; or  
 527 (b) a manual or electronic statewide referendum petition described in Chapter 7, Part 3,  
 528 Statewide Referenda.

529 [~~(5)~~] (6)(a) "Substantially similar name" means:

- 530 (i) the given name, the surname, or both, provided by the individual with the  
 531 individual's petition signature, contain only minor spelling differences when  
 532 compared to the given name and surname shown on the official register;  
 533 (ii) the surname provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
 534 exactly matches the surname shown on the official register, and the given names  
 535 differ only because one of the given names shown is a commonly used  
 536 abbreviation or variation of the other;  
 537 (iii) the surname provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature

538 exactly matches the surname shown on the official register, and the given names  
539 differ only because one of the given names shown is accompanied by a first or  
540 middle initial or a middle name which is not shown on the other record; or  
541 (iv) the surname provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
542 exactly matches the surname shown on the official register, and the given names  
543 differ only because one of the given names shown is an alphabetically  
544 corresponding initial that has been provided in the place of a given name shown  
545 on the other record.

546 (b) "Substantially similar name" does not include a name having an initial or a middle  
547 name provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature that does not  
548 match a different initial or middle name shown on the official register.

549 Section 4. Section **20A-1-1002** is amended to read:

550 **20A-1-1002 (Effective 07/01/27). Verification of voter registration -- Electronic**  
551 **notice to petition signer.**

552 (1) A clerk shall use the following procedures to determine whether a signer of a petition is  
553 a registered voter and to determine the address where the voter is registered to vote:

554 (a) if a signer's name and address provided by the individual with the individual's  
555 petition signature exactly match a name and address shown on the official register  
556 and the signer's signature appears substantially similar to the signature on the  
557 statewide voter registration database, the clerk shall declare the signature valid for the  
558 district or jurisdiction in which the signer is registered to vote;

559 (b) if there is no exact match of an address and a name, the clerk shall declare the  
560 signature valid for the district or jurisdiction in which the signer is registered to vote,  
561 if:

562 (i) the address provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
563 matches the address of an individual on the official register with a substantially  
564 similar name; and

565 (ii) the signer's signature appears substantially similar to the signature on the  
566 statewide voter registration database of the individual described in Subsection  
567 (1)(b)(i);

568 (c) if there is no match of an address and a substantially similar name, the clerk shall  
569 declare the signature valid for the district or jurisdiction in which the signer is  
570 registered to vote if:

571 (i) the birth date or age provided by the individual with the individual's petition

- 572 signature matches the birth date or age of an individual on the official register  
 573 with a substantially similar name; and
- 574 (ii) the signer's signature appears substantially similar to the signature on the  
 575 statewide voter registration database of the individual described in Subsection  
 576 (1)(c)(i).
- 577 (2) If a signature is not declared valid under Subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c), the clerk shall  
 578 declare the signature to be invalid.
- 579 (3) A clerk shall, within two business days after the day on which the clerk declares a  
 580 signer's signature valid or invalid under this section, notify the signer of the status of the  
 581 signer's signature by:
- 582 (a) sending an email notice to the signer if the signer's information in the voter  
 583 registration database includes an email address; and
- 584 (b) sending a text message notice to the signer if:
- 585 (i) the signer's information in the voter registration database includes a mobile  
 586 telephone number; and
- 587 (ii) the signer consented, on the signer's voter registration form, to receive official  
 588 communications by text at the mobile phone number.
- 589 (4) The notice described in Subsection (3)(a) shall:
- 590 (a) include the title "Notice of Signature Verification";
- 591 (b) identify the name or type of petition the signer signed; and
- 592 (c) inform the signer that the signer's signature was declared valid or invalid by the clerk.

593 Section 5. Section **20A-1-1004** is enacted to read:

594 **20A-1-1004 (Effective 05/06/26). Circulator verification sheet -- Rejection of**  
 595 **petition packet.**

- 596 (1) The final page of each petition packet shall contain a circulator verification sheet  
 597 featuring the following printed or typed statement to be completed by the individual who  
 598 gathers signatures for the petition:

599 **VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE-GATHERER**

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

601 I am at least 18 years old;

602 All the names that appear in this petition packet were signed by individuals who  
 603 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals  
 604 signed the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a  
 605 qualifying disability, I have signed this petition packet on the individual's behalf, at the

606 direction of the individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV"  
 607 as the individual's signature;

608 I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this petition  
 609 packet by the initials "AV":

610 I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the petition  
 611 packet on the individual's behalf;

612 I do not believe and do not have reason to believe that the individual lacked the  
 613 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

614 I do not believe and do not have reason to believe that the individual did not  
 615 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the petition packet on the individual's  
 616 behalf;

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

619 I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature sheet;  
 620 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact related to this petition;

621 I believe that each individual's name and address is written correctly, that each signer  
 622 has had an opportunity to read all the information contained in the petition, and that each  
 623 signer is or will be registered to vote in Utah at the time the petition packet is submitted  
 624 for verification;

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

626 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition  
 627 packet to encourage that individual to sign it;

628 I understand that if I have been or will be paid to gather signatures for this petition,  
 629 my compensation must be based on an hourly rate if the petition is an initiative or  
 630 referendum petition, or on an hourly rate or rate per valid signature if the petition is  
 631 another type of petition.

632 I completed the signature gatherer training available on the lieutenant governor's  
 633 website at [www.vote.utah.gov](http://www.vote.utah.gov) before gathering signatures for this petition. Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  
 634 \_\_\_\_\_ (Check one)

635 \_\_\_\_\_  
 636 (Printed Name) (Signature) (Residence Address)

637 (Date)

638 (2) A clerk shall reject a petition packet if:

639 (a) all or any portion of the circulator verification sheet described in this section is not

640 completed by the individual who gathered signatures for the petition; or  
 641 (b) the individual who gathered signatures for the petition checked "No" in response to  
 642 the signature gatherer training statement.

643 Section 6. Section **20A-1-1005** is enacted to read:

644 **20A-1-1005 (Effective 05/06/26). Online training for signature gatherers.**

645 (1) The lieutenant governor shall develop and maintain an online training course to educate  
 646 individuals who collect signatures for a petition.

647 (2) The training course shall:

648 (a) inform signature gatherers of the requirements, restrictions, and procedures that  
 649 apply to the circulation of petitions and collection of signatures, including  
 650 information about:

651 (i) collecting a signature from an individual with a disability; and

652 (ii) electronic signature gathering;

653 (b) emphasize compliance with the requirements, restrictions, and procedures described  
 654 in Subsection (2)(a);

655 (c) highlight the potential for criminal penalties for knowingly or intentionally  
 656 falsifying, misrepresenting, or otherwise violating applicable law in the circulation of  
 657 a petition and collection of signatures; and

658 (d) recommend best practices for individuals who gather signatures for a petition.

659 (3) The lieutenant governor shall make the training course described in Subsection (2)  
 660 available on the lieutenant governor's website.

661 (4) An individual may not gather signatures for a petition unless the individual has, before  
 662 collecting any signatures, completed the online training course described in this section.

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

664 **20A-7-101 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

665 As used in this chapter:

666 (1) "Approved device" means a device described in Subsection 20A-21-201(4) used to  
 667 gather signatures for the electronic initiative process, the electronic referendum process,  
 668 or the electronic candidate qualification process.

669 (2) "Budget officer" means:

670 (a) for a county, the person designated as finance officer as defined in Section 17-63-101;

671 (b) for a city, the person designated as budget officer in Subsection 10-6-106(4); or

672 (c) for a town, the town council.

673 (3) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the

- 674 signature of a registered voter.
- 675 (4) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative petition or a referendum  
676 petition to legal voters for their signature.
- 677 (5) "Condensed initiative packet" means the following components, all of which are bound  
678 together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204(5)(b), for a statewide  
679 initiative, or Subsection 20A-7-504(5)(b), for a local initiative:
- 680 (a) a copy of the initiative petition;
- 681 (b) the signature sheets; and
- 682 (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).
- 683 (6) "Condensed referendum packet" means the following components, all of which are  
684 bound together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-304(5)(b), for a statewide  
685 referendum, or Subsection 20A-7-604(5)(b), for a local referendum:
- 686 (a) a copy of the referendum petition;
- 687 (b) the signature sheets; and
- 688 (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).
- 689 [~~5~~] (7) "Electronic initiative process" means:
- 690 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-215  
691 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or
- 692 (b) as it relates to a local initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-514 and  
693 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.
- 694 [~~6~~] (8) "Electronic referendum process" means:
- 695 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-313  
696 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or
- 697 (b) as it relates to a local referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-614 and  
698 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.
- 699 [~~7~~] (9) "Eligible voter" means a legal voter who resides in the jurisdiction of the county,  
700 city, or town that is holding an election on a ballot proposition.
- 701 [~~8~~] (10) "Final fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared after voters  
702 approve an initiative that contains the information required by Subsection  
703 20A-7-202.5(2) or 20A-7-502.5(2).
- 704 [~~9~~] (11) "Initial fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared under  
705 Section 20A-7-202.5 after the filing of a statewide initiative application.
- 706 [~~10~~] (12) "Initial fiscal impact and legal statement" means a financial and legal statement  
707 prepared under Section 20A-7-502.5 or 20A-7-602.5 for a local initiative or a local

- 708 referendum.
- 709 ~~[(11)]~~ (13) "Initiative" means a new law proposed for adoption by the public as provided in  
 710 this chapter.
- 711 ~~[(12)]~~ (14) "Initiative application" means:
- 712 (a) for a statewide initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2) that  
 713 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
 714 required under Subsection 20A-7-202(2); or
- 715 (b) for a local initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2) that  
 716 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
 717 required under Subsection 20A-7-502(2).
- 718 ~~[(13)]~~ (15) "Initiative packet" means~~[a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the proposed~~  
 719 ~~law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.] :~~
- 720 (a) a traditional initiative packet; or
- 721 (b) a condensed initiative packet.
- 722 ~~[(14)]~~ (16) "Initiative petition":
- 723 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 724 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a), petitioning for  
 725 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters;~~[and]~~
- 726 (ii) ~~[if the initiative proposes a tax increase,]~~includes the statement described in  
 727 Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(b)~~;~~ , if the initiative proposes a tax increase; and
- 728 (iii) includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(c), if:
- 729 (A) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and
- 730 (B) the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a) is part of a condensed  
 731 initiative packet;
- 732 (b) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 733 (i) means the form described in Subsections 20A-7-215(2) and (3), petitioning for  
 734 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and
- 735 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
 736 Subsection 20A-7-215(5)(b);
- 737 (c) as it relates to a local initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 738 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a), petitioning for  
 739 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters;~~[and]~~
- 740 (ii) ~~[if the initiative proposes a tax increase,]~~includes the statement described in  
 741 Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(b)~~;~~ , if the initiative proposes a tax increase; and

- 742            (iii) includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(c), if:
- 743            (A) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and
- 744            (B) the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a) is part of a condensed
- 745            initiative packet; or
- 746        (d) as it relates to a local initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 747            (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-514(2)(a), petitioning for
- 748            submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and
- 749            (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in
- 750            Subsection 20A-7-514(4)(a).
- 751        [~~(15)~~] (17)(a) "Land use law" means a law of general applicability, enacted based on the
- 752            weighing of broad, competing policy considerations, that relates to the use of land,
- 753            including a land use regulation, a general plan, a land use development code, an
- 754            annexation ordinance, the rezoning of a single property or multiple properties, or a
- 755            comprehensive zoning ordinance or resolution.
- 756            (b) "Land use law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-20-102
- 757            or 17-79-102.
- 758        [~~(16)~~] (18) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:
- 759            (a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and
- 760            (b) have been obtained, certified, and verified as provided in this chapter.
- 761        [~~(17)~~] (19) "Legal voter" means an individual who is registered to vote in Utah.
- 762        [~~(18)~~] (20) "Legally referable to voters" means:
- 763            (a) for a proposed local initiative, that the proposed local initiative is legally referable to
- 764            voters under Section 20A-7-502.7; or
- 765            (b) for a proposed local referendum, that the proposed local referendum is legally
- 766            referable to voters under Section 20A-7-602.7.
- 767        [~~(19)~~] (21) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney in
- 768            whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 769        [~~(20)~~] (22) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose
- 770            jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 771        [~~(21)~~] (23)(a) "Local law" includes:
- 772            (i) an ordinance;
- 773            (ii) a resolution;
- 774            (iii) a land use law;
- 775            (iv) a land use regulation, as defined in Section 10-20-102; or

- 776 (v) other legislative action of a local legislative body.
- 777 (b) "Local law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-20-102.
- 778 ~~[(22)]~~ (24) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, or town.
- 779 ~~[(23)]~~ (25) "Local obligation law" means a local law passed by the local legislative body
- 780 regarding a bond that was approved by a majority of qualified voters in an election.
- 781 ~~[(24)]~~ (26) "Local tax law" means a law, passed by a political subdivision with an annual or
- 782 biannual calendar fiscal year, that increases a tax or imposes a new tax.
- 783 ~~[(25)]~~ (27) "Manual initiative process" means the process for gathering signatures for an
- 784 initiative using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 785 ~~[(26)]~~ (28) "Manual referendum process" means the process for gathering signatures for a
- 786 referendum using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 787 ~~[(27)]~~ (29)(a) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or
- 788 referendum.
- 789 (b) "Measure" does not include a ballot proposition for the creation of a new school
- 790 district under Section 53G-3-301.1, 53G-3-301.3, or 53G-3-301.4.
- 791 ~~[(28)]~~ (30) "Presiding officers" means the president of the Senate and the speaker of the
- 792 House of Representatives.
- 793 ~~[(29)]~~ (31) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or by a
- 794 local legislative body is submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection.
- 795 ~~[(30)]~~ (32) "Referendum application" means:
- 796 (a) for a statewide referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2) that
- 797 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures
- 798 required under Subsection 20A-7-302(2); or
- 799 (b) for a local referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-602(2) that
- 800 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures
- 801 required under Subsection 20A-7-602(2).
- 802 ~~[(31)]~~ (33) "Referendum packet" means~~[ a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of the~~
- 803 ~~law being submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection, and the~~
- 804 ~~signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.] :~~
- 805 (a) a traditional referendum packet; or
- 806 (b) a condensed referendum packet.
- 807 ~~[(32)]~~ (34) "Referendum petition" means:
- 808 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the manual referendum process, the
- 809 form described in Subsection ~~[20A-7-303(2)(a)]~~ 20A-7-303(2), petitioning for

- 810 submission of a law passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or  
811 rejection;
- 812 (b) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the  
813 form described in Subsection 20A-7-313(2), petitioning for submission of a law  
814 passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or rejection;
- 815 (c) as it relates to a local referendum, using the manual referendum process, the form  
816 described in Subsection [~~20A-7-603(2)(a)~~] 20A-7-603(2), petitioning for submission  
817 of a local law to legal voters for their approval or rejection; or
- 818 (d) as it relates to a local referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the form  
819 described in Subsection 20A-7-614(2), petitioning for submission of a local law to  
820 legal voters for their approval or rejection.
- 821 [~~(33)~~] (35) "Signature":
- 822 (a) for a statewide initiative:
- 823 (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature  
824 collected under Section 20A-7-215 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 825 (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 826 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
827 described in Section 20A-7-203;
- 828 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
829 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
830 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
831 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
832 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 833 (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 834 (b) for a statewide referendum:
- 835 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature  
836 collected under Section 20A-7-313 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 837 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 838 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
839 described in Section 20A-7-303;
- 840 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
841 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
842 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
843 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in

- 844 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 845 (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 846 (c) for a local initiative:
- 847 (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature
- 848 collected under Section 20A-7-514 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 849 (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 850 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet
- 851 described in Section 20A-7-503;
- 852 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the
- 853 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to
- 854 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's
- 855 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in
- 856 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 857 (C) does not include an electronic signature; or
- 858 (d) for a local referendum:
- 859 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature
- 860 collected under Section 20A-7-614 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 861 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 862 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet
- 863 described in Section 20A-7-603;
- 864 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the
- 865 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to
- 866 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's
- 867 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in
- 868 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 869 (C) does not include an electronic signature.
- 870 ~~[(34)]~~ (36) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used
- 871 under the manual initiative process or the manual referendum process to collect
- 872 signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.
- 873 ~~[(35)]~~ (37) "Special local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition that is not a
- 874 standard local ballot proposition.
- 875 (38)(a) "Sponsor liaison" means an individual designated by the sponsors of an initiative
- 876 or referendum to:
- 877 (i) receive communications from Office of the Lieutenant Governor; and

- 878           (ii) communicate with and act on behalf of the sponsors regarding the initiative or  
879           referendum.
- 880           (b) "Sponsor liaison" includes a sponsor or another individual designated by the  
881           sponsors.
- 882           [(36)] (39) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and  
883           who sign the initiative application or referendum application.
- 884           [(37)] (40)(a) "Standard local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition for an  
885           initiative or a referendum.
- 886           (b) "Standard local ballot proposition" does not include a property tax referendum  
887           described in Section 20A-7-613.
- 888           (41) "Traditional initiative packet" means the following components, all of which are bound  
889           together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204(5)(b), for a statewide  
890           initiative, or Subsection 20A-7-504(5)(b), for a local initiative:
- 891           (a) a copy of:
- 892               (i) the initiative petition; and
- 893               (ii) the law proposed by the initiative petition;
- 894           (b) the signature sheets; and
- 895           (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).
- 896           (42) "Traditional referendum packet" means the following components, all of which are  
897           bound together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-304(5)(b), for a statewide  
898           referendum, or Subsection 20A-7-604(5)(b), for a local referendum:
- 899           (a) a copy of:
- 900               (i) the referendum petition; and
- 901               (ii) the law being submitted or referred to the voters for approval or rejection;
- 902           (b) the signature sheets; and
- 903           (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).
- 904           [(38)] (43) "Tax percentage difference" means the difference between the tax rate proposed  
905           by an initiative or an initiative petition and the current tax rate.
- 906           [(39)] (44) "Tax percentage increase" means a number calculated by dividing the tax  
907           percentage difference by the current tax rate and rounding the result to the nearest  
908           thousandth.
- 909           [(40)] (45) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as required  
910           in Section 20A-7-105.
- 911           Section 8. Section **20A-7-104** is amended to read:

912 **20A-7-104 (Effective 05/06/26). Signature gatherers -- Payments -- Badges --**  
 913 **Information -- Requirement to provide initiative or referendum for reading.**

914 (1) A person may not pay a person to gather signatures under this chapter [~~based on a rate~~  
 915 ~~per signature, on a rate per verified signature, or on the initiative or referendum~~  
 916 ~~qualifying for the ballot.] unless the payment is based on an hourly rate.~~

917 [~~(2) A person that pays a person to gather signatures under this section shall base the~~  
 918 ~~payment solely on an hourly rate.]~~

919 [(3)] (2) A person may not accept payment made in violation of this section.

920 [(4)] (3) An individual who is paid to gather signatures for a petition described in this  
 921 chapter shall, while gathering signatures, wear a badge on the front of the individual's  
 922 torso that complies with the following, ensuring that the information on the badge is  
 923 clearly visible to the individual from whom a signature is sought:

924 (a) the badge shall be printed in black ink on white cardstock and laminated; and

925 (b) the information on the badge shall be in at least 24-point type and include the  
 926 following information:

927 (i) an identification number that is unique to the individual gathering signatures,  
 928 assigned by:

929 (A) for a statewide initiative or referendum, the lieutenant governor; or

930 (B) for a local initiative or referendum, the local clerk;

931 (ii) the title of the initiative or referendum;

932 (iii) the words "Paid Signature Gatherer"; and

933 (iv) the name of the entity paying the signature gatherer.

934 [(5)] (4) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall offer a paper  
 935 document to each individual who signs the petition that:

936 (a) is printed in black ink on white paper, white cardstock, or a white sticker, in at least  
 937 12-point type; and

938 (b)(i) for an initiative, includes the name of the initiative and the following statement:

939 "You may view the initiative, its fiscal impact, and information on removing your  
 940 signature from the petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the  
 941 information described in Section 20A-7-202.7 or 20A-7-502.6, as applicable]."; or

942 (ii) for a referendum, includes the name of the referendum and the following statement:

943 "You may view the referendum and information on removing your signature from the  
 944 petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the information described in  
 945 Section 20A-7-304.5 or 20A-7-604.5, as applicable]."

946 [(6)] (5) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall, before collecting a  
 947 signature from an individual, present to the individual a printed or digital copy of the  
 948 initiative or referendum and wait for the individual to read the initiative or referendum.

949 [(7)] (6) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

950 Section 9. Section **20A-7-105** is amended to read:

951 **20A-7-105 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual petition processes -- Obtaining**  
 952 **signatures -- Verification -- Submitting the petition -- Certification of signatures --**  
 953 **Transfer to lieutenant governor -- Removal of signature.**

954 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process and the manual referendum  
 955 process.

956 (2) As used in this section:

957 (a) "Local petition" means:

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

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

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

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

964 (d) "Statewide petition" means:

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

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

967 (3)(a) A Utah voter may sign a statewide petition if the voter is a legal voter.

968 (b) A Utah voter may sign a local petition if the voter:

969 (i) is a legal voter; and

970 (ii) resides in the local jurisdiction.

971 (4)(a) The sponsors shall ensure that the individual in whose presence each signature  
 972 sheet was signed:

973 (i) is at least 18 years old;

974 (ii) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification printed on the last  
 975 page of each packet; and

976 (iii) is informed [~~that each signer is required to read and understand:~~] that, before  
 977 signing a signature sheet, a signer is required to have an opportunity to read and  
 978 understand:

979 (A) for an initiative petition, the law proposed by the initiative; or

- 980 (B) for a referendum petition, the law that the referendum seeks to overturn.
- 981 (b) An individual may not sign the verification printed on the last page of a packet if the  
982 individual signed a signature sheet in the packet.
- 983 (5)(a) The sponsors, or an agent of the sponsors, shall submit a signed and verified  
984 packet to the county clerk of the county in which the packet was circulated before 5  
985 p.m. no later than the earlier of:
- 986 (i) for a statewide initiative:
- 987 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
988 the first individual signs the initiative packet;
- 989 (B) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on  
990 which the application for the initiative petition is filed; or
- 991 (C) the February 15 immediately before the next regular general election  
992 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202;
- 993 (ii) for a statewide referendum:
- 994 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
995 the first individual signs the referendum packet; or
- 996 (B) the first business day that is at least 40 calendar days after the day on which  
997 the legislative session at which the law passed ends;
- 998 (iii) for a local initiative:
- 999 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
1000 the first individual signs the initiative packet;
- 1001 (B) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on  
1002 which the application is filed;
- 1003 (C) the April 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately  
1004 after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local initiative is a  
1005 county initiative; or
- 1006 (D) the April 15 immediately before the next municipal general election  
1007 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local  
1008 initiative is a municipal initiative; or
- 1009 (iv) for a local referendum:
- 1010 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
1011 the first individual signs the referendum packet; or
- 1012 (B) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which  
1013 the sponsors receive the items described in Subsection 20A-7-604(3) from the

1014 local clerk.

1015 (b) ~~[A person may not submit a packet after the applicable deadline described in~~

1016 ~~Subsection (5)(a)]~~ A person may not mark, redact, or otherwise alter a signature sheet

1017 in a manner that obscures, conceals, or renders illegible a signer's date of signature or

1018 other information provided by the signer that is used for verification under this section.

1019 (c) Before delivering an initiative packet to the county clerk under this Subsection (5),

1020 the sponsors shall send an email to each individual who provides a legible, valid

1021 email address on the signature sheet that includes the following:

1022 (i) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding

1023 Your Petition Signature"; and

1024 (ii) the body of the email shall include the following statement in 12-point type:

1025 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:

1026 [insert title of initiative]

1027 To access a copy of the initiative petition, the initiative, the fiscal impact statement, and

1028 information on the deadline for removing your signature from the petition, please visit the

1029 following link: [insert a uniform resource locator that takes the individual directly to the page

1030 on the lieutenant governor's or county clerk's website that includes the information referred to

1031 in the email]."

1032 (d) For a statewide initiative, the sponsors shall, no later than 5 p.m. on the day on which

1033 the sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the county clerk, submit to the

1034 lieutenant governor:

1035 (i) a list containing:

1036 (A) the name and email address of each individual the sponsors sent, or caused to

1037 be sent, the email described in Subsection (5)(c); and

1038 (B) the date the email was sent;

1039 (ii) a copy of the email described in Subsection (5)(c); and

1040 (iii) the following written verification, completed and signed by each of the sponsors:

1041 "Verification of initiative sponsor State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_,

1042 of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1043 I am a sponsor of the initiative petition entitled \_\_\_\_\_; and

1044 I sent, or caused to be sent, to each individual who provided a legible, valid email

1045 address on a signature sheet submitted to the county clerk in relation to the initiative petition,

1046 the email described in Utah Code Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(c).

1047 \_\_\_\_\_[-]\_\_\_\_\_

1048 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1049 [(Name)] (Printed Name) (Signature) (Residence  
 Address)

1050 (Date)"[;]

1051 (e) For a local initiative, the sponsors shall, no later than 5 p.m. on the day on which the  
 1052 sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the local clerk, submit to the local clerk  
 1053 the items described in Subsection (5)(d).

1054 (f) Signatures gathered for an initiative petition are not valid if the sponsors do not  
 1055 comply with Subsection (5)(c), (d), or (e).

1056 (6)(a) Within 21 calendar days after the day on which the county clerk receives the  
 1057 packet, the county clerk shall:

1058 (i) use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002, or 20A-7-106 if applicable,  
 1059 to determine whether each signer is a legal voter and, as applicable, the  
 1060 jurisdiction where the signer is registered to vote;

1061 (ii) for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum:

1062 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter; and

1063 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and ~~[date of signature of each~~  
 1064 ~~legal voter]~~ the date the signature of each legal voter was certified under

1065 Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's website, in a conspicuous  
 1066 location designated by the lieutenant governor; and

1067 ~~[(C) deliver the verified packet to the lieutenant governor;]~~

1068 (iii) for a local initiative or a local referendum:

1069 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter who is  
 1070 registered in the jurisdiction to which the initiative or referendum relates;

1071 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal  
 1072 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's

1073 website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and

1074 (C) deliver the verified packet to the local clerk.

1075 (b)(i) For a statewide initiative or statewide referendum, the county clerk shall, no

1076 later than seven calendar days after the last day the county clerk makes the posting

1077 described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B), certify the following information to the

1078 lieutenant governor:

1079 (A) the total number of verified packets in the county clerk's possession;

1080 (B) the total number of signatures verified by the county clerk;

- 1081 (C) of the number described in Subsection (6)(b)(i)(B), the number of signatures  
 1082 the county clerk declared valid and invalid under Section 20A-1-1002; and  
 1083 (D) a breakdown of the number of invalid signatures, categorized by the reason  
 1084 for the invalidity; and  
 1085 (ii) After a county clerk sends the certification described in Subsection (6)(b)(i) to the  
 1086 lieutenant governor, the county clerk shall retain and preserve each verified packet  
 1087 in the manner described in Subsection 20A-4-202(2).
- 1088 (c) For a local initiative or local referendum, the local clerk shall post a link in a  
 1089 conspicuous location on the local government's website to the posting described in  
 1090 Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(B):
- 1091 (i) for a local initiative, during the period of time described in Subsection  
 1092 20A-7-507(3)(a); or
- 1093 (ii) for a local referendum, during the period of time described in Subsection  
 1094 20A-7-607(2)(a)(i).
- 1095 (7) The county clerk may not certify a signature under Subsection [~~(6)~~] (6)(a):
- 1096 (a) on a packet that is not verified in accordance with Subsection [~~(4)~~] (4)(a)(ii); [~~or~~]  
 1097 (b) that does not have a date of signature next to the signature[-]; or  
 1098 (c) if the date of signature is later than the applicable deadline described in Subsection  
 1099 (5)(a).
- 1100 (8) Beginning on January 1, 2027, an election officer shall, within two business days after  
 1101 the day on which the county clerk determines the signer of an initiative is a legal voter  
 1102 eligible to sign a signature sheet, send the following email notice to the signer if the  
 1103 signer's voter registration record includes a valid email address:
- 1104 (a) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding  
 1105 Your Petition Signature"; and
- 1106 (b) the body of the email shall include the following statement in 12-point type:  
 1107 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:  
 1108 [insert title of initiative]  
 1109 To access a copy of the initiative petition, the initiative, the fiscal impact  
 1110 statement, and information on the deadline for removing your signature from the  
 1111 petition, please visit the following link: [insert a uniform resource locator that takes  
 1112 the individual directly to the page on the lieutenant governor's or county clerk's  
 1113 website that includes the information referred to in the email]."
- 1114 [~~(8)~~] (9)(a) A voter who signs a statewide initiative petition may have the voter's

- 1115 signature removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003,  
1116 submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be  
1117 removed no later than 5 p.m. the earlier of:
- 1118 (i) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk before December 1:
    - 1119 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which
    - 1120 the voter signs the signature removal statement; or
    - 1121 (B) the first business day that is at least 90 calendar days after the day on which
    - 1122 the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-207(2);
    - 1123 or
  - 1124 (ii) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk on or after December 1:
    - 1125 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which
    - 1126 the voter signs the signature removal statement; or
    - 1127 (B) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which
    - 1128 the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-207(2).
  - 1129 (b) A voter who signs a statewide referendum petition may have the voter's signature  
1130 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to  
1131 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later  
1132 than 5 p.m. the earlier of:
    - 1133 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the
    - 1134 voter signs the statement requesting removal; or
    - 1135 (ii) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which the
    - 1136 lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-307(2).
  - 1137 (c) A voter who signs a local initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed  
1138 from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
1139 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than  
1140 5 p.m. the earlier of:
    - 1141 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the
    - 1142 voter signs the signature removal statement;
    - 1143 (ii) the first business day that is at least 90 calendar days after the day on which the
    - 1144 local clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-507(2);
    - 1145 (iii) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on
    - 1146 which the application is filed; or
    - 1147 (iv)(A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular
    - 1148 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section

- 1149 20A-7-502; or
- 1150 (B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal
- 1151 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section
- 1152 20A-7-502.
- 1153 (d) A voter who signs a local referendum petition may have the voter's signature
- 1154 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to
- 1155 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later
- 1156 than 5 p.m. the earlier of:
- 1157 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the
- 1158 voter signs the statement requesting removal; or
- 1159 (ii) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which the
- 1160 local clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-607(2)(a).
- 1161 (e) In order for the signature to be removed, the county clerk must receive the statement
- 1162 described in this Subsection [~~(8)~~] (9) before 5 p.m. no later than the applicable
- 1163 deadline described in this Subsection [~~(8)~~] (9).
- 1164 (f) A county clerk shall analyze a signature, for purposes of removing a signature from a
- 1165 petition, in accordance with Subsection 20A-1-1003(3).
- 1166 [~~(9)~~] (10)(a) If the county clerk timely receives a statement requesting signature removal
- 1167 under Subsection [~~(8)~~] (9) and determines that the signature should be removed from
- 1168 the petition under Subsection 20A-1-1003(3), the county clerk shall:
- 1169 (i) ensure that the voter's name, voter identification number, and date of signature are
- 1170 not included in the posting described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B) or (iii)(B); and
- 1171 (ii) remove the voter's signature from the signature packets and signature packet
- 1172 totals.
- 1173 (b) The county clerk shall comply with Subsection [~~(9)~~](a) (10)(a) before the later of:
- 1174 (i) the deadline described in Subsection (6)(a); or
- 1175 (ii) two business days after the day on which the county clerk receives a statement
- 1176 requesting signature removal under Subsection [~~(8)~~] (9).
- 1177 [~~(10)~~] (11) A person may not retrieve a packet from a county clerk, or make any alterations
- 1178 or corrections to a packet, after the packet is submitted to the county clerk.
- 1179 Section 10. Section **20A-7-201** is amended to read:
- 1180 **20A-7-201 (Effective 05/06/26). Statewide initiatives -- Signature requirements --**
- 1181 **Submission to the Legislature or to a vote of the people.**
- 1182 (1)(a) A person seeking to have an initiative submitted to the Legislature for approval or

- 1183 rejection shall, after filing an initiative application, obtain:
- 1184 (i) legal signatures equal to 4% of the number of active voters in the state on January  
1185 1 immediately following the last regular general election; and
- 1186 (ii) from at least 26 Utah State Senate districts, legal signatures equal to 4% of the  
1187 number of active voters in that district on January 1 immediately following the  
1188 last regular general election.
- 1189 (b) If, at any time not less than 10 calendar days before the beginning of the next annual  
1190 general session of the Legislature, the lieutenant governor declares that an initiative  
1191 petition designated under Subsection [~~20A-7-202(2)(e)(i)~~] 20A-7-202(2)(d)(i) for  
1192 submission to the Legislature is signed by a sufficient number of voters to meet the  
1193 requirements of Subsection (1)(a), the lieutenant governor shall deliver a copy of the  
1194 initiative petition, the text of the proposed law, and the cover sheet described in  
1195 Subsection (1)(c) to the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House, and the  
1196 director of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
- 1197 (c) The lieutenant governor shall prepare a cover sheet for a petition declared sufficient  
1198 under Subsection (1)(b) that contains:
- 1199 (i) the number of active voters in the state on January 1 immediately following the  
1200 last regular general election;
- 1201 (ii) the number of active voters in each Utah State Senate district on January 1  
1202 immediately following the last regular general election;
- 1203 (iii) the total number of certified signatures obtained for the initiative petition; and  
1204 (iv) the total number of certified signatures obtained from each Utah State Senate  
1205 district for the initiative petition.
- 1206 (2)(a) A person seeking to have an initiative submitted to a vote of the people for  
1207 approval or rejection shall, after filing an initiative application, obtain:
- 1208 (i) legal signatures equal to 8% of the number of active voters in the state on January  
1209 1 immediately following the last regular general election; and
- 1210 (ii) from at least 26 Utah State Senate districts, legal signatures equal to 8% of the  
1211 number of active voters in that district on January 1 immediately following the  
1212 last regular general election.
- 1213 (b) If an initiative petition meets the requirements of this part and the lieutenant  
1214 governor declares that the initiative petition is signed by a sufficient number of voters  
1215 to meet the requirements of Subsection (2)(a), the lieutenant governor shall submit  
1216 the proposed law to a vote of the people at the next regular general election:

- 1217 (i) immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202; and  
1218 (ii) specified on the petition under Section 20A-7-203.
- 1219 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the following information to any interested person:  
1220 (a) the number of active voters in the state on January 1 immediately following the last  
1221 regular general election; and  
1222 (b) for each Utah State Senate district, the number of active voters in that district on  
1223 January 1 immediately following the last regular general election.
- 1224 Section 11. Section **20A-7-202** is amended to read:  
1225 **20A-7-202 (Effective 05/06/26). Statewide initiative process -- Initiative**  
1226 **application procedures -- Time to gather signatures -- Grounds for rejection.**
- 1227 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate an initiative petition shall file an initiative application  
1228 with the lieutenant governor.
- 1229 (2) The initiative application shall include:  
1230 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the initiative petition;  
1231 (b) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;  
1232 (c) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
1233 residence address, telephone number, and email address;
- 1234 [~~(e)~~] (d) a statement indicating whether the initiative will be presented to:  
1235 (i) the Legislature under Subsection 20A-7-201(1); or  
1236 (ii) a vote of the people under Subsection 20A-7-201(2);
- 1237 [~~(d)~~] (e) the signature of each of the sponsors, attested to by a notary public; and  
1238 [~~(e)~~] (f) the following, in the following order:  
1239 (i) the title of the proposed law that clearly expresses the subject of the law;  
1240 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), a description of the manner in which the  
1241 proposed law will be funded, including:  
1242 (A) all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the proposed law,  
1243 including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;  
1244 (B) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, by a new tax, a  
1245 description of the new tax and the tax rate;  
1246 (C) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, by a tax increase, the  
1247 following statement for each tax increase, "This initiative seeks to increase the  
1248 current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage difference)  
1249 percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent increase in  
1250 the current tax rate.";

- 1251 (D) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from new revenues, a  
1252 description of the amount and source of the new revenues; and
- 1253 (E) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from existing revenues,  
1254 a description of the existing line items or programs that will receive less  
1255 funding in order to fund the proposed law and the amount by which the  
1256 funding will be reduced;
- 1257 (iii) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative  
1258 petition may be paid for gathering signatures; and
- 1259 (iv) the text of the proposed law.
- 1260 (3)(a) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (2), is determined in  
1261 accordance with Section 20A-2-105.
- 1262 (b) The initiative application and the initiative application's contents are public when  
1263 filed with the lieutenant governor.
- 1264 (c) If the fiscal impact of the law proposed by an initiative is less than the amount  
1265 specified by joint legislative rule for designating a bill as a fiscal note bill:
- 1266 (i) the initiative application is not required to include the description described in  
1267 Subsection [~~(2)(e)(ii)~~] (2)(f)(ii); and
- 1268 (ii) the lieutenant governor may not reject the initiative application or initiative  
1269 application addendum under Subsection (5)(c).
- 1270 (4) If the initiative petition fails to qualify for the ballot of the election described in  
1271 Subsection 20A-7-201(2)(b), the sponsors shall:
- 1272 (a) submit a new initiative application;
- 1273 (b) obtain new signature sheets; and
- 1274 (c) collect signatures again.
- 1275 (5) The lieutenant governor shall reject an initiative application or an initiative application  
1276 addendum filed under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5) and not issue signature sheets if:
- 1277 (a) the proposed law:
- 1278 (i) is unconstitutional;
- 1279 (ii) is nonsensical;
- 1280 (iii) could not become law if passed;
- 1281 (iv) contains more than one subject as evaluated in accordance with Subsection (6); or
- 1282 (v) is identical or substantially similar to a law proposed by an initiative for which  
1283 signatures were submitted to the county clerks and lieutenant governor for  
1284 certification within two years preceding the date on which the initiative

- 1285 application for the new initiative is filed;
- 1286 (b) the subject of the proposed law is not clearly expressed in the law's title; or
- 1287 (c) except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), the lieutenant governor determines, after
- 1288 consultation with the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, that the funding
- 1289 description, described in Subsection [~~(2)(e)(ii)~~] (2)(f)(ii):
- 1290 (i) does not comply with the requirements of Subsection [~~(2)(e)(ii)~~] (2)(f)(ii); or
- 1291 (ii) is unlikely to provide adequate funding for the proposed law.

- 1292 (6) To evaluate whether the proposed law contains more than one subject under Subsection
- 1293 (5)(a)(iv), the lieutenant governor shall apply the same standard provided in Utah
- 1294 Constitution, Article VI, Section 22, which prohibits a bill from passing that contains
- 1295 more than one subject.

1296 Section 12. Section **20A-7-202.5** is amended to read:

1297 **20A-7-202.5 (Effective 05/06/26). Initial fiscal impact statement -- Preparation of**

1298 **statement -- Challenge to statement.**

- 1299 (1) Within three business days after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives an
- 1300 initiative application, the lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the initiative
- 1301 application to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

- 1302 (2)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the Office of the Legislative Fiscal
- 1303 Analyst shall prepare an unbiased, good faith initial fiscal impact statement for the
- 1304 proposed law, not exceeding 100 words plus 100 words per revenue source created or
- 1305 impacted by the proposed law, that contains:

- 1306 (i) a description of the total estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law over the time
- 1307 period or time periods determined by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst
- 1308 to be most useful in understanding the estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law;
- 1309 (ii) if the proposed law would increase taxes, decrease taxes, or impose a new tax, a
- 1310 dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or decrease for each type
- 1311 of tax affected under the proposed law, a dollar amount showing the estimated
- 1312 amount of a new tax, and a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase
- 1313 or decrease in taxes under the proposed law;
- 1314 (iii) if the proposed law would increase a particular tax or tax rate, the tax percentage
- 1315 difference and the tax percentage increase for each tax or tax rate increased;
- 1316 (iv) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from new revenues, a
- 1317 description of the amount and source of the new revenues;
- 1318 (v) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from existing revenues, a

- 1319 description of:
- 1320 (A) the existing line items or programs that will receive less funding in order to
- 1321 fund the proposed law and the amount by which the funding will be reduced;
- 1322 and
- 1323 (B) the likely impact of the reduction in funding described in Subsection
- 1324 (2)(a)(v)(A);
- 1325 (vi) if the proposed law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of
- 1326 bonds, notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total
- 1327 estimated increase or decrease in public debt under the proposed law;
- 1328 (vii) a dollar amount representing the estimated cost or savings, if any, to state or
- 1329 local government entities under the proposed law;
- 1330 (viii) if the proposed law would increase costs to state government, a listing of all
- 1331 sources of funding for the estimated costs; and
- 1332 (ix) a concise description and analysis titled "Funding Source," not to exceed 100
- 1333 words for each funding source, of the funding source information described in
- 1334 Subsection [~~20A-7-202(2)(e)(ii)~~] 20A-7-202(2)(f)(ii).
- 1335 (b) If the proposed law is estimated to have fiscal impact of less than the amount specified by
- 1336 joint legislative rule for designating a bill as a fiscal note bill, the Office of the Legislative
- 1337 Fiscal Analyst shall prepare the initial fiscal impact statement to read substantially as follows:
- 1338 "The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst estimates that the law proposed by this
- 1339 initiative would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an increase or
- 1340 decrease in taxes or debt."
- 1341 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the lieutenant governor delivers a copy
- 1342 of the initiative application, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:
- 1343 (a) send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's office;
- 1344 and
- 1345 (b) send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the first five sponsors named in
- 1346 the initiative application.
- 1347 (4)(a)(i) Three or more of the sponsors of the initiative petition may, within 20
- 1348 calendar days after the day on which the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst
- 1349 delivers the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's office, file a
- 1350 petition with the appropriate court, alleging that the initial fiscal impact statement,
- 1351 taken as a whole, is an inaccurate estimate of the fiscal impact of the initiative.
- 1352 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send

1353 notice of the petition filed with the court to:  
1354 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument with the lieutenant governor's  
1355 office for or against the initiative that is the subject of the challenge; and  
1356 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
1357 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
1358 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the person  
1359 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the initiative.

1360 (b)(i) There is a presumption that the initial fiscal impact statement prepared by the  
1361 Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst is based upon reasonable assumptions,  
1362 uses reasonable data, and applies accepted analytical methods to present the  
1363 estimated fiscal impact of the initiative.

1364 (ii) The court may not revise the contents of, or direct the revision of, the initial fiscal  
1365 impact statement unless the plaintiffs rebut the presumption by clear and  
1366 convincing evidence that establishes that the initial fiscal impact statement, taken  
1367 as a whole, is an inaccurate statement of the estimated fiscal impact of the  
1368 initiative.

1369 (iii) The court may refer an issue related to the initial fiscal impact statement to a  
1370 master to examine the issue and make a report in accordance with Utah Rules of  
1371 Civil Procedure, Rule 53.

1372 (c) The court shall certify to the lieutenant governor a fiscal impact statement for the  
1373 initiative that meets the requirements of this section.

1374 Section 13. Section **20A-7-202.7** is amended to read:

1375 **20A-7-202.7 (Effective 05/06/26). Posting initiative information.**

1376 (1) Within one business day after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives the  
1377 initial fiscal impact statement under Subsection 20A-7-202.5(3)(a), the lieutenant  
1378 governor shall post the following information together in a conspicuous place on the  
1379 lieutenant governor's website:

1380 (a) the initiative application;

1381 (b) the initiative petition;

1382 (c) the text of the proposed law;

1383 (d) the initial fiscal impact statement; and

1384 (e) information describing how an individual may remove the individual's signature  
1385 from the initiative petition.

1386 (2) The lieutenant governor shall:

1387 (a) promptly update the information described in Subsection (1) if the information  
 1388 changes[;] , including if the text of the proposed law is modified under Subsection  
 1389 20A-7-204.1(5); and

1390 (b) maintain the information described in Subsection (1) on the lieutenant governor's  
 1391 website until the initiative fails to qualify for the ballot or is passed or defeated at an  
 1392 election.

1393 Section 14. Section **20A-7-203** is amended to read:

1394 **20A-7-203 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative**  
 1395 **petition and signature sheets.**

1396 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1397 (2)(a) Each proposed initiative petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1398 "INITIATIVE PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1399 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the [~~following-~~]proposed  
 1400 law described in this initiative petition be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for  
 1401 their/its approval or rejection at the regular general election/session to be held/ beginning on  
 1402 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

1403 Each signer says:

1404 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
 1405 disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter the  
 1406 initials "AV" as my signature;

1407 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 1408 initiative petition;

1409 I [~~have-~~]personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 1410 initiative packet;

1411 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1412 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name.

1413 NOTICE TO SIGNERS:

1414 Public hearings to discuss this initiative were held at: (list dates and locations of public  
 1415 hearings[;]).".

1416 (b) [~~If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the-~~] The following statement shall appear, in at  
 1417 least 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a)[;]  
 1418 , if the initiative proposes a tax increase:

1419 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 1420 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent

- 1421 increase in the current tax rate."
- 1422 (c) The following statement shall appear, in at least 14-point, bold type, immediately
- 1423 following the information described in Subsection (2)(a), if:
- 1424 (i) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and
- 1425 (ii) the initiative petition is part of a condensed initiative packet:
- 1426 "This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language
- 1427 description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50
- 1428 words, that is understandable to the average reader)."
- 1429 [~~(e) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~
- 1430 ~~proposed law to each initiative petition.]~~
- 1431 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:
- 1432 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;
- 1433 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line [~~three-fourths~~] .75 inch from the top, with the space
- 1434 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;
- 1435 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least 14-point,
- 1436 bold type;
- 1437 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet:
- 1438 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the
- 1439 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);
- 1440 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the lieutenant
- 1441 governor's website described in Section 20A-7-202.7; and
- 1442 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,
- 1443 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a website that includes the full text of
- 1444 the law proposed by this initiative petition.";
- 1445 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the initiative, as
- 1446 follows:
- 1447 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch
- 1448 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";
- 1449 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;
- 1450 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed
- 1451 Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 1452 (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered
- 1453 Voter";
- 1454 (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";

- 1455 (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 1456 Code"; and
- 1457 (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 1458 (Optional)"; and
- 1459 (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 1460 (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the  
 1461 information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 1462 (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)  
 1463 and contain the following statement in 12-point type: "By signing this initiative  
 1464 petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the  
 1465 law proposed by this initiative petition.".
- 1466 ~~[(d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch~~  
 1467 ~~from the left side of the paper, as follows:]~~
- 1468 ~~[(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;]~~
- 1469 ~~[(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For~~  
 1470 ~~Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1471 ~~[(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]~~
- 1472 ~~[(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1473 ~~[(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]~~
- 1474 ~~[(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 1475 ~~"Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point~~  
 1476 ~~type;]~~
- 1477 ~~[(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1478 ~~[(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 1479 ~~"Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1480 ~~[(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1481 ~~[(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]~~
- 1482 ~~[(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 1483 ~~"Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1484 ~~[(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1485 ~~[(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 1486 ~~"Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1487 ~~[(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1488 ~~[(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]~~

- 1489           ~~[(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 1490           ~~"Date Signed" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1491           ~~[(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1492           ~~[(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 1493           ~~"Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1494           ~~[(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]~~
- 1495           ~~[(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,~~  
 1496           ~~and contain the following statement, "By signing this initiative petition, you are~~  
 1497           ~~stating that you have read and understand the law proposed by this initiative~~  
 1498           ~~petition." in 12-point type;]~~
- 1499           ~~[(e)] (4) [the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in~~  
 1500           ~~Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the~~  
 1501           ~~sheet for the information described in [Subsection (3)(f); and] Subsection (5).~~
- 1502           ~~[(f)] (5) [at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,~~  
 1503           ~~in the following order:~~
- 1504           ~~[(i)] (a) the words "Fiscal Impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at least~~  
 1505           ~~12-point, bold type;~~
- 1506           ~~[(ii)] (b) except as provided in Subsection [(5)] (6), the initial fiscal impact statement~~  
 1507           ~~issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in accordance with Subsection~~  
 1508           ~~20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in accordance with Subsection~~  
 1509           ~~20A-7-204.1(5), in not less than 12-point type;~~
- 1510           ~~[(iii)] (c) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:~~  
 1511           ~~"This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax~~  
 1512           ~~percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent~~  
 1513           ~~increase in the current tax rate.";[-and]~~
- 1514           ~~(d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet, the following statement~~  
 1515           ~~in 12-point, bold type:~~  
 1516           ~~"This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language~~  
 1517           ~~description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50 words,~~  
 1518           ~~that is understandable to the average reader)."; and~~
- 1519           ~~[(iv)] (e) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in~~  
 1520           ~~not less than eight-point type:~~  
 1521           ~~"It is a class A misdemeanor [for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name~~  
 1522           ~~other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than~~

1523 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
 1524 that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign an initiative petition using a name other than  
 1525 your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.

1526 [ Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
 1527 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
 1528 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
 1529 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
 1530 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
 1531 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
 1532 you provide does not match your voter registration record."

1533 [(4) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 1534 statement:

1535 Verification of signature collector

1536 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

1537 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1538 I am at least 18 years old;

1539 All the names that appear in this initiative packet were signed by individuals who  
 1540 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed  
 1541 the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
 1542 disability, I have signed this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the  
 1543 individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
 1544 signature;

1545 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this initiative  
 1546 packet by the initials "AV":

1547 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the initiative  
 1548 petition on the individual's behalf;

1549 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the  
 1550 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

1551 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
 1552 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the initiative petition on the individual's behalf;

1553 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
 1554 or consenting for me to, sign the initiative petition on the individual's behalf; and

1555 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature  
 1556 sheet;

1557 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by  
 1558 the initiative;

1559 I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written  
 1560 correctly, that each signer has read the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is  
 1561 registered to vote in Utah;

1562 The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name; and

1563 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this initiative  
 1564 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

1565 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1566 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1566 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)]

1567 [(5)] (6) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the circulator verification  
 1568 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

1569 (7) If the initial fiscal impact statement described in Subsection [(3)(f)(ii)] (5)(b), as updated  
 1570 in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5), exceeds 200 words, the Office of the  
 1571 Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare a shorter summary statement, for the purpose of  
 1572 inclusion on an initiative signature sheet, that does not exceed 200 words.

1573 [(6)] (8) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative  
 1574 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1575 Section 15. Section **20A-7-204** is amended to read:

1576 **20A-7-204 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Circulation**  
 1577 **requirements -- Lieutenant governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

1578 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1579 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 1580 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
 1581 described in Subsection (3), circulate initiative packets that meet the form  
 1582 requirements of this part.

1583 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate initiative packets using  
 1584 traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or both.

1585 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the initiative petition  
 1586 and a signature sheet no later than the first business day that is at least three calendar  
 1587 days after the day on which the following conditions are fulfilled:

1588 (a) the sponsors hold the final hearing required under Section 20A-7-204.1;

1589 (b) the sponsors provide to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor the video tape, audio  
 1590 tape, or comprehensive minutes described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(4) for each

- 1591 public hearing described in Section 20A-7-204.1;
- 1592 (c)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that
- 1593 the sponsors waive the opportunity to change the text of the proposed law under
- 1594 Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);
- 1595 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(a), for changing the text of
- 1596 the proposed law passes without the sponsors filing an application addendum in
- 1597 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5); or
- 1598 (iii) if the sponsors file an application addendum in accordance with Subsection
- 1599 20A-7-204.1(5), the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst provides to the Office
- 1600 of the Lieutenant Governor:
- 1601 (A) an updated initial fiscal impact statement, in accordance with Subsection
- 1602 20A-7-204.1(5)(b); or
- 1603 (B) a written notice indicating that no changes to the initial fiscal impact statement
- 1604 are necessary;
- 1605 (d)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that
- 1606 the sponsors waive the opportunity to:
- 1607 (A) challenge the initial fiscal impact statement in court; and
- 1608 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court;
- 1609 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.5(4)(a)(i), for:
- 1610 (A) challenging the initial fiscal impact statement in court passes without the
- 1611 sponsors filing a petition to challenge; and
- 1612 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court
- 1613 passes without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or
- 1614 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the initial fiscal impact
- 1615 statement in court or, if applicable, the updated initial fiscal impact statement in
- 1616 court, and the court's decision becomes final; and
- 1617 (e) the sponsors sign [~~an agreement, under Subsection (6)(a), with the Office of the~~
- 1618 ~~Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to~~
- 1619 ~~number the initiative packets] the agreement described in Subsection (6)(a)(iii) with~~
- 1620 the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.
- 1621 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:
- 1622 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative
- 1623 packets; and
- 1624 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)

1625 meet the requirements of this part.

1626 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for  
1627 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.

1628 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create the initiative packets by~~  
1629 ~~binding a copy of the initiative petition with the text of the proposed law, including~~  
1630 ~~any modification made under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5) and no more than 50~~  
1631 ~~signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be~~  
1632 ~~conveniently opened for signing]~~ The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create  
1633 initiative packets by:

1634 (i) binding the components of each initiative packet together at the top in a manner  
1635 that secures all components of the initiative packet together;

1636 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:

1637 (A) a copy of the initiative petition;

1638 (B) if the initiative packet is a traditional initiative packet, a copy of the law  
1639 proposed by the initiative petition, including any modification to the law made  
1640 under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);

1641 (C) the signature sheets; and

1642 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);

1643 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each initiative packet; and

1644 (iv) binding the initiative packet in a manner that allows the initiative packet to be  
1645 conveniently opened for signing.

1646 (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.

1647 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:

1648 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
1649 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;

1650 (ii) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the  
1651 sponsors may use to number initiative packets;

1652 [(iii)] (iii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying:

1653 (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate initiative  
1654 packets using traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or  
1655 both; and

1656 (B) the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the initiative  
1657 packets; and

1658 [(iii)] (iv) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers

1659 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in  
1660 the range.

1661 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:

1662 (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's  
1663 office; or

1664 (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner  
1665 directed by the lieutenant governor's office.

1666 Section 16. Section **20A-7-213** is amended to read:

1667 **20A-7-213 (Effective 05/06/26). Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**

1668 (1) It is unlawful for an individual to:

1669 (a) sign any name other than the individual's own to an initiative petition or a statement  
1670 described in Subsection [~~20A-7-105(8)~~] 20A-7-105(9) or 20A-7-216(4);

1671 (b) knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for the same initiative at one  
1672 election;

1673 (c) knowingly indicate that an individual who signed an initiative petition signed the  
1674 initiative petition on a date other than the date that the individual signed the initiative  
1675 petition;

1676 (d) sign an initiative petition knowing the individual is not a legal voter;

1677 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter  
1678 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if  
1679 the individual:

1680 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;

1681 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give  
1682 the voter's direction or consent;

1683 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose  
1684 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;

1685 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or  
1686 consent of the voter; or

1687 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or  
1688 statement; or

1689 (f) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.

1690 (2) It is unlawful for an individual to sign the verification for an initiative packet, or to  
1691 electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(10),  
1692 knowing that:

- 1693 (a) the signature date associated with the individual's signature for the initiative petition  
1694 is not the date that the individual signed the initiative petition;  
1695 (b) the individual has not witnessed the signatures of those individuals whose signatures  
1696 the individual collects or submits; or  
1697 (c) one or more individuals who signed the initiative petition are not registered to vote in  
1698 Utah.

- 1699 (3) It is unlawful for an individual to:  
1700 (a) pay an individual to sign an initiative petition;  
1701 (b) pay an individual to remove the individual's signature from an initiative petition;  
1702 (c) accept payment to sign an initiative petition; or  
1703 (d) accept payment to have the individual's name removed from an initiative petition.

- 1704 (4) A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

1705 Section 17. Section **20A-7-215** is amended to read:

1706 **20A-7-215 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative**  
1707 **petition -- Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

- 1708 (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.

- 1709 (2)(a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

1710 "This INITIATIVE PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant  
1711 Governor:

1712 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following  
1713 proposed law be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for their/its approval or  
1714 rejection at the regular general election/session to be held/beginning on  
1715 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year)."

- 1716 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link  
1717 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and  
1718 understand the information presented on this screen."

- 1719 (3)(a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the following  
1720 statement:

1721 "Public hearings to discuss this initiative were held at: (list dates and locations of public  
1722 hearings.)".

- 1723 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
1724 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
1725 and understand the information presented on this screen."

- 1726 (4)(a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of

- 1727 proposed law, described in Subsection [~~20A-7-202(2)(e)(i)~~] 20A-7-202(2)(f)(i),  
1728 followed by the entire text of the proposed law.
- 1729 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
1730 at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
1731 and understand the entire text of the proposed law."
- 1732 (5) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
1733 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to  
1734 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement: "By clicking here, I  
1735 attest that I have read and understand the information presented on this screen."  
1736 (a) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the  
1737 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;  
1738 (b)(i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative  
1739 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage  
1740 difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1741 increase in the current tax rate."; or  
1742 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1743 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";
- 1744 (c) the initial fiscal impact statement issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal  
1745 Analyst in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in  
1746 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(b);
- 1747 (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition  
1748 may be paid for gathering signatures; and
- 1749 (e) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":  
1750 "I have personally read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
1751 I am personally signing this initiative petition;  
1752 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
1753 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1754 accurate.
- 1755 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
1756 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1757 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
1758 that the individual is not a registered voter.
- 1759 **WARNING**  
1760 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter

1761 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
1762 made public.

1763 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

1764 (6)(a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1765 (5)(e), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your  
1766 time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1767 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1768 (5)(e), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
1769 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the initiative petition through the  
1770 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1771 Section 18. Section **20A-7-302** is amended to read:

1772 **20A-7-302 (Effective 05/06/26). Referendum process -- Application procedures.**

1773 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate a referendum petition shall file a referendum  
1774 application with the lieutenant governor no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day  
1775 that is at least five calendar days after the day on which the legislative session at which  
1776 the law passed ends.

1777 (2) The referendum application shall include:

1778 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the referendum petition;

1779 (b) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
1780 residence address, telephone number, and email address;

1781 [~~(b)~~] (c) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;

1782 [~~(c)~~] (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum  
1783 petition may be paid for gathering signatures;

1784 [~~(d)~~] (e) the signature of each of the sponsors, attested to by a notary public; and

1785 [~~(e)~~] (f) a copy of the law that is the subject of the proposed referendum.

1786 Section 19. Section **20A-7-303** is amended to read:

1787 **20A-7-303 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Form of**  
1788 **referendum petition and signature sheets.**

1789 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1790 (2)[~~(a)~~] Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1791 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1792 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that [~~Senate (or House)~~] (insert  
1793 "Senate" or "House") Bill No. \_\_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less  
1794 than the whole act, set forth here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed

1795 by the Legislature of the state of Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of  
 1796 Utah for their approval or rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special election;

1797 Each signer says:

1798 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
 1799 qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
 1800 to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

1801 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 1802 referendum petition;

1803 I [~~have-~~]personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 1804 referendum packet;

1805 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1806 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."[:]

1807 [~~(b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
 1808 ~~law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.]~~

1809 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

1810 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1811 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line [~~three-fourths~~] .75 inch from the top, with the space  
 1812 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1813 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
 1814 14-point, bold type;

1815 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed referendum packet:

1816 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
 1817 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);

1818 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the lieutenant  
 1819 governor's website described in Section 20A-7-304.5; and

1820 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
 1821 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a website that includes the full text of  
 1822 the law that is the subject of this referendum petition.";

1823 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the referendum, as  
 1824 follows:

1825 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
 1826 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";

1827 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;

1828 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed

- 1829            Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 1830            (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered
- 1831            Voter";
- 1832            (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";
- 1833            (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip
- 1834            Code"; and
- 1835            (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age
- 1836            (Optional)"; and
- 1837            (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 1838            (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the
- 1839            information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 1840            (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)
- 1841            and contain the following statement in 11-point type: "By signing this referendum
- 1842            petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the
- 1843            law that this referendum petition seeks to overturn."
- 1844            [(d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch
- 1845            from the left side of the paper, as follows:]
- 1846            [(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;]
- 1847            [(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For
- 1848            Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]
- 1849            [(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]
- 1850            [(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 1851            [(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 1852            [(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1853            "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point
- 1854            type;]
- 1855            [(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 1856            [(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1857            "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]
- 1858            [(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 1859            [(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 1860            [(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1861            "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]
- 1862            [(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]

- 1863 [(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1864 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]  
 1865 [(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 1866 [(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]  
 1867 [(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1868 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;]  
 1869 [(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 1870 [(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1871 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]  
 1872 [(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]  
 1873 [(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
 1874 and contain the following words "By signing this referendum petition, you are  
 1875 stating that you have read and understand the law that this referendum petition  
 1876 seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;]
- 1877 [(e)] (4) [the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in  
 1878 Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the  
 1879 sheet for the information described in [Subsection (3)(f); and] Subsection (5).
- 1880 [(f)] (5) [at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,  
 1881 in the following order:
- 1882 (a) the following statement in at least 12-point, bold type:  
 1883 "This referendum petition seeks to have (insert "Senate" or "House") Bill No.  
 1884 \_\_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set  
 1885 forth here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the  
 1886 Legislature of the state of Utah during the \_\_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of  
 1887 Utah for their approval or rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special  
 1888 election."; and
- 1889 (b) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not less  
 1890 than eight-point type:  
 1891 "It is a class A misdemeanor [for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
 1892 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
 1893 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
 1894 knows that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign a referendum petition using a name  
 1895 other than your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.  
 1896 [ Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity

1897 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
 1898 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
 1899 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
 1900 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
 1901 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
 1902 you provide does not match your voter registration record."

1903 [(4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 1904 statement:

1905 ~~Verification of signature collector~~

1906 ~~State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_~~

1907 ~~I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:~~

1908 ~~I am at least 18 years old;~~

1909 ~~All the names that appear in this referendum packet were signed by individuals who~~  
 1910 ~~professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed~~  
 1911 ~~the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying~~  
 1912 ~~disability, I have signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of~~  
 1913 ~~the individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's~~  
 1914 ~~signature;~~

1915 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum~~  
 1916 ~~packet by the initials "AV":~~

1917 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the~~  
 1918 ~~referendum petition on the individual's behalf;~~

1919 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the~~  
 1920 ~~mental capacity to give direction or consent;~~

1921 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not~~  
 1922 ~~understand the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's~~  
 1923 ~~behalf;~~

1924 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,~~  
 1925 ~~or consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and~~

1926 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature~~  
 1927 ~~sheet;~~

1928 ~~I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition~~  
 1929 ~~seeks to overturn;~~

1930 ~~I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written~~

1931 correctly, that each signer has read the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each  
 1932 signer is registered to vote in Utah;

1933 ~~The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name; and~~

1934 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
 1935 packet to encourage that individual to sign  
 1936 it. \_\_\_\_\_

1937 (Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Residence Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date).]

1938 ~~[(5)]~~ (6) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the circulator verification  
 1939 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

1940 (7) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
 1941 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1942 Section 20. Section **20A-7-304** is amended to read:

1943 **20A-7-304 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Circulation**  
 1944 **requirements -- Lieutenant governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

1945 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1946 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 1947 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
 1948 described in Subsection (3), circulate referendum packets that meet the form  
 1949 requirements of this part.

1950 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate referendum packets using  
 1951 traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets, or both.

1952 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the referendum  
 1953 petition and a signature sheet no later than the first business day that is at least five  
 1954 calendar days after the day on which the sponsors sign an agreement, under Subsection  
 1955 (6)(a), with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that  
 1956 the sponsors will use to number the referendum packets.

1957 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:

1958 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum  
 1959 packets; and

1960 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
 1961 meet the form requirements of this section.

1962 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets for  
 1963 circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.

1964 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding~~

- 1965 a copy of the referendum petition with the text of the law that is the subject of the  
 1966 referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that  
 1967 the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing] The sponsors or an  
 1968 agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by:
- 1969 (i) binding the components of each referendum packet together at the top in a manner  
 1970 that secures all components of the referendum packet together;
- 1971 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:
- 1972 (A) a copy of the referendum petition;
- 1973 (B) if the referendum packet is a traditional referendum packet, a copy of the law  
 1974 that is the subject of the referendum petition;
- 1975 (C) the signature sheets; and
- 1976 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);
- 1977 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each referendum packet; and
- 1978 (iv) binding the referendum packet in a manner that allows the referendum packet to  
 1979 be conveniently opened for signing.
- 1980 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 1981 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 1982 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
 1983 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;
- 1984 (ii) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the  
 1985 sponsors may use to number referendum packets;
- 1986 [(iii)] (iii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying:
- 1987 (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate referendum  
 1988 packets using traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets,  
 1989 or both; and
- 1990 (B) the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum  
 1991 packets; and
- 1992 [(iii)] (iv) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 1993 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in  
 1994 the range.
- 1995 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:
- 1996 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's  
 1997 office; or
- 1998 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner

1999 directed by the lieutenant governor's office.

2000 Section 21. Section **20A-7-502** is amended to read:

2001 **20A-7-502 (Effective 05/06/26). Local initiative process -- Application**  
 2002 **procedures.**

2003 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate an initiative petition shall file an initiative application  
 2004 with the local clerk.

2005 (2) The initiative application shall include:

2006 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the initiative petition;

2007 (b) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;

2008 (c) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
 2009 residence address, telephone number, and email address;

2010 [~~e~~] (d) the signature of each of the sponsors, acknowledged by a notary public;

2011 [~~d~~] (e) a copy of the proposed law that includes:

2012 (i) the title of the proposed law that clearly expresses the subject of the law;

2013 (ii) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the  
 2014 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each  
 2015 source; and

2016 (iii) the text of the proposed law;

2017 [~~e~~] (f) if the initiative petition proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
 2018 initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 2019 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase)  
 2020 percent increase in the current tax rate."; and

2021 [~~f~~] (g) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative  
 2022 petition may be paid for gathering signatures.

2023 (3) A proposed law submitted under this section may not contain more than one subject to  
 2024 the same extent that a bill may not pass containing more than one subject as provided in  
 2025 Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 22.

2026 Section 22. Section **20A-7-503** is amended to read:

2027 **20A-7-503 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative**  
 2028 **petition and signature sheet.**

2029 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

2030 (2)(a) Each proposed initiative petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

2031 "INITIATIVE PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City Recorder/Town  
 2032 Clerk:

2033 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the ~~[following]~~ proposed  
 2034 law described in this initiative petition be submitted to:

2035 the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next meeting; and  
 2036 the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the proposed  
 2037 law or takes no action on it.

2038 Each signer says:

2039 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
 2040 disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter the  
 2041 initials "AV" as my signature;

2042 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 2043 petition;

2044 I ~~[have-]~~ personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 2045 initiative packet;

2046 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

2047 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

2048 (b) ~~[If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the]~~ The following statement shall appear, in at  
 2049 least 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a)[:]  
 2050 , if the initiative petition proposes a tax increase:

2051 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 2052 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
 2053 increase in the current tax rate.".

2054 (c) The following statement shall appear, in at least 14-point, bold type, immediately  
 2055 following the information described in Subsection (2)(a), if:

2056 (i) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and

2057 (ii) the initiative petition is part of a condensed initiative packet.

2058 "This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language  
 2059 description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50  
 2060 words, that is understandable to the average reader)."

2061 ~~[(e) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
 2062 ~~proposed law to each initiative petition.]~~

2063 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

2064 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2065 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line ~~[three-fourths]~~ .75 inch from the top, with the space  
 2066 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

- 2067 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least 14-point,  
 2068 bold type;
- 2069 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet:
- 2070 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
 2071 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);
- 2072 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the local clerk's website  
 2073 described in Section 20A-7-502.6; and
- 2074 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
 2075 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a website that includes the full text of  
 2076 the law proposed by this initiative petition.";
- 2077 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the initiative, as  
 2078 follows:
- 2079 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
 2080 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";
- 2081 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;
- 2082 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
 2083 Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 2084 (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered  
 2085 Voter";
- 2086 (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";
- 2087 (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 2088 Code"; and
- 2089 (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 2090 (Optional)"; and
- 2091 (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 2092 (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the  
 2093 information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 2094 (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)  
 2095 and contain the following statement in 12-point type: "By signing this initiative  
 2096 petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the  
 2097 law proposed by this initiative petition.".
- 2098 [~~(d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch~~  
 2099 ~~from the left side of the paper, as follows:]~~
- 2100 [~~(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;~~]

- 2101 [(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
2102 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]
- 2103 [(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]
- 2104 [(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2105 [(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 2106 [(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
2107 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
2108 type;]
- 2109 [(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2110 [(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
2111 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]
- 2112 [(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2113 [(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 2114 [(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
2115 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]
- 2116 [(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2117 [(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
2118 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]
- 2119 [(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2120 [(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]
- 2121 [(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
2122 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;]
- 2123 [(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2124 [(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
2125 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]
- 2126 [(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]
- 2127 [(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
2128 and contain the following words "By signing this initiative petition, you are  
2129 stating that you have read and understand the law proposed by this initiative  
2130 petition." in 12-point type;]
- 2131 [(e)] (4) [~~the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in  
2132 Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the  
2133 sheet for the information described in Subsection [(3)(f); and] (5).~~
- 2134 [(f)] (5) [~~at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,~~

2135 in the following order:

2136 [(i)] (a) the words "Fiscal and legal impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at  
2137 least 12-point, bold type;

2138 [(ii)] (b) the summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by  
2139 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost  
2140 estimate for printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in  
2141 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3), in not less than 12-point, bold type;

2142 [(iii)] (c) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:

2143 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
2144 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
2145 increase in the current tax rate.";[-and]

2146 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet, the following statement  
2147 in 12-point, bold type:

2148 "This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language  
2149 description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50 words,  
2150 that is understandable to the average reader)."; and

2151 [(iv)] (e) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in  
2152 not less than eight-point type:

2153 "It is a class A misdemeanor [~~for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name~~  
2154 ~~other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than~~  
2155 ~~once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows~~  
2156 ~~that the individual is not a registered voter]~~ to sign an initiative petition using a name other than  
2157 your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.

2158 [ ~~Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity~~  
2159 ~~with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be~~  
2160 ~~verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified~~  
2161 ~~or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records]~~ Providing  
2162 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
2163 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
2164 you provide does not match your voter registration record."

2165 [(4)] The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
2166 statement:

2167 "Verification of signature collector  
2168 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2169 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

2170 I am at least 18 years old;

2171 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be  
2172 the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's  
2173 name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have  
2174 signed this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and in  
2175 the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;

2176 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this initiative  
2177 packet by the initials "AV":

2178 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the initiative  
2179 petition on the individual's behalf;

2180 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the  
2181 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

2182 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
2183 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the initiative petition on the individual's behalf;

2184 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
2185 or consenting for me to, sign the initiative petition on the individual's behalf; and

2186 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature  
2187 sheet;

2188 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by  
2189 the initiative; and

2190 I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written  
2191 correctly, that each signer has read the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is  
2192 registered to vote in Utah.

2193 \_\_\_\_\_  
2194 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

2195 The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name.

2196 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition to  
2197 encourage that individual to sign it.

2198 \_\_\_\_\_  
2199 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)"]

2200 [(5)] (6) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the circulator verification  
2201 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

2202 (7) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative petitions

2203 are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

2204 Section 23. Section **20A-7-504** is amended to read:

2205 **20A-7-504 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Circulation**  
 2206 **requirements -- Local clerk to provide sponsors with materials.**

2207 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

2208 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 2209 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
 2210 described in Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate initiative packets that  
 2211 meet the form requirements of this part.

2212 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate initiative packets using  
 2213 traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or both.

2214 (3) Within five calendar days after the day on which a county, city, town, or court  
 2215 determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-502.7, that a law proposed in an initiative  
 2216 petition is legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide to the sponsors:

2217 (a) a copy of the initiative petition;

2218 (b) a signature sheet; and

2219 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
 2220 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).

2221 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:

2222 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative  
 2223 packets; and

2224 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
 2225 meet the requirements of this part.

2226 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for  
 2227 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.

2228 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create initiative packets by binding a~~  
 2229 ~~copy of the initiative petition with the text of the proposed law and no more than 50~~  
 2230 ~~signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be~~  
 2231 ~~conveniently opened for signing.] The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall  
 2232 create initiative packets by:~~

2233 (i) binding the components of each initiative packet together at the top in a manner  
 2234 that secures all components of the initiative packet together;

2235 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:

2236 (A) a copy of the initiative petition;

- 2237                    (B) if the initiative packet is a traditional initiative packet, a copy of the law  
 2238                    proposed by the initiative petition;  
 2239                    (C) the signature sheets; and  
 2240                    (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);  
 2241                    (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each initiative packet; and  
 2242                    (iv) binding the initiative packet in a manner that allows the initiative packet to be  
 2243                    conveniently opened for signing.
- 2244                    (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 2245                    (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each initiative packet, a  
 2246                    copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
 2247                    Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2248                    (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 2249                    (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
 2250                    completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;  
 2251                    (ii) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use  
 2252                    to number initiative packets;[and]  
 2253                    (iii) sign an agreement with the local clerk, specifying:  
 2254                    (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate initiative  
 2255                    packets using traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or  
 2256                    both; and  
 2257                    (B) the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum  
 2258                    packets; and  
 2259                    [(ii)] (iv) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 2260                    provided by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.
- 2261                    (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:
- 2262                    (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or
- 2263                    (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner  
 2264                    directed by the county clerk.
- 2265                    (c) The county clerk shall keep a record of the number range provided under Subsection  
 2266                    (6)(a).
- 2267                    Section 24. Section **20A-7-514** is amended to read:
- 2268                    **20A-7-514 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative**  
 2269                    **petition -- Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**
- 2270                    (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.

- 2271 (2)(a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:  
 2272 "This INITIATIVE PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City  
 2273 Recorder/Town Clerk:  
 2274 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following  
 2275 proposed law be submitted to: the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next  
 2276 meeting; and the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the  
 2277 proposed law or takes no action on it."  
 2278 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link  
 2279 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and  
 2280 understand the information presented on this screen."  
 2281 (3)(a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of  
 2282 proposed law, described in Subsection [20A-7-502(2)(d)(i)] 20A-7-502(2)(e)(i),  
 2283 followed by the entire text of the proposed law.  
 2284 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
 2285 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
 2286 and understand the entire text of the proposed law."  
 2287 (4) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
 2288 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to  
 2289 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement, "By clicking here, I  
 2290 attest that I have read and understand the information presented on this screen."  
 2291 (a)(i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative  
 2292 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage  
 2293 difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
 2294 increase in the current tax rate."; or  
 2295 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
 2296 initiative does not propose a tax increase."  
 2297 (b) the summary statement from the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by  
 2298 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost  
 2299 estimate for printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in  
 2300 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3);  
 2301 (c) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition  
 2302 may be paid for gathering signatures; and  
 2303 (d) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":  
 2304 "I have personally read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;

2305 I am personally signing this petition;  
 2306 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
 2307 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
 2308 accurate.

2309 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
 2310 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
 2311 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
 2312 that the individual is not a registered voter.

2313 WARNING

2314 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
 2315 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
 2316 made public.

2317 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

2318 (5)(a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
 2319 (4)(d), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your  
 2320 time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

2321 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
 2322 (4)(d), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
 2323 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the petition through the signature  
 2324 process described in Section 20A-21-201.

2325 Section 25. Section **20A-7-602** is amended to read:

2326 **20A-7-602 (Effective 05/06/26). Local referendum process -- Application**  
 2327 **procedures.**

2328 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate a referendum petition shall file a referendum  
 2329 application with the local clerk.

2330 (2) The referendum application shall include:

2331 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the referendum petition;

2332 (b) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;

2333 (c) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
 2334 residence address, telephone number, and email address;

2335 [(e)] (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum  
 2336 petition may be paid for gathering signatures;

2337 [(d)] (e) the signature of each of the sponsors, acknowledged by a notary public; and

2338 [(e)] (f)(i) if the referendum challenges an ordinance or resolution, a copy of the

2339 ordinance or resolution; or  
 2340 (ii) if the referendum challenges a local law that is not an ordinance or resolution, a  
 2341 written description of the local law, including the result of the vote on the local  
 2342 law.

2343 Section 26. Section **20A-7-603** is amended to read:

2344 **20A-7-603 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Form of**  
 2345 **referendum petition and signature sheet.**

2346 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

2347 (2)[(a)] Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

2348 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City  
 2349 Recorder/Town Clerk:

2350 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that (description of local law or  
 2351 portion of local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
 2352 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
 2353 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

2354 Each signer says:

2355 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
 2356 qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
 2357 to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

2358 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 2359 petition;

2360 I [~~have-~~]personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 2361 packet;

2362 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

2363 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

2364 [~~(b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
 2365 ~~law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.]~~

2366 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

2367 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2368 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line [~~three-fourths~~] .75 inch from the top, with the space  
 2369 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

2370 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
 2371 14-point type;

2372 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed referendum packet:

- 2373 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
 2374 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);
- 2375 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the local clerk's website  
 2376 described in Section 20A-7-604.5; and
- 2377 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
 2378 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a website that includes the full text of  
 2379 the law that is the subject of this referendum petition.";
- 2380 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the referendum, as  
 2381 follows:
- 2382 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
 2383 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";
- 2384 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;
- 2385 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
 2386 Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 2387 (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered  
 2388 Voter";
- 2389 (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";
- 2390 (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 2391 Code"; and
- 2392 (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 2393 (Optional); and
- 2394 (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 2395 (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the  
 2396 information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 2397 (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)  
 2398 and contain the following statement in 11-point type: "By signing this referendum  
 2399 petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the  
 2400 law that this referendum petition seeks to overturn.".
- 2401 [(d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch  
 2402 from the left side of the paper, as follows:]
- 2403 [(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;]
- 2404 [(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
 2405 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]
- 2406 [(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]

- 2407 [(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2408 [(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]  
 2409 [(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2410 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
 2411 type;]  
 2412 [(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2413 [(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2414 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]  
 2415 [(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2416 [(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]  
 2417 [(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2418 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]  
 2419 [(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2420 [(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2421 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]  
 2422 [(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2423 [(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]  
 2424 [(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2425 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;]  
 2426 [(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2427 [(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2428 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]  
 2429 [(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]  
 2430 [(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
 2431 and contain the following words, "By signing this referendum petition, you are  
 2432 stating that you have read and understand the law that this referendum petition  
 2433 seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;]  
 2434 [(e)] (4) [~~the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in  
 2435 Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the  
 2436 sheet [or] for the information described in Subsection [(3)(f); and] (5).  
 2437 [(f)] (5) [~~at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,  
 2438 in the following order:  
 2439 (a) the following statement in 12-point, bold type:  
 2440 "This referendum petition seeks to have (description of local law or portion of~~~~

2441 local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
 2442 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
 2443 \_\_\_\_\_ (month/day/year)."; and

2444 (b) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not less  
 2445 than eight-point type:

2446 "It is a class A misdemeanor [~~for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name~~  
 2447 ~~other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than~~  
 2448 ~~once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual~~  
 2449 ~~knows that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign a referendum petition using a name  
 2450 other than your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.~~

2451 [ ~~Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity~~  
 2452 ~~with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be~~  
 2453 ~~verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified~~  
 2454 ~~or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
 2455 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
 2456 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
 2457 you provide does not match your voter registration record."~~

2458 [(4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 2459 statement:

2460 "Verification of signature collector

2461 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2462 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

2463 I am at least 18 years old;

2464 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be  
 2465 the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's  
 2466 name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have  
 2467 signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and  
 2468 in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;

2469 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum  
 2470 packet by the initials "AV":

2471 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the  
 2472 referendum petition on the individual's behalf;

2473 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the  
 2474 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

2475 ~~———— I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not~~  
2476 ~~understand the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's~~  
2477 ~~benefit;~~

2478 ~~———— I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,~~  
2479 ~~or consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and~~

2480 ~~———— I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature~~  
2481 ~~sheet;~~

2482 ~~I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition~~  
2483 ~~seeks to overturn; and~~

2484 ~~I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written~~  
2485 ~~correctly, that each signer has read the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each~~  
2486 ~~signer is registered to vote in~~

2487 ~~Utah.~~ \_\_\_\_\_

2488 ~~(Name) (Residence Address) (Date)~~

2489 ~~The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name.~~

2490 ~~I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum~~  
2491 ~~packet to encourage that individual to sign it.~~

2492 \_\_\_\_\_

2493 ~~(Name) (Residence Address) (Date)"]~~

2494 [(5)] (6) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the circulator verification  
2495 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

2496 (7) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
2497 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

2498 Section 27. Section **20A-7-604** is amended to read:

2499 **20A-7-604 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Circulation**  
2500 **requirements -- Local clerk to provide sponsors with materials.**

2501 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

2502 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
2503 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
2504 described in Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate referendum packets  
2505 that meet the form requirements of this part.

2506 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate referendum packets using  
2507 traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets, or both.

2508 (3) Within five calendar days after the day on which a county, city, town, or court

- 2509 determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-602.7, that a proposed referendum is  
2510 legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide the sponsors with:
- 2511 (a) a copy of the referendum petition;
- 2512 (b) a signature sheet; and
- 2513 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
2514 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2515 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:
- 2516 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum  
2517 packets; and
- 2518 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
2519 meet the form requirements of this section.
- 2520 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets for  
2521 circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.
- 2522 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding~~  
2523 ~~a copy of the referendum petition with the text of the law that is the subject of the~~  
2524 ~~referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that~~  
2525 ~~the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing.] The sponsors or an  
2526 agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by:~~
- 2527 (i) binding the components of each referendum packet together at the top in a manner  
2528 that secures all components of the referendum packet together;
- 2529 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:
- 2530 (A) a copy of the referendum petition;
- 2531 (B) if the referendum packet is a traditional referendum packet, a copy of the law  
2532 that is the subject of the referendum petition;
- 2533 (C) the signature sheets; and
- 2534 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);
- 2535 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each referendum packet; and  
2536 (iv) binding the referendum packet in a manner that allows the referendum packet to  
2537 be conveniently opened for signing.
- 2538 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 2539 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each packet, a copy of  
2540 the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under Subsection  
2541 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2542 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:

- 2543 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
 2544 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;  
 2545 (ii) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use  
 2546 to number referendum packets;  
 2547 [~~(ii)~~] (iii) sign an agreement with the local clerk, specifying:  
 2548 (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate referendum  
 2549 packets using traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets,  
 2550 or both; and  
 2551 (B) the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum  
 2552 packets; and  
 2553 [~~(iii)~~] (iv) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 2554 provided by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.  
 2555 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:  
 2556 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or  
 2557 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner  
 2558 directed by the county clerk.

2559 Section 28. Section **20A-8-103** is amended to read:

2560 **20A-8-103 (Effective 05/06/26). Petition procedures -- Criminal penalty --**

2561 **Removal of signature.**

- 2562 (1) As used in this section, the proposed name or emblem of a registered political party is  
 2563 "distinguishable" if a reasonable person of average intelligence will be able to perceive a  
 2564 difference between the proposed name or emblem and any name or emblem currently  
 2565 being used by another registered political party.  
 2566 (2) To become a registered political party, an organization of registered voters that is not a  
 2567 continuing political party shall:  
 2568 (a) circulate a petition seeking registered political party status beginning no earlier than  
 2569 the date of the statewide canvass held after the last regular general election and  
 2570 ending before 5 p.m. no later than November 30 of the year before the year in which  
 2571 the next regular general election will be held;  
 2572 (b) file a petition with the lieutenant governor that is signed, with a holographic  
 2573 signature, by at least 2,000 registered voters before 5 p.m. no later than November 30  
 2574 of the year in which a regular general election will be held; and  
 2575 (c) file, with the petition described in Subsection (2)(b), a document certifying:  
 2576 (i) the identity of one or more registered political parties whose members may vote

2577 for the organization's candidates;  
2578 (ii) whether unaffiliated voters may vote for the organization's candidates; and  
2579 (iii) whether, for the next election, the organization intends to nominate the  
2580 organization's candidates in accordance with the provisions of Section 20A-9-406.

2581 (3) The petition shall:

2582 (a) be on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2583 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space above that line  
2584 blank for the purpose of binding;

2585 (c) contain the name of the political party and the words "Political Party Registration  
2586 Petition" printed directly below the horizontal line;

2587 (d) contain the word "Warning" printed directly under the words described in Subsection  
2588 (3)(c);

2589 (e) contain, to the right of the word "Warning," the following statement printed in not less than  
2590 eight-point, single leaded type:

2591 "It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a political party registration  
2592 petition signature sheet with any name other than the individual's own name or more than once  
2593 for the same party or if the individual is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend  
2594 to become registered to vote in this state before the petition is submitted to the lieutenant  
2595 governor.";

2596 (f) contain the following statement directly under the statement described in Subsection (3)(e):

2597 "POLITICAL PARTY REGISTRATION PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_,  
2598 Lieutenant Governor:

2599 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, seek registered political party status for \_\_\_\_\_  
2600 (name);

2601 Each signer says:

2602 I have personally signed this petition with a holographic signature;

2603 I am registered to vote in Utah or will register to vote in Utah before the petition is  
2604 submitted to the lieutenant governor;

2605 I am or desire to become a member of the political party; and

2606 My street address is written correctly after my name.";

2607 (g) be vertically divided into columns as follows:

2608 (i) the first column shall appear at the extreme left of the sheet, be 5/8 inch wide, be  
2609 headed with "For Office Use Only," and be subdivided with a light vertical line  
2610 down the middle;

- 2611 (ii) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
2612 Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 2613 (iii) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Holographic Signature of  
2614 Registered Voter";
- 2615 (iv) the next column shall be one inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age (Optional)";
- 2616 (v) the final column shall be 4-3/8 inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
2617 Code"; and
- 2618 (vi) at the bottom of the sheet, contain the following statement: "Birth date or age  
2619 information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with voter  
2620 registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
2621 certified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures  
2622 are certified or if the information you provide does not match your voter  
2623 registration records.";

2624 ~~[(h) have a final page bound to one or more signature sheets that are bound together that  
2625 contains the following printed statement:~~

2626 ~~"Verification~~

2627 ~~State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_~~

2628 ~~I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:~~

2629 ~~I am at least 18 years old;~~

2630 ~~All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were signed by  
2631 individuals who professed to be the individuals whose names appear on the signature sheets;  
2632 and each individual signed the individual's name on the signature sheets in my presence;~~

2633 ~~I believe that each individual has printed and signed the individual's name and written  
2634 the individual's street address correctly, and that each individual is registered to vote in Utah or  
2635 will register to vote in Utah before the petition is submitted to the lieutenant governor.~~

2636 \_\_\_\_\_  
2637 ~~(Signature) (Residence Address) (Date)"; and]~~

2638 ~~[(+) (h) have a final page bound to one or more signature sheets that contains the  
2639 circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1); and~~

2640 ~~(i) be bound to a cover sheet that:~~

- 2641 (i) identifies the political party's name, which may not exceed four words, and the  
2642 emblem of the party;
- 2643 (ii) states the process that the organization will follow to organize and adopt a  
2644 constitution and bylaws; and

- 2645 (iii) is signed by a filing officer, who agrees to receive communications on behalf of  
2646 the organization.
- 2647 (4) The filing officer described in Subsection (3)(i)(iii) shall ensure that the individual in  
2648 whose presence each signature sheet is signed:
- 2649 (a) is at least 18 years old; and  
2650 (b) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification bound to one or more  
2651 signature sheets that are bound together.
- 2652 (5) An individual may not sign the verification if the individual signed a signature sheet  
2653 bound to the verification.
- 2654 (6) The lieutenant governor shall:
- 2655 (a) use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002 to determine whether a signer is  
2656 a registered voter;
- 2657 (b) review the proposed name and emblem to determine if they are "distinguishable"  
2658 from the names and emblems of other registered political parties; and  
2659 (c) certify the lieutenant governor's findings to the filing officer described in Subsection  
2660 (3)(i)(iii) within 30 calendar days after the day on which the organization files the  
2661 petition described in Subsection (2)(b).
- 2662 (7)(a) If the lieutenant governor determines that the petition meets the requirements of  
2663 this section, and that the proposed name and emblem are distinguishable, the  
2664 lieutenant governor shall authorize the filing officer described in Subsection (3)(i)(iii)  
2665 to organize the prospective political party.
- 2666 (b) If the lieutenant governor finds that the name, emblem, or both are not  
2667 distinguishable from the names and emblems of other registered political parties, the  
2668 lieutenant governor shall notify the filing officer that the filing officer has seven  
2669 calendar days to electronically submit a new name or emblem to the lieutenant  
2670 governor.
- 2671 (8) A registered political party may not change [its] the registered political party's name or  
2672 emblem during the regular general election cycle.
- 2673 (9)(a) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 2674 (i) knowingly sign a political party registration petition:
- 2675 (A) with any name other than the individual's own name;  
2676 (B) more than once for the same political party; or  
2677 (C) if the individual is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to  
2678 become registered to vote in this state before the petition is submitted to the

- 2679 lieutenant governor; or
- 2680 (ii) sign the verification of a political party registration petition signature sheet if the
- 2681 individual:
- 2682 (A) has not witnessed the signing by those individuals whose names appear on the
- 2683 political party registration petition signature sheet; or
- 2684 (B) knows that an individual whose signature appears on the political party
- 2685 registration petition signature sheet is not registered to vote in this state and
- 2686 does not intend to become registered to vote in this state.
- 2687 (b) An individual who violates this Subsection (9) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- 2688 (10)(a) A voter who signs a petition under this section may have the voter's signature
- 2689 removed from the petition by, no later than three business days after the day on
- 2690 which the petition is filed with the lieutenant governor, submitting to the lieutenant
- 2691 governor a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed.
- 2692 (b) A statement described in Subsection (10)(a) shall comply with the requirements
- 2693 described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).
- 2694 (c) The lieutenant governor shall use the procedures described in Subsection
- 2695 20A-1-1003(3) to determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a
- 2696 petition after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.
- 2697 Section 29. Section **20A-9-405** is amended to read:
- 2698 **20A-9-405 (Effective 05/06/26). Nomination petitions for regular primary**
- 2699 **elections.**
- 2700 (1) This section applies to the form and circulation of nomination petitions for regular
- 2701 primary elections described in Subsection 20A-9-403(3)(a).
- 2702 (2) A candidate for elective office, and the agents of the candidate, may not circulate
- 2703 nomination petitions until the candidate has submitted a declaration of candidacy in
- 2704 accordance with Subsection 20A-9-202(1).
- 2705 (3) For the manual candidate qualification process, the nomination petitions shall be in
- 2706 substantially the following form:
- 2707 (a) the petition shall be printed on paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;
- 2708 (b) the petition shall be ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space
- 2709 above that line blank for purposes of binding;
- 2710 (c) the petition shall be headed by a caption stating the purpose of the petition and the
- 2711 name of the proposed candidate;
- 2712 (d) the petition shall feature the word "Warning" followed by the following statement in

2713 no less than eight-point, single leaded type: "It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone  
 2714 to knowingly sign a nomination petition with any name other than the person's own  
 2715 name, or more than once for the same candidate, or if the person is not registered to  
 2716 vote in this state.";

2717 (e) the petition shall feature 10 lines spaced one-half inch apart and consecutively  
 2718 numbered one through 10;

2719 (f) the signature portion of the petition shall be divided into columns headed by the  
 2720 following titles:

- 2721 (i) Registered Voter's Printed Name;
- 2722 (ii) Signature of Registered Voter;
- 2723 (iii) Party Affiliation of Registered Voter;
- 2724 (iv) Birth Date or Age (Optional);
- 2725 (v) Street Address, City, Zip Code; and
- 2726 (vi) Date of Signature; and

2727 (g) a photograph of the candidate may appear on the nomination petition.

2728 (4) For the electronic candidate qualification process, the lieutenant governor shall design  
 2729 an electronic form, using progressive screens, that includes:

2730 (a) the following warning:

2731 "Warning: It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a nomination  
 2732 petition with any name other than the person's own name, or more than once for the same  
 2733 candidate, or if the person is not registered to vote in this state."; and

2734 (b) the following information for each individual who signs the petition:

- 2735 (i) name;
- 2736 (ii) party affiliation;
- 2737 (iii) date of birth or age, (optional);
- 2738 (iv) street address, city, zip code;
- 2739 (v) date of signature;
- 2740 (vi) other information required under Section 20A-21-201; and
- 2741 (vii) other information required by the lieutenant governor.

2742 [~~5~~] For the manual candidate qualification process, if one or more nomination petitions are  
 2743 bound together, a page shall be bound to the nomination petition(s) that features the following  
 2744 printed verification statement to be signed and dated by the petition circulator:

2745 "Verification  
 2746 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2747 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:

2748 I am at least 18 years old;

2749 All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were, to the best of  
2750 my knowledge, signed by the persons who professed to be the persons whose names appear on  
2751 the signature sheets, and each of them signed the person's name on the signature sheets in my  
2752 presence;

2753 I believe that each has printed and signed the person's name and written the person's  
2754 street address correctly, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah." ]

2755 [(6)] (5) For the manual candidate qualification process, if one or more nomination petitions  
2756 are bound together, a final page shall be bound to the nomination petition(s) that  
2757 contains the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

2758 (6) The lieutenant governor shall prepare and make public model nomination petition forms  
2759 and associated instructions.

2760 (7) A nomination petition circulator:

2761 (a) must be at least 18 years old; and

2762 (b) may affiliate with any political party.

2763 (8) It is unlawful for any person to:

2764 (a) knowingly sign the nomination petition described in this section or Section  
2765 20A-9-408:

2766 (i) with any name other than the person's own name;

2767 (ii) more than once for the same candidate; or

2768 (iii) if the person is not registered to vote in this state;

2769 (b) sign the verification of a signature for a nomination petition if the person:

2770 (i) has not witnessed the signing by those persons whose names appear on the  
2771 nomination petition; or

2772 (ii) knows that a person whose signature appears on the nomination petition is not  
2773 registered to vote in this state;

2774 (c) pay [compensation to] any person to sign a nomination petition; or

2775 (d) pay [compensation to] any person to circulate a nomination petition[, if the  
2776 compensation is based directly on the number of signatures submitted to a filing  
2777 officer rather than on the number of signatures verified or on some other basis.]

2778 unless the payment is based on:

2779 (i) an hourly rate; or

2780 (ii) a rate per valid signature.

2781 (9) Any person violating Subsection (8) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.  
 2782 (10)(a) A voter who signs a nomination petition may have the voter's signature removed  
 2783 from the petition by, no later than three business days after the day on which the  
 2784 candidate files the petition with the appropriate filing officer, submitting to the filing  
 2785 officer a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed.

2786 (b) A statement described in Subsection (10)(a) shall comply with the requirements  
 2787 described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).

2788 (c) The filing officer shall use the procedures described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(3) to  
 2789 determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a nomination petition  
 2790 after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.

2791 Section 30. Section **20A-9-502** is amended to read:

2792 **20A-9-502 (Effective 05/06/26). Certificate of nomination -- Contents --**  
 2793 **Circulation -- Verification -- Criminal penalty -- Removal of petition signature.**

2794 (1) The candidate shall:

2795 (a) prepare a certificate of nomination in substantially the following form:

2796 "State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2797 I, \_\_\_\_\_, declare my intention of becoming an unaffiliated candidate for the  
 2798 political group designated as \_\_\_\_ for the office of \_\_\_\_\_. I do solemnly swear that I can  
 2799 qualify to hold that office both legally and constitutionally if selected, and that I reside at \_\_\_\_\_  
 2800 Street, in the city of \_\_\_\_\_, county of \_\_\_\_\_, state of \_\_\_\_\_, zip code \_\_\_\_\_, phone \_\_\_\_\_, and  
 2801 that I am providing, or have provided, the required number of holographic signatures of  
 2802 registered voters required by law; that as a candidate at the next election I will not knowingly  
 2803 violate any election or campaign law; that, if filing via a designated agent for an office other  
 2804 than president of the United States, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate  
 2805 filing period; I will file all campaign financial disclosure reports as required by law; and I  
 2806 understand that failure to do so will result in my disqualification as a candidate for this office  
 2807 and removal of my name from the ballot.  
 2808

2809 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Subscribed and sworn to before me this \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year).

2810 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2811

Notary Public (or other officer qualified to administer oaths)";

- 2812 (b) for each signature packet, bind signature sheets to a copy of the certificate of  
2813 nomination and the circulator verification, that:
- 2814 (i) are printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;
- 2815 (ii) are ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space above that  
2816 line blank for the purpose of binding;
- 2817 (iii) contain the name of the proposed candidate and the words "Unaffiliated  
2818 Candidate Certificate of Nomination Petition" printed directly below the  
2819 horizontal line;
- 2820 (iv) contain the word "Warning" printed directly under the words described in  
2821 Subsection (1)(b)(iii);
- 2822 (v) contain, to the right of the word "Warning," the following statement printed in not less than  
2823 eight-point, single leaded type:
- 2824 "It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a certificate of nomination  
2825 signature sheet with any name other than the person's own name or more than once for the  
2826 same candidate or if the person is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to  
2827 become registered to vote in this state before the county clerk certifies the signatures.";
- 2828 (vi) contain the following statement directly under the statement described in Subsection  
2829 (1)(b)(v):
- 2830 "Each signer says:
- 2831 I have personally signed this petition with a holographic signature;
- 2832 I am registered to vote in Utah or intend to become registered to vote in Utah before the  
2833 county clerk certifies my signature; and
- 2834 My street address is written correctly after my name.";
- 2835 (vii) contain horizontally ruled lines, 3/8 inch apart under the statement described in  
2836 Subsection (1)(b)(vi); and
- 2837 (viii) be vertically divided into columns as follows:
- 2838 (A) the first column shall appear at the extreme left of the sheet, be 5/8 inch wide,  
2839 be headed with "For Office Use Only," and be subdivided with a light vertical  
2840 line down the middle;
- 2841 (B) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's  
2842 Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 2843 (C) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Holographic Signature of  
2844 Registered Voter";

- 2845 (D) the next column shall be one inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age
- 2846 (Optional)";
- 2847 (E) the final column shall be 4-3/8 inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip
- 2848 Code"; and
- 2849 (F) at the bottom of the sheet, contain the following statement: "Birth date or age
- 2850 information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with
- 2851 voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may
- 2852 not be certified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition
- 2853 signatures are certified or if the information you provide does not match your
- 2854 voter registration records."; and

2855 (c) bind a final page to one or more signature sheets that contains the circulator  
 2856 verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

2857 ~~[(e) bind a final page to one or more signature sheets that are bound together that contains,~~  
 2858 ~~except as provided by Subsection (3), the following printed statement:~~

2859 "Verification

2860 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2861 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:

2862 I am at least 18 years old;

2863 ~~All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were signed by~~  
 2864 ~~persons who professed to be the persons whose names appear on the signature sheets, and each~~  
 2865 ~~of them signed the person's name on the signature sheets in my presence;~~

2866 ~~I believe that each has printed and signed the person's name and written the person's~~  
 2867 ~~street address correctly, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah or will register to~~  
 2868 ~~vote in Utah before the county clerk certifies the signatures on the signature sheet.~~

2869 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2870 (Signature) (Residence Address) (Date).]

2871 (2) An agent designated to file a certificate of nomination under Subsection  
 2872 20A-9-503(2)(b) or (4)(b) may not sign the form described in Subsection (1)(a).

2873 (3)(a) The candidate shall circulate the nomination petition and ensure that the person in  
 2874 whose presence each signature sheet is signed:

2875 (i) is at least 18 years old; and

2876 (ii) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification bound to one or more  
 2877 signature sheets that are bound together.

2878 (b) A person may not sign the circulator verification if the person signed a signature

2879 sheet bound to the verification.

2880 (4)(a) It is unlawful for any person to:

2881 (i) knowingly sign a certificate of nomination signature sheet:

2882 (A) with any name other than the person's own name;

2883 (B) more than once for the same candidate; or

2884 (C) if the person is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to  
2885 become registered to vote in this state before the county clerk certifies the  
2886 signatures; or

2887 (ii) sign the verification of a certificate of nomination signature sheet if the person:

2888 (A) has not witnessed the signing by those persons whose names appear on the  
2889 certificate of nomination signature sheet; or

2890 (B) knows that a person whose signature appears on the certificate of nomination  
2891 signature sheet is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to  
2892 become registered to vote in this state.

2893 (b) Any person violating this Subsection (4) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

2894 (5)(a) To qualify for placement on the general election ballot, the candidate shall, no  
2895 earlier than the start of the applicable declaration of candidacy period described in  
2896 Section 20A-9-201.5 and no later than 5 p.m. on June 15 of the year in which the  
2897 election will be held:

2898 (i) comply with Subsection 20A-9-503(1); and

2899 (ii) submit each signature packet to the county clerk where the majority of the  
2900 signatures in the packet were collected, with signatures totaling:

2901 (A) at least 1,000 registered voters residing within the state when the nomination  
2902 is for an office to be filled by the voters of the entire state; or

2903 (B) at least 300 registered voters residing within a political division or at least 5%  
2904 of the registered voters residing within a political division, whichever is less,  
2905 when the nomination is for an office to be filled by the voters of any political  
2906 division smaller than the state.

2907 (b) A candidate has not complied with Subsection (5)(a)(ii), unless the county clerks  
2908 verify that each required signature is a valid signature of a registered voter who is  
2909 eligible to sign the signature packet and has not signed a signature packet to nominate  
2910 another candidate for the same office.

2911 (c) In reviewing the signature packets, the county clerk shall count and certify only those  
2912 persons who signed with a holographic signature, who:

- 2913 (i) are registered voters within the political division that the candidate seeks to  
2914 represent; and
- 2915 (ii) did not sign any other certificate of nomination for that office.
- 2916 (d) The county clerk shall count and certify the number of registered voters who validly  
2917 signed a signature packet, no later than 30 calendar days after the day on which the  
2918 candidate submits the signature packet.
- 2919 (e) The candidate may supplement the signatures or amend the certificate of nomination  
2920 or declaration of candidacy at any time on or before 5 p.m. on June 15 of the year in  
2921 which the election will be held.
- 2922 (f) The county clerk shall use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002 to  
2923 determine whether a signer is a registered voter who is qualified to sign the signature  
2924 packet.
- 2925 (6)(a) A voter who signs a signature packet under this section may have the voter's  
2926 signature removed from the signature packet by, no later than 5 p.m. three business  
2927 days after the day on which the candidate submits the signature packet to the county  
2928 clerk, submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature  
2929 be removed.
- 2930 (b) A statement described in Subsection (6)(a) shall comply with the requirements  
2931 described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).
- 2932 (c) The county clerk shall use the procedures described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(3) to  
2933 determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a signature packet after  
2934 receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.
- 2935 Section 31. Section **20A-21-201** is amended to read:
- 2936 **20A-21-201 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic signature gathering for an initiative,**  
2937 **a referendum, or candidate qualification.**
- 2938 (1) After filing a petition for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum, and before  
2939 gathering signatures, the sponsors shall, after consulting with the Office of the  
2940 Lieutenant Governor, sign a form provided by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
2941 indicating whether the sponsors will gather signatures manually, electronically, or both.
- 2942 (2) After filing a petition for a local initiative or a local referendum, and before gathering  
2943 signatures, the sponsors shall, after consulting with the local clerk's office, sign a form  
2944 provided by the local clerk's office indicating whether the sponsors will gather  
2945 signatures manually, electronically, or both.
- 2946 (3) After a candidate files a notice of intent to gather signatures to qualify for a ballot, and

- 2947 before gathering signatures, the candidate shall, after consulting with the election  
2948 officer, sign a form provided by the election officer indicating whether the candidate  
2949 will gather signatures manually, electronically, or both.
- 2950 (4) To gather a signature electronically, a signature-gatherer shall:
- 2951 (a) use a device provided by the signature-gatherer or a sponsor of the petition that:
- 2952 (i) is approved by the lieutenant governor;
- 2953 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4)(a)(iii), does not store a signature or any  
2954 other information relating to an individual signing the petition in any location  
2955 other than the location used by the website to store the information;
- 2956 (iii) does not, on the device, store a signature or any other information relating to an  
2957 individual signing the petition except for the minimum time necessary to upload  
2958 information to the website;
- 2959 (iv) does not contain any applications, software, or data other than those approved by  
2960 the lieutenant governor; and
- 2961 (v) complies with cyber-security and other security protocols required by the  
2962 lieutenant governor;
- 2963 (b) use the approved device to securely access a website designated by the lieutenant  
2964 governor, directly, or via an application designated by the lieutenant governor; and
- 2965 (c) while connected to the website, present the approved device to an individual  
2966 considering signing the petition and, while the signature-gatherer is in the physical  
2967 presence of the individual:
- 2968 (i) wait for the individual to reach each screen presented to the individual on the  
2969 approved device; and
- 2970 (ii) wait for the individual to advance to each subsequent screen by clicking on the  
2971 acknowledgement at the bottom of the screen.
- 2972 (5) Each screen shown on an approved device as part of the signature-gathering process  
2973 shall appear as a continuous electronic document that, if the entire document does not  
2974 appear on the screen at once, requires the individual viewing the screen to, before  
2975 advancing to the next screen, scroll through the document until the individual reaches  
2976 the end of the document.
- 2977 (6) After advancing through each screen required for the petition, the signature process  
2978 shall proceed as follows:
- 2979 (a) except as provided in Subsection (6)(b):
- 2980 (i) the individual desiring to sign the petition shall present the individual's driver

- 2981 license or state identification card to the signature-gatherer;
- 2982 (ii) the signature-gatherer shall verify that the individual pictured on the driver  
2983 license or state identification card is the individual signing the petition;
- 2984 (iii) the signature-gatherer shall scan or enter the driver license number or state  
2985 identification card number through the approved device; and
- 2986 (iv) immediately after the signature-gatherer complies with Subsection (6)(a)(iii), the  
2987 website shall determine whether the individual desiring to sign the petition is  
2988 eligible to sign the petition;
- 2989 (b) if the individual desiring to sign the petition is unable to provide a driver license or  
2990 state identification card to the signature gatherer:
- 2991 (i) the individual may present other valid voter identification;
- 2992 (ii) if the valid voter identification contains a picture of the individual, the  
2993 signature-gatherer shall verify that the individual pictured is the individual signing  
2994 the petition;
- 2995 (iii) if the valid voter identification does not contain a picture of the individual, the  
2996 signature-gatherer shall, to the extent reasonably practicable, use the individual's  
2997 address or other available means to determine whether the identification relates to  
2998 the individual presenting the identification;
- 2999 (iv) the signature-gatherer shall scan an image of the valid voter identification and  
3000 immediately upload the image to the website; and
- 3001 (v) the individual:
- 3002 (A) shall enter the individual's address; and
- 3003 (B) may, at the discretion of the individual, enter the individual's date of birth or  
3004 age after the individual clicks on the screen acknowledging that they have read  
3005 and understand the following statement, "Birth date or age information is not  
3006 required, but may be used to verify your identity with voter registration  
3007 records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be verified as a  
3008 valid signature if you change your address before your signature is verified or  
3009 if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records.";
- 3010 and
- 3011 (c) after completing the process described in Subsection (6)(a) or (b), the screen shall:
- 3012 (i) except for a petition to qualify a candidate for the ballot, give the individual  
3013 signing the petition the opportunity to enter the individual's email address after the  
3014 individual reads the following statement, "If you provide your email address, you

3015 may receive an email with additional information relating to the petition you are  
 3016 signing."; and

3017 (ii)(A) if the website determines, under Subsection (6)(a)(iv), that the individual is  
 3018 eligible to sign the petition, permit the individual to enter the individual's name  
 3019 as the individual's electronic signature and, immediately after the  
 3020 signature-gatherer timely complies with Subsection (10), certify the signature; or  
 3021 (B) if the individual provides valid voter identification under Subsection (6)(b),  
 3022 permit the individual to enter the individual's name as the individual's  
 3023 electronic signature.

3024 (7) If an individual provides valid voter identification under Subsection (6)(b), the county  
 3025 clerk shall, within seven calendar days after the day on which the individual submits the  
 3026 valid voter identification, certify the signature if:

- 3027 (a) the individual is eligible to sign the petition;
- 3028 (b) the identification provided matches the information on file; and
- 3029 (c) the signature-gatherer timely complies with Subsection (10).

3030 (8) For each signature submitted under this section, the website shall record:

- 3031 (a) the information identifying the individual who signs;
- 3032 (b) the date the signature was collected; and
- 3033 (c) the name of the signature-gatherer.

3034 (9) An individual who is a signature-gatherer may not sign a petition unless another  
 3035 individual acts as the signature-gatherer when the individual signs the petition.

3036 ~~[(10) Except for a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party,  
 3037 each individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within one business day after  
 3038 the day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically sign and submit the  
 3039 following statement to the website:~~

3040 ~~"VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE-GATHERER~~

3041 ~~State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_~~

3042 ~~I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:~~

3043 ~~I am at least 18 years old;~~

3044 ~~All the signatures that I collected on [Date signatures were gathered] were signed by~~  
 3045 ~~individuals who professed to be the individuals whose signatures I gathered, and each of the~~  
 3046 ~~individuals signed the petition in my presence;~~

3047 ~~I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law or proposed~~  
 3048 ~~law to which the petition relates;~~

3049 I believe that each individual has signed the individual's name and written the  
 3050 individual's residence correctly, that each signer has read and understands the law to which the  
 3051 petition relates, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah;

3052 Each signature correctly reflects the date on which the individual signed the petition;  
 3053 and

3054 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition to  
 3055 encourage that individual to sign it."]

3056 [(H)] (10) Except for a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered  
 3057 political party, each individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within  
 3058 one business day after the day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically  
 3059 sign and submit the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1)  
 3060 to the website.

3061 (11) Except for a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political  
 3062 party:

3063 (a) the county clerk may not certify a signature that is not timely verified in accordance  
 3064 with Subsection (10); and

3065 (b) if a signature certified by a county clerk under Subsection (6)(c)(ii)(A) is not timely  
 3066 verified in accordance with Subsection (10), the county clerk shall:

3067 (i) revoke the certification;

3068 (ii) remove the signature from the posting described in Subsection 20A-7-217(4),  
 3069 20A-7-315(4), 20A-7-516(4), or 20A-7-616(4); and

3070 (iii) update the totals described in Subsections 20A-7-217(5)(a)(ii),  
 3071 20A-7-315(5)(a)(ii), 20A-7-516(5)(a)(ii), and 20A-7-616(5)(a)(ii).

3072 [(12) For a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party, each  
 3073 individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within one business day after the  
 3074 day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically sign and submit the following  
 3075 statement to the lieutenant governor in the manner specified by the lieutenant governor:

3076 "VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE-GATHERER

3077 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

3078 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:

3079 I am at least 18 years old;

3080 All the signatures that I collected on [Date signatures were gathered] were signed by  
 3081 individuals who professed to be the individuals whose signatures I gathered, and each of the  
 3082 individuals signed the petition in my presence;

3083 I believe that each individual has signed the individual's name and written the  
 3084 individual's residence correctly and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah; and  
 3085 Each signature correctly reflects the date on which the individual signed the petition."]

3086 (12) For a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party,  
 3087 each individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within one business day  
 3088 after the day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically sign and submit  
 3089 the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1) to the lieutenant  
 3090 governor in the manner specified by the lieutenant governor.

3091 (13) For a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party, the  
 3092 election officer may not certify a signature that is not timely verified in accordance with  
 3093 Subsection (12).

3094 Section 32. Section **63I-2-220** is amended to read:

3095 **63I-2-220 (Effective 05/06/26). Repeal dates: Title 20A.**

3096 (1) Section 20A-7-103.1, Constitutional amendments proposed during specified timeframe  
 3097 -- Analysis -- Arguments -- Publication, is repealed July 1, 2025.

3098 [(2) Title 20A, Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, is  
 3099 repealed January 1, 2026.]

3100 (2) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(c), regarding the email that the sponsors of an initiative  
 3101 petition send to certain individuals before delivering an initiative packet to the county  
 3102 clerk, is repealed January 1, 2027.

3103 (3) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(d), regarding the email recipient list and written verification  
 3104 that the sponsors of a statewide initiative petition submit to the lieutenant governor, is  
 3105 repealed January 1, 2027.

3106 (4) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(e), regarding the email recipient list and written verification  
 3107 that the sponsors of a local initiative petition submit to the local clerk, is repealed  
 3108 January 1, 2027.

3109 (5) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(f), regarding the validity of signatures gathered for an  
 3110 initiative petition, is repealed January 1, 2027.

3111 Section 33. **Effective Date.**

3112 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect May 6, 2026.

3113 (2) The actions affecting Section 20A-1-1002 (Effective 07/01/27) take effect on July 1,  
 3114 2027.