

Troy Shelley proposes the following substitute bill:

**Signature Gathering and Verification Amendments**

2026 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Paul A. Cutler**

Senate Sponsor: Ronald M. Winterton

---



---

**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This bill modifies requirements for petitions.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

- ▶ amends, standardizes, and makes technical revisions to the signature collector verification form included in petition packets;
- ▶ clarifies how an individual may be paid for collecting petition signatures;
- ▶ beginning on July 1, 2027, requires a clerk who verifies signatures for a petition to send an email and text message notice to the signer of the petition notifying the signer of the status of the signer's signature;
- ▶ requires the lieutenant governor to develop and maintain an online training course to educate individuals who collect signatures for a petition;
- ▶ requires an individual who collects signatures for a petition to complete the training course described above before collecting any signatures for the petition;
- ▶ requires an election official to reject a signature packet if the individual who collects signatures for the petition did not complete the online training course described above;
- ▶ modifies requirements related to statewide initiative and referendum packets by:
  - removing the requirement that the county clerk deliver each packet to the lieutenant governor;
  - requiring the county clerk who verifies packets to certify certain statistical information to the lieutenant governor; and
  - directing the county clerk to retain and preserve each packet for at least 22 months;
- ▶ designates the existing initiative and referendum packet format as one packet type and creates an alternative packet type with different content and assembly requirements;
- ▶ 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       ▶ requires a statewide initiative signature sheet or electronic device to include a question  
43 asking whether the signer has contacted the signer's state senator or representative  
44 regarding the law the initiative proposes to enact, and a related prompt for additional  
45 information if the signer answers yes;
- 46       ▶ provides that a signer's response, or failure to respond, to the question or prompt  
47 described above does not affect the validity of the signer's signature;
- 48       ▶ provides that a county clerk may not certify a signature if the date of signature is later  
49 than the applicable deadline for submitting an initiative or referendum packet;
- 50       ▶ on January 1, 2027, repeals provisions requiring the sponsors of an initiative petition to:
- 51           • send an informational email to each initiative petition signer who provides a legible  
52 email address on a signature sheet; and
- 53           • send a list to the lieutenant governor identifying the recipients of the email described  
54 above;
- 55       ▶ beginning on January 1, 2027, requires an election officer to send the email described  
56 above to each eligible voter who signs an initiative petition within two business days of  
57 verifying the voter's signature;
- 58       ▶ makes technical revisions to the required statements that appear on initiative and  
59 referendum signature sheets;
- 60       ▶ modifies certain statements appearing on initiative and referendum packets to provide that:
- 61           • the signer of the packet had an opportunity to read and understand the proposed or  
62 referable law; and

- 63           • for the signature gatherer, the signature gatherer believes that the signer had an  
64 opportunity to read and understand the proposed or referable law; and  
65           ▸ makes technical and conforming changes.

66 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

67           None

68 **Other Special Clauses:**

69           This bill provides a special effective date.

70 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

71 **AMENDS:**

72           **20A-1-102 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special  
73 Session, Chapter 6

74           **20A-1-609 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 325

75           **20A-1-1001 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special  
76 Session, Chapter 16

77           **20A-1-1002 (Effective 07/01/27)**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116

78           **20A-1-1003 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

79           **20A-7-101 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, First Special  
80 Session, Chapter 16

81           **20A-7-104 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

82           **20A-7-105 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

83           **20A-7-201 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

84           **20A-7-202 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 117

85           **20A-7-202.5 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

86           **20A-7-202.7 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

87           **20A-7-203 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

88           **20A-7-204 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

89           **20A-7-213 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

90           **20A-7-215 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

91           **20A-7-216 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

92           **20A-7-217 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

93           **20A-7-302 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

94           **20A-7-303 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442

95           **20A-7-304 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448

96           **20A-7-502 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

97           **20A-7-503 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442  
 98           **20A-7-504 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448  
 99           **20A-7-512 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442  
 100          **20A-7-514 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442  
 101          **20A-7-602 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
 102          **20A-7-603 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 442  
 103          **20A-7-604 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448  
 104          **20A-7-613 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 448  
 105          **20A-8-103 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 38, 448  
 106          **20A-9-405 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapter 38  
 107          **20A-9-502 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Second Special  
 108          Session, Chapter 2  
 109          **20A-21-201 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2025, Chapters 381,  
 110          448  
 111          **63I-2-220 (Effective 05/06/26)**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Forth Special  
 112          Session, Chapter 2

113 ENACTS:

114           **20A-1-1004 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

115           **20A-1-1005 (Effective 05/06/26)**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

---



---

116  
 117 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

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

119           **20A-1-102 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

120           As used in this title:

- 121           (1) "Active voter" means a registered voter who has not been classified as an inactive voter  
 122           by the county clerk.
- 123           (2) "Automatic tabulating equipment" means apparatus that automatically examines and  
 124           counts votes recorded on ballots and tabulates the results.
- 125           (3)(a) "Ballot" means the storage medium, including a paper, mechanical, or electronic  
 126           storage medium, that records an individual voter's vote.
- 127           (b) "Ballot" does not include a record to tally multiple votes.
- 128           (4) "Ballot proposition" means a question, issue, or proposal that is submitted to voters on  
 129           the ballot for their approval or rejection including:
- 130           (a) an opinion question specifically authorized by the Legislature;

- 131 (b) a constitutional amendment;
- 132 (c) an initiative;
- 133 (d) a referendum;
- 134 (e) a bond proposition;
- 135 (f) a judicial retention question;
- 136 (g) an incorporation of a city or town; or
- 137 (h) any other ballot question specifically authorized by the Legislature.
- 138 (5) "Bind," "binding," or "bound" means securing more than one piece of paper together
- 139 using staples, a spiral binder, or another means in at least three places across the top of
- 140 the paper in the blank space reserved for securing the paper.
- 141 (6) "Board of canvassers" means the entities established by Sections 20A-4-301 and
- 142 20A-4-306 to canvass election returns.
- 143 (7) "Bond election" means an election held for the purpose of approving or rejecting the
- 144 proposed issuance of bonds by a government entity.
- 145 (8) "Business day" means a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday that is not
- 146 a holiday.
- 147 (9) "Business reply mail envelope" means an envelope that may be mailed free of charge by
- 148 the sender.
- 149 (10) "Calendar day" means any day, regardless of whether the day is a weekend, a holiday,
- 150 a business day, or any other type of day.
- 151 (11) "Canvass" means the review of election returns and the official declaration of election
- 152 results by the board of canvassers.
- 153 (12) "Canvassing judge" means a poll worker designated to assist in counting ballots at the
- 154 canvass.
- 155 (13) "Contracting election officer" means an election officer who enters into a contract or
- 156 interlocal agreement with a provider election officer.
- 157 (14) "Convention" means the political party convention at which party officers and
- 158 delegates are selected.
- 159 (15) "Counting center" means one or more locations selected by the election officer in
- 160 charge of the election for the automatic counting of ballots.
- 161 (16) "Counting judge" means a poll worker designated to count the ballots during election
- 162 day.
- 163 (17) "Counting room" means a suitable and convenient private place or room for use by the
- 164 poll workers and counting judges to count ballots.

- 165 (18) "County officers" means those county officers that are required by law to be elected.
- 166 (19) "Date of the election" or "election day" or "day of the election":
- 167 (a) means the day that is specified in the calendar year as the day on which the election
- 168 occurs; and
- 169 (b) does not include:
- 170 (i) deadlines established for voting by mail, military-overseas voting, or emergency
- 171 voting; or
- 172 (ii) any early voting or early voting period as provided under Chapter 3a, Part 6,
- 173 Early Voting.
- 174 (20) "Elected official" means:
- 175 (a) a person elected to an office under Section 20A-1-303 or Chapter 4, Part 6,
- 176 Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project;
- 177 (b) a person who is considered to be elected to a municipal office in accordance with
- 178 Subsection 20A-1-206(1)(c)(ii); or
- 179 (c) a person who is considered to be elected to a special district office in accordance
- 180 with Subsection 20A-1-206(3)(b)(ii).
- 181 (21) "Election" means a regular general election, a municipal general election, a statewide
- 182 special election, a local special election, a regular primary election, a municipal primary
- 183 election, and a special district election.
- 184 (22) "Election Assistance Commission" means the commission established by the Help
- 185 America Vote Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-252.
- 186 (23) "Election cycle" means the period beginning on the first day on which individuals are
- 187 eligible to file declarations of candidacy and ending when the canvass is completed.
- 188 (24) "Election judge" means a poll worker that is assigned to:
- 189 (a) preside over other poll workers at a polling place;
- 190 (b) act as the presiding election judge; or
- 191 (c) serve as a canvassing judge, counting judge, or receiving judge.
- 192 (25) "Election material" includes:
- 193 (a) the verification documentation described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(9)(b)(iv);
- 194 (b) the list of voters contacted to cure a ballot described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(10)(b);
- 195 (c) the record of rejected and resolved ballots described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(11)(a);
- 196 (d) any chain of custody documentation described in Section 20A-3a-401.1, including:
- 197 (i) the count of ballots described in Subsection 20A-3a-401.1(3); and
- 198 (ii) the batch log described in Subsection 20A-3a-401.1(5);

- 199 (e) the record of signature verification audits described in Subsection 20A-3a-402.5(4);  
 200 (f) the affidavit of compliance described in Subsection 20A-3a-404(2);  
 201 (g) the physical and electronic log of replicated ballots described in Subsection  
 202 20A-4-104(3);  
 203 (h) the physical or electronic log of adjudicated ballots described in Section 20A-5-802.5;  
 204 (i) the record of voter database access described in Subsection 20A-5-905(2);  
 205 (j) the reports on military and overseas voters described in Section 20A-16-202;  
 206 (k) scanned copies of return envelopes;  
 207 (l) a copy of the final election results database described in Section 20A-5-802.5; and  
 208 (m) the materials used in the programming of the automatic tabulating equipment.
- 209 (26) "Election officer" means:
- 210 (a) the lieutenant governor, for all statewide ballots and elections;  
 211 (b) the county clerk for:  
 212 (i) a county ballot and election; and  
 213 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section  
 214 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5;  
 215 (c) the municipal clerk for:  
 216 (i) a municipal ballot and election; and  
 217 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section  
 218 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5;  
 219 (d) the special district clerk or chief executive officer for:  
 220 (i) a special district ballot and election; and  
 221 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section  
 222 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5; or  
 223 (e) the business administrator or superintendent of a school district for:  
 224 (i) a school district ballot and election; and  
 225 (ii) a ballot and election as a provider election officer as provided in Section  
 226 20A-5-400.1 or 20A-5-400.5.
- 227 (27) "Election official" means any election officer, election judge, or poll worker.
- 228 (28) "Election results" means:
- 229 (a) for an election other than a bond election, the count of votes cast in the election and  
 230 the election returns requested by the board of canvassers; or  
 231 (b) for bond elections, the count of those votes cast for and against the bond proposition  
 232 plus any or all of the election returns that the board of canvassers may request.

- 233 (29) "Election results database" means the following information generated by voting  
234 equipment:
- 235 (a) one or more electronic files that contains a digital interpretation of each ballot that is  
236 counted in an election;
  - 237 (b) a ballot image; and
  - 238 (c) other information related to a ballot that is adjudicated under Section 20A-4-105.
- 239 (30) "Election returns" means:
- 240 (a) the pollbook;
  - 241 (b) the military and overseas absentee voter registration and voting certificates;
  - 242 (c) one of the tally sheets;
  - 243 (d) any unprocessed ballots;
  - 244 (e) all counted ballots;
  - 245 (f) all excess ballots;
  - 246 (g) all unused ballots;
  - 247 (h) all spoiled ballots;
  - 248 (i) all ballot disposition forms, including any provisional ballot disposition forms;
  - 249 (j) the final election results database described in Section 20A-5-802.5;
  - 250 (k) all return envelopes;
  - 251 (l) any provisional ballot envelopes; and
  - 252 (m) the total votes cast form.
- 253 (31) "Electronic signature" means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached to or  
254 logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to  
255 sign the record.
- 256 (32) "Holiday" means a legal holiday described in Subsections 63G-1-301(1) and (2).
- 257 (33) "Inactive voter" means a registered voter who is listed as inactive by a county clerk  
258 under Subsection 20A-2-505(4)(c)(i) or (ii).
- 259 (34) "Judicial office" means the office filled by any judicial officer.
- 260 (35) "Judicial officer" means any justice or judge of a court of record or any county court  
261 judge.
- 262 (36) "Local election" means a regular county election, a regular municipal election, a  
263 municipal primary election, a local special election, a special district election, and a  
264 bond election.
- 265 (37) "Local political subdivision" means a county, a municipality, a special district, or a  
266 local school district.

- 267 (38) "Local special election" means a special election called by the governing body of a  
268 local political subdivision in which all registered voters of the local political subdivision  
269 may vote.
- 270 (39) "Manual ballot" means a paper document produced by an election officer on which an  
271 individual records an individual's vote by directly placing a mark on the paper document  
272 using a pen or other marking instrument.
- 273 (40) "Mechanical ballot" means a record, including a paper record, electronic record, or  
274 mechanical record, that:
- 275 (a) is created via electronic or mechanical means; and
  - 276 (b) records an individual voter's vote cast via a method other than an individual directly  
277 placing a mark, using a pen or other marking instrument, to record an individual  
278 voter's vote.
- 279 (41) "Municipal executive" means:
- 280 (a) the mayor in the council-mayor form of government defined in Section 10-3b-102; or
  - 281 (b) the mayor in the council-manager form of government defined in Subsection  
282 10-3b-103(6).
- 283 (42) "Municipal general election" means the election held in municipalities and, as  
284 applicable, special districts on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of  
285 each odd-numbered year for the purposes established in Section 20A-1-202.
- 286 (43) "Municipal legislative body" means the council of the city or town in any form of  
287 municipal government.
- 288 (44) "Municipal office" means an elective office in a municipality.
- 289 (45) "Municipal officers" means those municipal officers that are required by law to be  
290 elected.
- 291 (46) "Municipal primary election" means an election held to nominate candidates for  
292 municipal office.
- 293 (47) "Municipality" means a city or town.
- 294 (48) "Official ballot" means the ballots distributed by the election officer for voters to  
295 record their votes.
- 296 (49) "Official endorsement" means the information on the ballot that identifies:
- 297 (a) the ballot as an official ballot;
  - 298 (b) the date of the election; and
  - 299 (c)(i) for a ballot prepared by an election officer other than a county clerk, the  
300 facsimile signature required by Subsection 20A-6-401(1)(a)(iii); or

- 301 (ii) for a ballot prepared by a county clerk, the words required by Subsection  
302 20A-6-301(1)(b)(iii).
- 303 (50) "Official register" means the official record furnished to election officials by the  
304 election officer that contains the information required by Section 20A-5-401.
- 305 (51) "Political party" means an organization of registered voters that has qualified to  
306 participate in an election by meeting the requirements of Chapter 8, Political Party  
307 Formation and Procedures.
- 308 (52)(a) "Poll worker" means a person assigned by an election official to assist with an  
309 election, voting, or counting votes.
- 310 (b) "Poll worker" includes election judges.
- 311 (c) "Poll worker" does not include a watcher.
- 312 (53) "Pollbook" means a record of the names of voters in the order that the voters appear to  
313 cast votes.
- 314 (54) "Polling place" means a building where voting is conducted.
- 315 (55) "Position" means a square, circle, rectangle, or other geometric shape on a ballot in  
316 which the voter marks the voter's choice.
- 317 (56) "Presidential Primary Election" means the election established in Chapter 9, Part 8,  
318 Presidential Primary Election.
- 319 (57) "Primary convention" means the political party conventions held during the year of the  
320 regular general election.
- 321 (58) "Protective counter" means a separate counter, which cannot be reset, that:  
322 (a) is built into a voting machine; and  
323 (b) records the total number of movements of the operating lever.
- 324 (59) "Provider election officer" means an election officer who enters into a contract or  
325 interlocal agreement with a contracting election officer to conduct an election for the  
326 contracting election officer's local political subdivision in accordance with Section  
327 20A-5-400.1.
- 328 (60) "Provisional ballot" means a ballot voted provisionally by a person:  
329 (a) whose name is not listed on the official register at the polling place;  
330 (b) whose legal right to vote is challenged as provided in this title; or  
331 (c) whose identity was not sufficiently established by a poll worker.
- 332 (61) "Provisional ballot envelope" means an envelope printed in the form required by  
333 Section 20A-6-105 that is used to identify provisional ballots and to provide information  
334 to verify a person's legal right to vote.

- 335 (62)(a) "Public figure" means an individual who, due to the individual being considered  
336 for, holding, or having held a position of prominence in a public or private capacity,  
337 or due to the individual's celebrity status, has an increased risk to the individual's  
338 safety.
- 339 (b) "Public figure" does not include an individual:  
340 (i) elected to public office; or  
341 (ii) appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected public office.
- 342 (63) "Qualify" or "qualified" means to take the oath of office and begin performing the  
343 duties of the position for which the individual was elected.
- 344 (64) "Receiving judge" means the poll worker that checks the voter's name in the official  
345 register at a polling place and provides the voter with a ballot.
- 346 (65) "Registration form" means a form by which an individual may register to vote under  
347 this title.
- 348 (66) "Regular ballot" means a ballot that is not a provisional ballot.
- 349 (67) "Regular general election" means the election held throughout the state on the first  
350 Tuesday after the first Monday in November of each even-numbered year for the  
351 purposes established in Section 20A-1-201.
- 352 (68) "Regular primary election" means the election, held on the date specified in Section  
353 20A-1-201.5, to nominate candidates of political parties and candidates for nonpartisan  
354 local school board positions to advance to the regular general election.
- 355 (69) "Resident" means a person who resides within a specific voting precinct in Utah.
- 356 (70) "Return envelope" means the envelope, described in Subsection 20A-3a-202(4),  
357 provided to a voter with a manual ballot:  
358 (a) into which the voter places the manual ballot after the voter has voted the manual  
359 ballot in order to preserve the secrecy of the voter's vote; and  
360 (b) that includes the voter affidavit and a place for the voter's signature.
- 361 (71) "Sample ballot" means a mock ballot similar in form to the official ballot, published as  
362 provided in Section 20A-5-405.
- 363 (72) "Special district" means a local government entity under Title 17B, Limited Purpose  
364 Local Government Entities - Special Districts, and includes a special service district  
365 under Title 17D, Chapter 1, Special Service District Act.
- 366 (73) "Special district officers" means those special district board members who are required  
367 by law to be elected.
- 368 (74) "Special election" means an election held as authorized by Section 20A-1-203.

- 369 (75) "Spoiled ballot" means each ballot that:
- 370 (a) is spoiled by the voter;
- 371 (b) is unable to be voted because it was spoiled by the printer or a poll worker; or
- 372 (c) lacks the official endorsement.
- 373 (76) "Statewide special election" means a special election called by the governor or the
- 374 Legislature in which all registered voters in Utah may vote.
- 375 (77) "Tabulation system" means a device or system designed for the sole purpose of
- 376 tabulating votes cast by voters at an election.
- 377 (78) "Ticket" means a list of:
- 378 (a) political parties;
- 379 (b) candidates for an office; or
- 380 (c) ballot propositions.
- 381 (79) "Transfer case" means the sealed box used to transport voted ballots to the counting
- 382 center.
- 383 (80) "Vacancy" means:
- 384 (a) except as provided in Subsection (80)(b), the absence of an individual to serve in a
- 385 position created by state constitution or state statute, whether that absence occurs
- 386 because of death, disability, disqualification, resignation, or other cause; or
- 387 (b) in relation to a candidate for a position created by state constitution or state statute,
- 388 the removal of a candidate due to the candidate's death, resignation, or
- 389 disqualification.
- 390 (81) "Valid voter identification" means:
- 391 (a) a form of identification that bears the name and photograph of the voter which may
- 392 include:
- 393 (i) a currently valid Utah driver license;
- 394 (ii) a currently valid identification card issued under Title 53, Chapter 3, Part 8,
- 395 Identification Card Act;
- 396 (iii) a currently valid identification card that is issued by:
- 397 (A) the state; or
- 398 (B) a branch, department, or agency of the United States;
- 399 (iv) a currently valid Utah permit to carry a concealed weapon;
- 400 (v) a currently valid United States passport; or
- 401 (vi) a currently valid United States military identification card;
- 402 (b) one of the following identification cards, regardless of whether the card includes a

- 403 photograph of the voter:
- 404 (i) a valid tribal identification card;
- 405 (ii) a Bureau of Indian Affairs card; or
- 406 (iii) a tribal treaty card; or
- 407 (c) two forms of identification not listed under Subsection (81)(a) or (b) but that bear the
- 408 name of the voter and provide evidence that the voter resides in the voting precinct,
- 409 which may include:
- 410 (i) before January 1, 2029, an original or copy of a current utility bill, dated no more
- 411 than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 412 (ii) before January 1, 2029, an original or copy of a bank or other financial account
- 413 statement, dated no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 414 (iii) a certified birth certificate;
- 415 (iv) a valid social security card;
- 416 (v) an original or copy of a check issued by the state or the federal government, dated
- 417 no more than 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 418 (vi) an original or copy of a paycheck from the voter's employer, dated no more than
- 419 90 calendar days before the date of the election;
- 420 (vii) a currently valid Utah hunting or fishing license;
- 421 (viii) certified naturalization documentation;
- 422 (ix) a currently valid license issued by an authorized agency of the United States;
- 423 (x) a certified copy of court records showing the voter's adoption or name change;
- 424 (xi) a valid Medicaid card, Medicare card, or Electronic Benefits Transfer [~~Card~~] card;
- 425 (xii) a currently valid identification card issued by:
- 426 (A) a local government within the state;
- 427 (B) an employer for an employee; or
- 428 (C) a college, university, technical school, or professional school located within
- 429 the state; or
- 430 (xiii) a current Utah vehicle registration.
- 431 (82) "Valid write-in candidate" means a candidate who has qualified as a write-in candidate
- 432 by following the procedures and requirements of this title.
- 433 (83) "Vote by mail" means to vote, using a manual ballot that is mailed to the voter, by:
- 434 (a) mailing the ballot to the location designated in the mailing; or
- 435 (b) depositing the ballot in a ballot drop box designated by the election officer.
- 436 (84) "Voter" means an individual who:

- 437 (a) meets the requirements for voting in an election;  
 438 (b) meets the requirements of election registration;  
 439 (c) is registered to vote; and  
 440 (d) is listed in the official register.
- 441 (85) "Voter registration deadline" means the registration deadline provided in Section  
 442 20A-2-102.5.
- 443 (86) "Voting area" means the area within six feet of the voting booths, voting machines,  
 444 and ballot box.
- 445 (87) "Voting booth" means:  
 446 (a) the space or compartment within a polling place that is provided for the preparation  
 447 of ballots, including the voting enclosure or curtain; or  
 448 (b) a voting device that is free standing.
- 449 (88) "Voting device" means any device provided by an election officer for a voter to vote a  
 450 mechanical ballot.
- 451 (89) "Voting precinct" means the smallest geographical voting unit, established under  
 452 Chapter 5, Part 3, Duties of the County and Municipal Legislative Bodies.
- 453 (90) "Watcher" means an individual who complies with the requirements described in  
 454 Section 20A-3a-801 to become a watcher for an election.
- 455 (91) "Write-in ballot" means a ballot containing any write-in votes.
- 456 (92) "Write-in vote" means a vote cast for an individual, whose name is not printed on the  
 457 ballot, in accordance with the procedures established in this title.
- 458 Section 2. Section **20A-1-609** is amended to read:  
 459 **20A-1-609 (Effective 05/06/26). Omnibus penalties.**
- 460 (1)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (1)(b), a person who violates any provision of  
 461 this title is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.
- 462 (b) Subsection (1)(a) does not apply to a provision of this title for which another penalty  
 463 is expressly stated.
- 464 (c) An individual is not guilty of a crime for, by signing a petition for an initiative or  
 465 referendum, falsely making the statement described in Subsection [  
 466 20A-7-203(3)(d)(xx), 20A-7-303(3)(d)(xx), 20A-7-503(3)(d)(xx), or  
 467 20A-7-603(3)(d)(xx)] 20A-7-203(3)(f)(ii), 20A-7-303(3)(f)(ii), 20A-7-503(3)(f)(ii),  
 468 or 20A-7-603(3)(f)(ii).
- 469 (2) Except as provided by Section 20A-2-101.3 or 20A-2-101.5, an individual convicted of  
 470 any offense under this title may not:

- 471 (a) file a declaration of candidacy for any office or appear on the ballot as a candidate  
 472 for any office during the election cycle in which the violation occurred;  
 473 (b) take or hold the office to which the individual was elected; and  
 474 (c) receive the emoluments of the office to which the individual was elected.
- 475 (3)(a) Any individual convicted of any offense under this title forfeits the right to vote at  
 476 any election unless the right to vote is restored as provided in Section 20A-2-101.3 or  
 477 20A-2-101.5.
- 478 (b) Any person may challenge the right to vote of a person described in Subsection (3)(a)  
 479 by following the procedures and requirements of Section 20A-3a-803.

480 Section 3. Section **20A-1-1001** is amended to read:

481 **20A-1-1001 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

482 As used in this part:

- 483 (1)(a) "Clerk" means the lieutenant governor, a county clerk, municipal clerk, town  
 484 clerk, city recorder, or municipal recorder.
- 485 (b) "Clerk" includes a board of trustees under Title 17B, Chapter 1, Provisions  
 486 Applicable to All Special Districts.
- 487 (2) "Local petition" means:
- 488 (a) a manual or electronic local initiative petition described in Chapter 7, Part 5, Local  
 489 Initiatives - Procedures; or
- 490 (b) a manual or electronic local referendum petition described in Chapter 7, Part 6, Local  
 491 Referenda - Procedures.
- 492 (3) "Petition" means one of the following written requests, signed by registered voters,  
 493 appealing to an authority with respect to a particular cause:
- 494 (a) a local petition;
- 495 (b) a petition to consolidate two or more municipalities under Section 10-2-601;
- 496 (c) a petition for disincorporation of a municipality under Section 10-2-701;
- 497 (d) a petition to incorporate a proposed municipality under Section 10-2a-208;
- 498 (e) a petition to consolidate adjoining counties under Section 17-61-201;
- 499 (f) a petition to annex a portion of a county to an adjoining county under Section  
 500 17-61-301;
- 501 (g) a petition for the creation of a new county under Section 17-61-401;
- 502 (h) a petition for the removal of a county seat under Section 17-60-302;
- 503 (i) a petition for the adoption of an optional plan under Section 17-62-303;
- 504 (j) a petition for the repeal of an optional plan under Section 17-62-505;

- 505 (k) a petition to create a special district under Section 17B-1-203;
- 506 (l) a petition to withdraw an area from a special district under Section 17B-1-504;
- 507 (m) a petition to dissolve a special district under Section 17B-1-1303;
- 508 (n) a petition for issuance of local building authority bonds under Section 17D-2-502;
- 509 (o) a petition to become a registered political party under Section 20A-8-103;
- 510 (p) a nomination petition for municipal office under Section 20A-9-203;
- 511 (q) a nomination petition for a regular primary election under Subsection
- 512 20A-9-403(3)(a) and Section 20A-9-405;
- 513 (r) a petition for a political party to qualify as a municipal political party under Section
- 514 20A-9-404;
- 515 (s) a petition for the nomination of a qualified political party under Section 20A-9-408;
- 516 (t) a nomination petition for a candidate not affiliated with a political party under
- 517 Section 20A-9-502;
- 518 (u) a nomination petition to become a delegate to a ratification convention under Section
- 519 20A-15-103;
- 520 (v) a petition to create a new school district under Section 53G-3-301;
- 521 (w) a petition to consolidate school districts under Section 53G-3-401;
- 522 (x) a petition to transfer a portion of a school district to another district under Section
- 523 53G-3-501;
- 524 (y) a petition to determine whether a privatization project agreement should be approved
- 525 under Section 73-10d-4; or
- 526 (z) a statewide petition.

527 (4) "Petition packet" means:

- 528 (a) a candidate signature packet, as defined in Section 20A-9-401.1;
- 529 (b) an initiative packet, as defined in Section 20A-7-101;
- 530 (c) a referendum packet, as defined in Section 20A-7-101; or
- 531 (d) any other packet of signature sheets that:
- 532 (i) is bound together and circulated to gather signatures for a petition; and
- 533 (ii) includes a cover sheet at the front of the packet and a circulator verification sheet
- 534 at the end of the packet.

535 [~~(4)~~] (5) "Statewide petition" means:

- 536 (a) a manual or electronic statewide initiative petition described in Chapter 7, Part 2,
- 537 Statewide Initiatives; or
- 538 (b) a manual or electronic statewide referendum petition described in Chapter 7, Part 3,

539 Statewide Referenda.

540 [~~(5)~~] (6)(a) "Substantially similar name" means:

541 (i) the given name, the surname, or both, provided by the individual with the  
542 individual's petition signature, contain only minor spelling differences when  
543 compared to the given name and surname shown on the official register;

544 (ii) the surname provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
545 exactly matches the surname shown on the official register, and the given names  
546 differ only because one of the given names shown is a commonly used  
547 abbreviation or variation of the other;

548 (iii) the surname provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
549 exactly matches the surname shown on the official register, and the given names  
550 differ only because one of the given names shown is accompanied by a first or  
551 middle initial or a middle name which is not shown on the other record; or

552 (iv) the surname provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
553 exactly matches the surname shown on the official register, and the given names  
554 differ only because one of the given names shown is an alphabetically  
555 corresponding initial that has been provided in the place of a given name shown  
556 on the other record.

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

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

561 **20A-1-1002 (Effective 07/01/27). Verification of voter registration -- Electronic**  
562 **notice to petition signer.**

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

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

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

- 573 (i) the address provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature  
574 matches the address of an individual on the official register with a substantially  
575 similar name; and
- 576 (ii) the signer's signature appears substantially similar to the signature on the  
577 statewide voter registration database of the individual described in Subsection  
578 (1)(b)(i);
- 579 (c) if there is no match of an address and a substantially similar name, the clerk shall  
580 declare the signature valid for the district or jurisdiction in which the signer is  
581 registered to vote if:
- 582 (i) the birth date or age provided by the individual with the individual's petition  
583 signature matches the birth date or age of an individual on the official register  
584 with a substantially similar name; and
- 585 (ii) the signer's signature appears substantially similar to the signature on the  
586 statewide voter registration database of the individual described in Subsection  
587 (1)(c)(i).
- 588 (2) If a signature is not declared valid under Subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c), the clerk shall  
589 declare the signature to be invalid.
- 590 (3) A clerk shall, within two business days after the day on which the clerk declares a  
591 signer's signature valid or invalid under this section, notify the signer of the status of the  
592 signer's signature by:
- 593 (a) sending an email notice to the signer if the signer's information in the voter  
594 registration database includes an email address; and
- 595 (b) sending a text message notice to the signer if:
- 596 (i) the signer's information in the voter registration database includes a mobile  
597 telephone number; and
- 598 (ii) the signer consented, on the signer's voter registration form, to receive official  
599 communications by text at the mobile phone number.
- 600 (4) The notice described in Subsection (3)(a) shall:
- 601 (a) include the title "Notice of Signature Verification";
- 602 (b) identify the name or type of petition the signer signed; and
- 603 (c) inform the signer that the signer's signature was declared valid or invalid by the clerk.
- 604 Section 5. Section **20A-1-1003** is amended to read:
- 605 **20A-1-1003 (Effective 05/06/26). Signature removal -- Statement required.**
- 606 (1) A voter who signs a petition may have the voter's signature removed from the petition

- 607 by submitting to the clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed.
- 608 (2)(a)(i) The statement described in Subsection (1) shall include:
- 609 (A) the name or description of the petition from which the voter seeks to remove
- 610 the voter's signature;
- 611 (B) the name of the voter;
- 612 (C) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;
- 613 (D) except as otherwise provided in Section 20A-7-106, the voter's signature; and
- 614 (E) the date of the signature described in Subsection (2)(a)(i)(D).
- 615 (ii) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed,
- 616 the statement may include the voter's birth date or age.
- 617 (b) Except as provided in Subsection [~~20A-7-216(5)(a)~~] 20A-7-216(6)(a),
- 618 20A-7-314(5)(a), 20A-7-515(4)(b), or 20A-7-615(4)(b), a voter may not submit a
- 619 statement described in Subsection (1) by email or other electronic means.
- 620 (c) In order for the signature to be removed, the clerk must receive the statement
- 621 described in Subsection (1) no later than the deadline described in the provision of
- 622 law governing the petition.
- 623 (d) A voter may only remove a signature from a petition in accordance with this section
- 624 and the provision of law governing the petition.
- 625 (e) A clerk shall analyze a signature, for purposes of removing a signature from a
- 626 petition, in accordance with Subsection (3).
- 627 (3) Except to the extent otherwise required under Section 20A-7-106, the clerk shall use the
- 628 following procedures to determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a
- 629 petition after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature:
- 630 (a) if the signer's name and address shown on the statement and the petition exactly
- 631 match a name and address shown on the official register and the individual's
- 632 signature on the statement is reasonably consistent with the individual's signature on
- 633 the statewide voter registration database, the clerk shall remove the signature from
- 634 the petition;
- 635 (b) if there is no exact match of an address and a name, the clerk shall remove the
- 636 signature from the petition if:
- 637 (i) the address on the statement and the address provided by the individual with the
- 638 individual's petition signature match the address of an individual on the official
- 639 register with a substantially similar name; and
- 640 (ii) the individual's signature on the statement is reasonably consistent with the

- 641 signature on the statewide voter registration database of the individual described  
 642 in Subsection (3)(b)(i); and
- 643 (c) if there is no match of an address and a substantially similar name, the clerk shall  
 644 remove the signature from the petition if:
- 645 (i) the birth date or age on the statement and the birth date or age provided by the  
 646 individual with the individual's petition signature match the birth date or age of an  
 647 individual on the official register with a substantially similar name; and
- 648 (ii) the individual's signature on the statement is reasonably consistent with the  
 649 signature on the statewide voter registration database of the individual described  
 650 in Subsection (3)(b)(i).
- 651 (4) If a signature does not qualify for removal under Subsection (3)(a), (b), or (c), or, if  
 652 applicable, Section 20A-7-106, the clerk may not remove the signature from the petition.

653 Section 6. Section **20A-1-1004** is enacted to read:

654 **20A-1-1004 (Effective 05/06/26). Circulator verification sheet -- Rejection of**  
 655 **petition packet.**

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

659 VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE-GATHERER

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

661 I am at least 18 years old;

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

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

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

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

674 I do not believe and do not have reason to believe that the individual did not

675 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the petition packet on the individual's  
 676 behalf;

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

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

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

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

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

688 I understand that if I have been or will be paid to gather signatures for this petition,  
 689 the payment rate must be based on an hourly rate or a rate per valid signature; and

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

693

694 (Printed Name) (Signature) (Residence Address)

695 (Date)

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

697 (a) all or any portion of the circulator verification sheet described in this section is not  
 698 completed by the individual who gathered signatures for the petition; or

699 (b) the individual who gathered signatures for the petition checked "No" in response to  
 700 the signature gatherer training statement.

701 Section 7. Section **20A-1-1005** is enacted to read:

702 **20A-1-1005 (Effective 05/06/26). Online training for signature gatherers.**

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

705 (2) The training course shall:

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

- 709            (i) collecting a signature from an individual with a disability; and  
 710            (ii) electronic signature gathering;  
 711            (b) emphasize compliance with the requirements, restrictions, and procedures described  
 712            in Subsection (2)(a);  
 713            (c) highlight the potential for criminal penalties for knowingly or intentionally  
 714            falsifying, misrepresenting, or otherwise violating applicable law in the circulation of  
 715            a petition and collection of signatures; and  
 716            (d) recommend best practices for individuals who gather signatures for a petition.  
 717            (3) The lieutenant governor shall make the training course described in Subsection (2)  
 718            available on the lieutenant governor's website.  
 719            (4) An individual may not gather signatures for a petition unless the individual has, before  
 720            collecting any signatures, completed the online training course described in this section.

721            Section 8. Section **20A-7-101** is amended to read:

722            **20A-7-101 (Effective 05/06/26). Definitions.**

723            As used in this chapter:

- 724            (1) "Approved device" means a device described in Subsection 20A-21-201(4) used to  
 725            gather signatures for the electronic initiative process, the electronic referendum process,  
 726            or the electronic candidate qualification process.  
 727            (2) "Budget officer" means:  
 728            (a) for a county, the person designated as finance officer as defined in Section 17-63-101;  
 729            (b) for a city, the person designated as budget officer in Subsection 10-6-106(4); or  
 730            (c) for a town, the town council.  
 731            (3) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the  
 732            signature of a registered voter.  
 733            (4) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative petition or a referendum  
 734            petition to legal voters for their signature.  
 735            (5) "Condensed initiative packet" means the following components, all of which are bound  
 736            together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204(5)(b), for a statewide  
 737            initiative, or Subsection 20A-7-504(5)(b), for a local initiative:  
 738            (a) a copy of the initiative petition;  
 739            (b) the signature sheets; and  
 740            (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).  
 741            (6) "Condensed referendum packet" means the following components, all of which are  
 742            bound together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-304(5)(b), for statewide

743 referendum, or Subsection 20A-7-604(5)(b), for a local referendum:

744 (a) a copy of the referendum petition;

745 (b) the signature sheets; and

746 (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

747 [(5)] (7) "Electronic initiative process" means:

748 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-215  
749 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or

750 (b) as it relates to a local initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-514 and  
751 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.

752 [(6)] (8) "Electronic referendum process" means:

753 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-313  
754 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or

755 (b) as it relates to a local referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-614 and  
756 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.

757 [(7)] (9) "Eligible voter" means a legal voter who resides in the jurisdiction of the county,  
758 city, or town that is holding an election on a ballot proposition.

759 [(8)] (10) "Final fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared after voters  
760 approve an initiative that contains the information required by Subsection  
761 20A-7-202.5(2) or 20A-7-502.5(2).

762 [(9)] (11) "Initial fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared under  
763 Section 20A-7-202.5 after the filing of a statewide initiative application.

764 [(10)] (12) "Initial fiscal impact and legal statement" means a financial and legal statement  
765 prepared under Section 20A-7-502.5 or 20A-7-602.5 for a local initiative or a local  
766 referendum.

767 [(11)] (13) "Initiative" means a new law proposed for adoption by the public as provided in  
768 this chapter.

769 [(12)] (14) "Initiative application" means:

770 (a) for a statewide initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2) that  
771 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
772 required under Subsection 20A-7-202(2); or

773 (b) for a local initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2) that  
774 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
775 required under Subsection 20A-7-502(2).

776 [(13)] (15) "Initiative packet" means [~~a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the proposed~~

- 777 law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.] :
- 778 (a) a traditional initiative packet; or
- 779 (b) a condensed initiative packet.
- 780 [(14)] (16) "Initiative petition":
- 781 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 782 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a), petitioning for
- 783 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters;[-and]
- 784 (ii) [~~if the initiative proposes a tax increase,~~]includes the statement described in
- 785 Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(b)[;] , if the initiative proposes a tax increase; and
- 786 (iii) includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(c), if:
- 787 (A) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and
- 788 (B) the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a) is part of a condensed
- 789 initiative packet;
- 790 (b) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 791 (i) means the form described in Subsections 20A-7-215(2) and (3), petitioning for
- 792 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and
- 793 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in
- 794 Subsection [~~20A-7-215(5)(b)] 20A-7-215(6)(b);~~
- 795 (c) as it relates to a local initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 796 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a), petitioning for
- 797 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters;[-and]
- 798 (ii) [~~if the initiative proposes a tax increase,~~]includes the statement described in
- 799 Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(b)[;] , if the initiative proposes a tax increase; and
- 800 (iii) includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(c), if:
- 801 (A) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and
- 802 (B) the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a) is part of a condensed
- 803 initiative packet; or
- 804 (d) as it relates to a local initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 805 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-514(2)(a), petitioning for
- 806 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and
- 807 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in
- 808 Subsection 20A-7-514(4)(a).
- 809 [(15)] (17)(a) "Land use law" means a law of general applicability, enacted based on the
- 810 weighing of broad, competing policy considerations, that relates to the use of land,

- 811 including a land use regulation, a general plan, a land use development code, an  
 812 annexation ordinance, the rezoning of a single property or multiple properties, or a  
 813 comprehensive zoning ordinance or resolution.
- 814 (b) "Land use law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-20-102  
 815 or 17-79-102.
- 816 ~~[(16)]~~ (18) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:  
 817 (a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and  
 818 (b) have been obtained, certified, and verified as provided in this chapter.
- 819 ~~[(17)]~~ (19) "Legal voter" means an individual who is registered to vote in Utah.
- 820 ~~[(18)]~~ (20) "Legally referable to voters" means:  
 821 (a) for a proposed local initiative, that the proposed local initiative is legally referable to  
 822 voters under Section 20A-7-502.7; or  
 823 (b) for a proposed local referendum, that the proposed local referendum is legally  
 824 referable to voters under Section 20A-7-602.7.
- 825 ~~[(19)]~~ (21) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney in  
 826 whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 827 ~~[(20)]~~ (22) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose  
 828 jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 829 ~~[(21)]~~ (23)(a) "Local law" includes:  
 830 (i) an ordinance;  
 831 (ii) a resolution;  
 832 (iii) a land use law;  
 833 (iv) a land use regulation, as defined in Section 10-20-102; or  
 834 (v) other legislative action of a local legislative body.
- 835 (b) "Local law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-20-102.
- 836 ~~[(22)]~~ (24) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, or town.
- 837 ~~[(23)]~~ (25) "Local obligation law" means a local law passed by the local legislative body  
 838 regarding a bond that was approved by a majority of qualified voters in an election.
- 839 ~~[(24)]~~ (26) "Local tax law" means a law, passed by a political subdivision with an annual or  
 840 biannual calendar fiscal year, that increases a tax or imposes a new tax.
- 841 ~~[(25)]~~ (27) "Manual initiative process" means the process for gathering signatures for an  
 842 initiative using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 843 ~~[(26)]~~ (28) "Manual referendum process" means the process for gathering signatures for a  
 844 referendum using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.

- 845 [(27)] (29)(a) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or  
846 referendum.
- 847 (b) "Measure" does not include a ballot proposition for the creation of a new school  
848 district under Section 53G-3-301.1, 53G-3-301.3, or 53G-3-301.4.
- 849 [(28)] (30) "Presiding officers" means the president of the Senate and the speaker of the  
850 House of Representatives.
- 851 [(29)] (31) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or by a  
852 local legislative body is submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection.
- 853 [(30)] (32) "Referendum application" means:
- 854 (a) for a statewide referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2) that  
855 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
856 required under Subsection 20A-7-302(2); or
- 857 (b) for a local referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-602(2) that  
858 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
859 required under Subsection 20A-7-602(2).
- 860 [(31)] (33) "Referendum packet" means~~[a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of the~~  
861 ~~law being submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection, and the~~  
862 ~~signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.] :~~
- 863 (a) a traditional referendum packet; or
- 864 (b) a condensed referendum packet.
- 865 [(32)] (34) "Referendum petition" means:
- 866 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the manual referendum process, the  
867 form described in Subsection ~~[20A-7-303(2)(a)]~~ 20A-7-303(2), petitioning for  
868 submission of a law passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or  
869 rejection;
- 870 (b) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the  
871 form described in Subsection 20A-7-313(2), petitioning for submission of a law  
872 passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or rejection;
- 873 (c) as it relates to a local referendum, using the manual referendum process, the form  
874 described in Subsection ~~[20A-7-603(2)(a)]~~ 20A-7-603(2), petitioning for submission  
875 of a local law to legal voters for their approval or rejection; or
- 876 (d) as it relates to a local referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the form  
877 described in Subsection 20A-7-614(2), petitioning for submission of a local law to  
878 legal voters for their approval or rejection.

- 879     ~~[(33)]~~ (35) "Signature":
- 880         (a) for a statewide initiative:
- 881             (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature
- 882                 collected under Section 20A-7-215 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 883             (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 884                 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet
- 885                 described in Section 20A-7-203;
- 886                 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the
- 887                 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to
- 888                 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's
- 889                 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in
- 890                 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 891                 (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 892         (b) for a statewide referendum:
- 893             (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature
- 894                 collected under Section 20A-7-313 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 895             (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 896                 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet
- 897                 described in Section 20A-7-303;
- 898                 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the
- 899                 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to
- 900                 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's
- 901                 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in
- 902                 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 903                 (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 904         (c) for a local initiative:
- 905             (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature
- 906                 collected under Section 20A-7-514 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 907             (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 908                 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet
- 909                 described in Section 20A-7-503;
- 910                 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the
- 911                 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to
- 912                 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's

- 913 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
 914 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 915 (C) does not include an electronic signature; or
- 916 (d) for a local referendum:
- 917 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature  
 918 collected under Section 20A-7-614 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 919 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 920 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
 921 described in Section 20A-7-603;
- 922 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
 923 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
 924 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
 925 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
 926 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 927 (C) does not include an electronic signature.
- 928 ~~[(34)]~~ (36) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used  
 929 under the manual initiative process or the manual referendum process to collect  
 930 signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.
- 931 ~~[(35)]~~ (37) "Special local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition that is not a  
 932 standard local ballot proposition.
- 933 (38)(a) "Sponsor liaison" means an individual designated by the sponsors of an initiative  
 934 or referendum to:
- 935 (i) receive communications from Office of the Lieutenant Governor; and  
 936 (ii) communicate with and act on behalf of the sponsors regarding the initiative or  
 937 referendum.
- 938 (b) "Sponsor liaison" includes a sponsor or another individual designated by the  
 939 sponsors.
- 940 ~~[(36)]~~ (39) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and  
 941 who sign the initiative application or referendum application.
- 942 ~~[(37)]~~ (40)(a) "Standard local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition for an  
 943 initiative or a referendum.
- 944 (b) "Standard local ballot proposition" does not include a property tax referendum  
 945 described in Section 20A-7-613.
- 946 (41) "Traditional initiative packet" means the following components, all of which are bound

947 together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204(5)(b), for a statewide  
 948 initiative, or Subsection 20A-7-504(5)(b), for a local initiative:

949 (a) a copy of:

950 (i) the initiative petition; and

951 (ii) the law proposed by the initiative petition;

952 (b) the signature sheets; and

953 (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

954 (42) "Traditional referendum packet" means the following components, all of which are  
 955 bound together as a unit in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-304(5)(b), for a statewide  
 956 referendum, or Subsection 20A-7-604(5)(b), for a local referendum:

957 (a) a copy of:

958 (i) the referendum petition; and

959 (ii) the law being submitted or referred to the voters for approval or rejection;

960 (b) the signature sheets; and

961 (c) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

962 [(38)] (43) "Tax percentage difference" means the difference between the tax rate proposed  
 963 by an initiative or an initiative petition and the current tax rate.

964 [(39)] (44) "Tax percentage increase" means a number calculated by dividing the tax  
 965 percentage difference by the current tax rate and rounding the result to the nearest  
 966 thousandth.

967 [(40)] (45) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as required  
 968 in Section 20A-7-105.

969 Section 9. Section **20A-7-104** is amended to read:

970 **20A-7-104 (Effective 05/06/26). Signature gatherers -- Payments -- Badges --**  
 971 **Information -- Requirement to provide initiative or referendum for reading.**

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

975 (a) an hourly rate; or

976 (b) a rate per signature declared valid under Section 20A-1-1002.

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

979 [(3)] (2) A person may not accept payment made in violation of this section.

980 [(4)] (3) An individual who is paid to gather signatures for a petition described in this

981 chapter shall, while gathering signatures, wear a badge on the front of the individual's  
 982 torso that complies with the following, ensuring that the information on the badge is  
 983 clearly visible to the individual from whom a signature is sought:

- 984 (a) the badge shall be printed in black ink on white cardstock and laminated; and  
 985 (b) the information on the badge shall be in at least 24-point type and include the  
 986 following information:
- 987 (i) an identification number that is unique to the individual gathering signatures,  
 988 assigned by:
    - 989 (A) for a statewide initiative or referendum, the lieutenant governor; or
    - 990 (B) for a local initiative or referendum, the local clerk;
  - 991 (ii) the title of the initiative or referendum;
  - 992 (iii) the words "Paid Signature Gatherer"; and
  - 993 (iv) the name of the entity paying the signature gatherer.

994 ~~[(5)]~~ (4) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall offer a paper  
 995 document to each individual who signs the petition that:

996 (a) is printed in black ink on white paper, white cardstock, or a white sticker, in at least  
 997 12-point type; and

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

999 "You may view the initiative, its fiscal impact, and information on removing your  
 1000 signature from the petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the  
 1001 information described in Section 20A-7-202.7 or 20A-7-502.6, as applicable]."; or

1002 (ii) for a referendum, includes the name of the referendum and the following statement:

1003 "You may view the referendum and information on removing your signature from the  
 1004 petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the information described in  
 1005 Section 20A-7-304.5 or 20A-7-604.5, as applicable]."

1006 ~~[(6)]~~ (5) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter shall, before collecting a  
 1007 signature from an individual, present to the individual a printed or digital copy of the  
 1008 initiative or referendum and wait for the individual to read the initiative or referendum.

1009 ~~[(7)]~~ (6) A person who violates this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

1010 Section 10. Section **20A-7-105** is amended to read:

1011 **20A-7-105 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual petition processes -- Obtaining**  
 1012 **signatures -- Verification -- Submitting the petition -- Certification of signatures --**  
 1013 **Transfer to lieutenant governor -- Removal of signature.**

1014 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process and the manual referendum

- 1015 process.
- 1016 (2) As used in this section:
- 1017 (a) "Local petition" means:
- 1018 (i) a manual local initiative petition described in Part 5, Local Initiatives -
- 1019 Procedures; or
- 1020 (ii) a manual local referendum petition described in Part 6, Local Referenda -
- 1021 Procedures.
- 1022 (b) "Packet" means an initiative packet or referendum packet.
- 1023 (c) "Petition" means a local petition or statewide petition.
- 1024 (d) "Statewide petition" means:
- 1025 (i) a manual statewide initiative petition described in Part 2, Statewide Initiatives; or
- 1026 (ii) a manual statewide referendum petition described in Part 3, Statewide Referenda.
- 1027 (3)(a) A Utah voter may sign a statewide petition if the voter is a legal voter.
- 1028 (b) A Utah voter may sign a local petition if the voter:
- 1029 (i) is a legal voter; and
- 1030 (ii) resides in the local jurisdiction.
- 1031 (4)(a) The sponsors shall ensure that the individual in whose presence each signature
- 1032 sheet was signed:
- 1033 (i) is at least 18 years old;
- 1034 (ii) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification printed on the last
- 1035 page of each packet; and
- 1036 (iii) is informed [~~that each signer is required to read and understand;~~] that, before
- 1037 signing a signature sheet, a signer is required to have an opportunity to read and
- 1038 understand:
- 1039 (A) for an initiative petition, the law proposed by the initiative; or
- 1040 (B) for a referendum petition, the law that the referendum seeks to overturn.
- 1041 (b) An individual may not sign the verification printed on the last page of a packet if the
- 1042 individual signed a signature sheet in the packet.
- 1043 (5)(a) The sponsors, or an agent of the sponsors, shall submit a signed and verified
- 1044 packet to the county clerk of the county in which the packet was circulated before 5
- 1045 p.m. no later than the earlier of:
- 1046 (i) for a statewide initiative:
- 1047 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which
- 1048 the first individual signs the initiative packet;

- 1049 (B) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on  
1050 which the application for the initiative petition is filed; or
- 1051 (C) the February 15 immediately before the next regular general election  
1052 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202;
- 1053 (ii) for a statewide referendum:
- 1054 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
1055 the first individual signs the referendum packet; or
- 1056 (B) the first business day that is at least 40 calendar days after the day on which  
1057 the legislative session at which the law passed ends;
- 1058 (iii) for a local initiative:
- 1059 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
1060 the first individual signs the initiative packet;
- 1061 (B) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on  
1062 which the application is filed;
- 1063 (C) the April 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately  
1064 after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local initiative is a  
1065 county initiative; or
- 1066 (D) the April 15 immediately before the next municipal general election  
1067 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local  
1068 initiative is a municipal initiative; or
- 1069 (iv) for a local referendum:
- 1070 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
1071 the first individual signs the referendum packet; or
- 1072 (B) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which  
1073 the sponsors receive the items described in Subsection 20A-7-604(3) from the  
1074 local clerk.
- 1075 (b) ~~[A person may not submit a packet after the applicable deadline described in~~  
1076 ~~Subsection (5)(a)] A person may not mark, redact, or otherwise alter a signature sheet~~  
1077 ~~in a manner that obscures, conceals, or renders illegible a signer's date of signature or~~  
1078 ~~other information provided by the signer that is used for verification under this section.~~
- 1079 (c) Before delivering an initiative packet to the county clerk under this Subsection (5),  
1080 the sponsors shall send an email to each individual who provides a legible, valid  
1081 email address on the signature sheet that includes the following:
- 1082 (i) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding

1083 Your Petition Signature"; and

1084 (ii) the body of the email shall include the following statement in 12-point type:

1085 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:

1086 [insert title of initiative]

1087 To access a copy of the initiative petition, the initiative, the fiscal impact statement, and  
1088 information on the deadline for removing your signature from the petition, please visit the  
1089 following link: [insert a uniform resource locator that takes the individual directly to the page  
1090 on the lieutenant governor's or county clerk's website that includes the information referred to  
1091 in the email]."

1092 (d) For a statewide initiative, the sponsors shall, no later than 5 p.m. on the day on which  
1093 the sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the county clerk, submit to the  
1094 lieutenant governor:

1095 (i) a list containing:

1096 (A) the name and email address of each individual the sponsors sent, or caused to  
1097 be sent, the email described in Subsection (5)(c); and

1098 (B) the date the email was sent;

1099 (ii) a copy of the email described in Subsection (5)(c); and

1100 (iii) the following written verification, completed and signed by each of the sponsors:

1101 "Verification of initiative sponsor State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_ I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
1102 of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1103 I am a sponsor of the initiative petition entitled \_\_\_\_\_; and

1104 I sent, or caused to be sent, to each individual who provided a legible, valid email  
1105 address on a signature sheet submitted to the county clerk in relation to the initiative petition,  
1106 the email described in Utah Code Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(c).

1107 \_\_\_\_\_[-]\_\_\_\_\_

1108 \_\_\_\_\_

1109 [(Name)] (Printed Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Signature) (Residence  
Address)

1110 (Date)"[-]

1111 (e) For a local initiative, the sponsors shall, no later than 5 p.m. on the day on which the  
1112 sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the local clerk, submit to the local clerk  
1113 the items described in Subsection (5)(d).

1114 (f) Signatures gathered for an initiative petition are not valid if the sponsors do not  
1115 comply with Subsection (5)(c), (d), or (e).

- 1116 (6)(a) Within 21 calendar days after the day on which the county clerk receives the  
1117 packet, the county clerk shall:
- 1118 (i) use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002, or 20A-7-106 if applicable,  
1119 to determine whether each signer is a legal voter and, as applicable, the  
1120 jurisdiction where the signer is registered to vote;
- 1121 (ii) for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum:
- 1122 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter; and  
1123 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and ~~[date of signature of each~~  
1124 ~~legal voter]~~ the date the signature of each legal voter was certified under  
1125 Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's website, in a conspicuous  
1126 location designated by the lieutenant governor; and  
1127 ~~[(C) deliver the verified packet to the lieutenant governor;]~~
- 1128 (iii) for a local initiative or a local referendum:
- 1129 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter who is  
1130 registered in the jurisdiction to which the initiative or referendum relates;
- 1131 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal  
1132 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's  
1133 website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and  
1134 (C) deliver the verified packet to the local clerk.
- 1135 (b)(i) For a statewide initiative or statewide referendum, the county clerk shall, no  
1136 later than seven calendar days after the last day the county clerk makes the posting  
1137 described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B), certify the following information to the  
1138 lieutenant governor:
- 1139 (A) the total number of verified packets in the county clerk's possession;  
1140 (B) the total number of signatures verified by the county clerk;  
1141 (C) of the number described in Subsection (6)(b)(i)(B), the number of signatures  
1142 the county clerk declared valid and invalid under Section 20A-1-1002; and  
1143 (D) a breakdown of the number of invalid signatures, categorized by the reason  
1144 for invalidity; and
- 1145 (ii) After a county clerk sends the certification described in Subsection (6)(b)(i) to the  
1146 lieutenant governor, the county clerk shall retain and preserve each verified packet  
1147 in the manner described in Subsection 20A-4-202(2).
- 1148 (c) For a local initiative or local referendum, the local clerk shall post a link in a  
1149 conspicuous location on the local government's website to the posting described in

- 1150 Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(B):
- 1151 (i) for a local initiative, during the period of time described in Subsection
- 1152 20A-7-507(3)(a); or
- 1153 (ii) for a local referendum, during the period of time described in Subsection
- 1154 20A-7-607(2)(a)(i).
- 1155 (7) The county clerk may not certify a signature under Subsection [~~(6)~~] (6)(a):
- 1156 (a) on a packet that is not verified in accordance with Subsection [~~(4)~~] (4)(a)(ii); [~~or~~]
- 1157 (b) that does not have a date of signature next to the signature[-]; or
- 1158 (c) if the date of signature is later than the applicable deadline described in Subsection
- 1159 (5)(a).
- 1160 (8) A signer's response, or failure to respond, to the question described in Subsection
- 1161 20A-7-203(3)(f)(ii)(B), or whether the signer provides the information requested under
- 1162 Subsection 20A-7-203(3)(f)(ii)(C), does not affect the validity of the signer's signature.
- 1163 (9) Beginning on January 1, 2027, an election officer shall, within two business days after
- 1164 the day on which the county clerk determines the signer of an initiative is a legal voter
- 1165 eligible to sign a signature sheet, send the following email notice to the signer if the
- 1166 signer's voter registration record includes a valid email address:
- 1167 (a) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding
- 1168 Your Petition Signature"; and
- 1169 (b) the body of the email shall include the following statement in 12-point type:
- 1170 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:
- 1171 [insert title of initiative]
- 1172 To access a copy of the initiative petition, the initiative, the fiscal impact
- 1173 statement, and information on the deadline for removing your signature from the
- 1174 petition, please visit the following link: [insert a uniform resource locator that takes
- 1175 the individual directly to the page on the lieutenant governor's or county clerk's
- 1176 website that includes the information referred to in the email]."
- 1177 [~~(8)~~] (10)(a) A voter who signs a statewide initiative petition may have the voter's
- 1178 signature removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003,
- 1179 submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be
- 1180 removed no later than 5 p.m. the earlier of:
- 1181 (i) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk before December 1:
- 1182 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which
- 1183 the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

- 1184 (B) the first business day that is at least 90 calendar days after the day on which  
1185 the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-207(2);  
1186 or
- 1187 (ii) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk on or after December 1:  
1188 (A) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which  
1189 the voter signs the signature removal statement; or  
1190 (B) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which  
1191 the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-207(2).
- 1192 (b) A voter who signs a statewide referendum petition may have the voter's signature  
1193 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to  
1194 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later  
1195 than 5 p.m. the earlier of:  
1196 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the  
1197 voter signs the statement requesting removal; or  
1198 (ii) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which the  
1199 lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-307(2).
- 1200 (c) A voter who signs a local initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed  
1201 from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
1202 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than  
1203 5 p.m. the earlier of:  
1204 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the  
1205 voter signs the signature removal statement;  
1206 (ii) the first business day that is at least 90 calendar days after the day on which the  
1207 local clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-507(2);  
1208 (iii) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on  
1209 which the application is filed; or  
1210 (iv)(A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular  
1211 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section  
1212 20A-7-502; or  
1213 (B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal  
1214 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section  
1215 20A-7-502.
- 1216 (d) A voter who signs a local referendum petition may have the voter's signature  
1217 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to

1218 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later  
1219 than 5 p.m. the earlier of:

1220 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the  
1221 voter signs the statement requesting removal; or

1222 (ii) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which the  
1223 local clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-607(2)(a).

1224 (e) In order for the signature to be removed, the county clerk must receive the statement  
1225 described in this Subsection [~~(8)~~] (10) before 5 p.m. no later than the applicable  
1226 deadline described in this Subsection [~~(8)~~] (10).

1227 (f) A county clerk shall analyze a signature, for purposes of removing a signature from a  
1228 petition, in accordance with Subsection 20A-1-1003(3).

1229 [~~(9)~~] (11)(a) If the county clerk timely receives a statement requesting signature removal  
1230 under Subsection [~~(8)~~] (10) and determines that the signature should be removed from  
1231 the petition under Subsection 20A-1-1003(3), the county clerk shall:

1232 (i) ensure that the voter's name, voter identification number, and date of signature are  
1233 not included in the posting described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B) or (iii)(B); and

1234 (ii) remove the voter's signature from the signature packets and signature packet  
1235 totals.

1236 (b) The county clerk shall comply with Subsection [~~(9)~~](a) (11)(a) before the later of:

1237 (i) the deadline described in Subsection (6)(a); or

1238 (ii) two business days after the day on which the county clerk receives a statement  
1239 requesting signature removal under Subsection [~~(8)~~] (10).

1240 [~~(10)~~] (12) A person may not retrieve a packet from a county clerk, or make any alterations  
1241 or corrections to a packet, after the packet is submitted to the county clerk.

1242 Section 11. Section **20A-7-201** is amended to read:

1243 **20A-7-201 (Effective 05/06/26). Statewide initiatives -- Signature requirements --**  
1244 **Submission to the Legislature or to a vote of the people.**

1245 (1)(a) A person seeking to have an initiative submitted to the Legislature for approval or  
1246 rejection shall, after filing an initiative application, obtain:

1247 (i) legal signatures equal to 4% of the number of active voters in the state on January  
1248 1 immediately following the last regular general election; and

1249 (ii) from at least 26 Utah State Senate districts, legal signatures equal to 4% of the  
1250 number of active voters in that district on January 1 immediately following the  
1251 last regular general election.

- 1252 (b) If, at any time not less than 10 calendar days before the beginning of the next annual  
1253 general session of the Legislature, the lieutenant governor declares that an initiative  
1254 petition designated under Subsection [~~20A-7-202(2)(c)(i)~~] 20A-7-202(2)(d)(i) for  
1255 submission to the Legislature is signed by a sufficient number of voters to meet the  
1256 requirements of Subsection (1)(a), the lieutenant governor shall deliver a copy of the  
1257 initiative petition, the text of the proposed law, and the cover sheet described in  
1258 Subsection (1)(c) to the president of the Senate, the speaker of the House, and the  
1259 director of the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.
- 1260 (c) The lieutenant governor shall prepare a cover sheet for a petition declared sufficient  
1261 under Subsection (1)(b) that contains:
- 1262 (i) the number of active voters in the state on January 1 immediately following the  
1263 last regular general election;
  - 1264 (ii) the number of active voters in each Utah State Senate district on January 1  
1265 immediately following the last regular general election;
  - 1266 (iii) the total number of certified signatures obtained for the initiative petition; and  
1267 (iv) the total number of certified signatures obtained from each Utah State Senate  
1268 district for the initiative petition.
- 1269 (2)(a) A person seeking to have an initiative submitted to a vote of the people for  
1270 approval or rejection shall, after filing an initiative application, obtain:
- 1271 (i) legal signatures equal to 8% of the number of active voters in the state on January  
1272 1 immediately following the last regular general election; and
  - 1273 (ii) from at least 26 Utah State Senate districts, legal signatures equal to 8% of the  
1274 number of active voters in that district on January 1 immediately following the  
1275 last regular general election.
- 1276 (b) If an initiative petition meets the requirements of this part and the lieutenant  
1277 governor declares that the initiative petition is signed by a sufficient number of voters  
1278 to meet the requirements of Subsection (2)(a), the lieutenant governor shall submit  
1279 the proposed law to a vote of the people at the next regular general election:
- 1280 (i) immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202; and  
1281 (ii) specified on the petition under Section 20A-7-203.
- 1282 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the following information to any interested person:
- 1283 (a) the number of active voters in the state on January 1 immediately following the last  
1284 regular general election; and
  - 1285 (b) for each Utah State Senate district, the number of active voters in that district on

1286 January 1 immediately following the last regular general election.

1287 Section 12. Section **20A-7-202** is amended to read:

1288 **20A-7-202 (Effective 05/06/26). Statewide initiative process -- Initiative**  
1289 **application procedures -- Time to gather signatures -- Grounds for rejection.**

1290 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate an initiative petition shall file an initiative application  
1291 with the lieutenant governor.

1292 (2) The initiative application shall include:

1293 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the initiative petition;

1294 (b) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;

1295 (c) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
1296 residence address, telephone number, and email address;

1297 [~~(e)~~] (d) a statement indicating whether the initiative will be presented to:

1298 (i) the Legislature under Subsection 20A-7-201(1); or

1299 (ii) a vote of the people under Subsection 20A-7-201(2);

1300 [~~(d)~~] (e) the signature of each of the sponsors, attested to by a notary public; and

1301 [~~(e)~~] (f) the following, in the following order:

1302 (i) the title of the proposed law that clearly expresses the subject of the law;

1303 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), a description of the manner in which the  
1304 proposed law will be funded, including:

1305 (A) all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the proposed law,  
1306 including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;

1307 (B) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, by a new tax, a  
1308 description of the new tax and the tax rate;

1309 (C) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, by a tax increase, the  
1310 following statement for each tax increase, "This initiative seeks to increase the  
1311 current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage difference)  
1312 percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent increase in  
1313 the current tax rate.";

1314 (D) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from new revenues, a  
1315 description of the amount and source of the new revenues; and

1316 (E) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from existing revenues,  
1317 a description of the existing line items or programs that will receive less  
1318 funding in order to fund the proposed law and the amount by which the  
1319 funding will be reduced;

- 1320 (iii) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative  
1321 petition may be paid for gathering signatures; and  
1322 (iv) the text of the proposed law.
- 1323 (3)(a) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (2), is determined in  
1324 accordance with Section 20A-2-105.
- 1325 (b) The initiative application and the initiative application's contents are public when  
1326 filed with the lieutenant governor.
- 1327 (c) If the fiscal impact of the law proposed by an initiative is less than the amount  
1328 specified by joint legislative rule for designating a bill as a fiscal note bill:
- 1329 (i) the initiative application is not required to include the description described in  
1330 Subsection [~~(2)(e)(ii)~~] (2)(f)(ii); and  
1331 (ii) the lieutenant governor may not reject the initiative application or initiative  
1332 application addendum under Subsection (5)(c).
- 1333 (4) If the initiative petition fails to qualify for the ballot of the election described in  
1334 Subsection 20A-7-201(2)(b), the sponsors shall:
- 1335 (a) submit a new initiative application;  
1336 (b) obtain new signature sheets; and  
1337 (c) collect signatures again.
- 1338 (5) The lieutenant governor shall reject an initiative application or an initiative application  
1339 addendum filed under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5) and not issue signature sheets if:
- 1340 (a) the proposed law:
- 1341 (i) is unconstitutional;  
1342 (ii) is nonsensical;  
1343 (iii) could not become law if passed;  
1344 (iv) contains more than one subject as evaluated in accordance with Subsection (6); or  
1345 (v) is identical or substantially similar to a law proposed by an initiative for which  
1346 signatures were submitted to the county clerks and lieutenant governor for  
1347 certification within two years preceding the date on which the initiative  
1348 application for the new initiative is filed;
- 1349 (b) the subject of the proposed law is not clearly expressed in the law's title; or  
1350 (c) except as provided in Subsection (3)(c), the lieutenant governor determines, after  
1351 consultation with the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, that the funding  
1352 description, described in Subsection [~~(2)(e)(ii)~~] (2)(f)(ii):
- 1353 (i) does not comply with the requirements of Subsection [~~(2)(e)(ii)~~] (2)(f)(ii); or

1354 (ii) is unlikely to provide adequate funding for the proposed law.

1355 (6) To evaluate whether the proposed law contains more than one subject under Subsection  
1356 (5)(a)(iv), the lieutenant governor shall apply the same standard provided in Utah  
1357 Constitution, Article VI, Section 22, which prohibits a bill from passing that contains  
1358 more than one subject.

1359 Section 13. Section **20A-7-202.5** is amended to read:

1360 **20A-7-202.5 (Effective 05/06/26). Initial fiscal impact statement -- Preparation of**  
1361 **statement -- Challenge to statement.**

1362 (1) Within three business days after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives an  
1363 initiative application, the lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the initiative  
1364 application to the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

1365 (2)(a) Except as provided in Subsection (2)(b), the Office of the Legislative Fiscal  
1366 Analyst shall prepare an unbiased, good faith initial fiscal impact statement for the  
1367 proposed law, not exceeding 100 words plus 100 words per revenue source created or  
1368 impacted by the proposed law, that contains:

1369 (i) a description of the total estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law over the time  
1370 period or time periods determined by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
1371 to be most useful in understanding the estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law;

1372 (ii) if the proposed law would increase taxes, decrease taxes, or impose a new tax, a  
1373 dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or decrease for each type  
1374 of tax affected under the proposed law, a dollar amount showing the estimated  
1375 amount of a new tax, and a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase  
1376 or decrease in taxes under the proposed law;

1377 (iii) if the proposed law would increase a particular tax or tax rate, the tax percentage  
1378 difference and the tax percentage increase for each tax or tax rate increased;

1379 (iv) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from new revenues, a  
1380 description of the amount and source of the new revenues;

1381 (v) if the proposed law will be funded, in whole or in part, from existing revenues, a  
1382 description of:

1383 (A) the existing line items or programs that will receive less funding in order to  
1384 fund the proposed law and the amount by which the funding will be reduced;  
1385 and

1386 (B) the likely impact of the reduction in funding described in Subsection  
1387 (2)(a)(v)(A);

- 1388 (vi) if the proposed law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of  
1389 bonds, notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total  
1390 estimated increase or decrease in public debt under the proposed law;
- 1391 (vii) a dollar amount representing the estimated cost or savings, if any, to state or  
1392 local government entities under the proposed law;
- 1393 (viii) if the proposed law would increase costs to state government, a listing of all  
1394 sources of funding for the estimated costs; and
- 1395 (ix) a concise description and analysis titled "Funding Source," not to exceed 100  
1396 words for each funding source, of the funding source information described in  
1397 Subsection [~~20A-7-202(2)(e)(ii)~~] 20A-7-202(2)(f)(ii).
- 1398 (b) If the proposed law is estimated to have fiscal impact of less than the amount specified by  
1399 joint legislative rule for designating a bill as a fiscal note bill, the Office of the Legislative  
1400 Fiscal Analyst shall prepare the initial fiscal impact statement to read substantially as follows:  
1401 "The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst estimates that the law proposed by this  
1402 initiative would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an increase or  
1403 decrease in taxes or debt."
- 1404 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the lieutenant governor delivers a copy  
1405 of the initiative application, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:
- 1406 (a) send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's office;  
1407 and
- 1408 (b) send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the first five sponsors named in  
1409 the initiative application.
- 1410 (4)(a)(i) Three or more of the sponsors of the initiative petition may, within 20  
1411 calendar days after the day on which the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
1412 delivers the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's office, file a  
1413 petition with the appropriate court, alleging that the initial fiscal impact statement,  
1414 taken as a whole, is an inaccurate estimate of the fiscal impact of the initiative.
- 1415 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
1416 notice of the petition filed with the court to:
- 1417 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument with the lieutenant governor's  
1418 office for or against the initiative that is the subject of the challenge; and
- 1419 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
1420 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
1421 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the person

1422 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the initiative.

1423 (b)(i) There is a presumption that the initial fiscal impact statement prepared by the  
1424 Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst is based upon reasonable assumptions,  
1425 uses reasonable data, and applies accepted analytical methods to present the  
1426 estimated fiscal impact of the initiative.

1427 (ii) The court may not revise the contents of, or direct the revision of, the initial fiscal  
1428 impact statement unless the plaintiffs rebut the presumption by clear and  
1429 convincing evidence that establishes that the initial fiscal impact statement, taken  
1430 as a whole, is an inaccurate statement of the estimated fiscal impact of the  
1431 initiative.

1432 (iii) The court may refer an issue related to the initial fiscal impact statement to a  
1433 master to examine the issue and make a report in accordance with Utah Rules of  
1434 Civil Procedure, Rule 53.

1435 (c) The court shall certify to the lieutenant governor a fiscal impact statement for the  
1436 initiative that meets the requirements of this section.

1437 Section 14. Section **20A-7-202.7** is amended to read:

1438 **20A-7-202.7 (Effective 05/06/26). Posting initiative information.**

1439 (1) Within one business day after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives the  
1440 initial fiscal impact statement under Subsection 20A-7-202.5(3)(a), the lieutenant  
1441 governor shall post the following information together in a conspicuous place on the  
1442 lieutenant governor's website:

1443 (a) the initiative application;

1444 (b) the initiative petition;

1445 (c) the text of the proposed law;

1446 (d) the initial fiscal impact statement; and

1447 (e) information describing how an individual may remove the individual's signature  
1448 from the initiative petition.

1449 (2) The lieutenant governor shall:

1450 (a) promptly update the information described in Subsection (1) if the information  
1451 changes[;] , including if the text of the proposed law is modified under Subsection  
1452 20A-7-204.1(5); and

1453 (b) maintain the information described in Subsection (1) on the lieutenant governor's  
1454 website until the initiative fails to qualify for the ballot or is passed or defeated at an  
1455 election.

1456 Section 15. Section **20A-7-203** is amended to read:

1457 **20A-7-203 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative**  
 1458 **petition and signature sheets.**

1459 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1460 (2)(a) Each proposed initiative petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1461 "INITIATIVE PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1462 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the [~~following~~]proposed  
 1463 law described in this initiative petition be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for  
 1464 their/its approval or rejection at the regular general election/session to be held/ beginning on  
 1465 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

1466 Each signer says:

1467 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
 1468 disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter the  
 1469 initials "AV" as my signature;

1470 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 1471 initiative petition;

1472 I [~~have~~]personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 1473 initiative packet;

1474 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1475 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name.

1476 NOTICE TO SIGNERS:

1477 Public hearings to discuss this initiative were held at: (list dates and locations of public  
 1478 hearings[;])."

1479 (b) [~~If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the~~] The following statement shall appear, in at  
 1480 least 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a)[;]  
 1481 , if the initiative proposes a tax increase:

1482 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 1483 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
 1484 increase in the current tax rate."

1485 (c) The following statement shall appear, in at least 14-point, bold type, immediately  
 1486 following the information described in Subsection (2)(a), if:

1487 (i) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and

1488 (ii) the initiative petition is part of a condensed initiative packet:

1489 "This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language

1490 description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50  
 1491 words, that is understandable to the average reader).".

1492 [~~(e) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
 1493 ~~proposed law to each initiative petition.]~~

1494 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

1495 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1496 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line [~~three-fourths~~] .75 inch from the top, with the space  
 1497 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1498 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least 14-point,  
 1499 bold type;

1500 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet:

1501 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
 1502 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);

1503 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the lieutenant  
 1504 governor's website described in Section 20A-7-202.7; and

1505 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
 1506 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a web site that includes the full text  
 1507 of the law proposed by this initiative petition.";

1508 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the initiative, as  
 1509 follows:

1510 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
 1511 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";

1512 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;

1513 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
 1514 Name (must be legible to be counted)";

1515 (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered  
 1516 Voter";

1517 (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";

1518 (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 1519 Code"; and

1520 (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 1521 (Optional)"; and

1522 (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:

1523 (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the

- 1524 information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 1525 (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e),
- 1526 and shall be of sufficient height to contain, in 12-point type, the following
- 1527 statements and question in a vertical sequence:
- 1528 (A) "By signing this initiative petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity
- 1529 to read and understand the law proposed by this initiative petition.";
- 1530 (B) "Have you contacted your state senator or state representative regarding the
- 1531 law this initiative proposes to enact? Circle one: Yes No"; and
- 1532 (C) "If yes, please identify the person you contacted:".
- 1533 ~~[(d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch~~
- 1534 ~~from the left side of the paper, as follows:]~~
- 1535 ~~[(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;]~~
- 1536 ~~[(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For~~
- 1537 ~~Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1538 ~~[(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]~~
- 1539 ~~[(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1540 ~~[(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]~~
- 1541 ~~[(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~
- 1542 ~~"Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point~~
- 1543 ~~type;]~~
- 1544 ~~[(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1545 ~~[(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~
- 1546 ~~"Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1547 ~~[(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1548 ~~[(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]~~
- 1549 ~~[(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~
- 1550 ~~"Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1551 ~~[(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1552 ~~[(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~
- 1553 ~~"Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]~~
- 1554 ~~[(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 1555 ~~[(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]~~
- 1556 ~~[(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~
- 1557 ~~"Date Signed" in 10-point type;]~~

1558           ~~[(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~

1559           ~~[(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~

1560           ~~"Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]~~

1561           ~~[(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]~~

1562           ~~[(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,~~

1563           ~~and contain the following statement, "By signing this initiative petition, you are~~

1564           ~~stating that you have read and understand the law proposed by this initiative~~

1565           ~~petition." in 12-point type;]~~

1566           ~~[(e)] (4) [the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in~~

1567           ~~Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the~~

1568           ~~sheet for the information described in [Subsection (3)(f); and] Subsection (5).~~

1569           ~~[(f)] (5) [at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,~~

1570           ~~in the following order:~~

1571           ~~[(i)] (a) the words "Fiscal Impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at least~~

1572           ~~12-point, bold type;~~

1573           ~~[(ii)] (b) except as provided in Subsection [(5)] (6), the initial fiscal impact statement~~

1574           ~~issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in accordance with Subsection~~

1575           ~~20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in accordance with Subsection~~

1576           ~~20A-7-204.1(5), in not less than 12-point type;~~

1577           ~~[(iii)] (c) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:~~

1578           ~~"This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax~~

1579           ~~percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent~~

1580           ~~increase in the current tax rate."[-and]~~

1581           ~~(d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet, the following statement~~

1582           ~~in 12-point, bold type:~~

1583           ~~"This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language~~

1584           ~~description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50 words,~~

1585           ~~that is understandable to the average reader)."; and~~

1586           ~~[(iv)] (e) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in~~

1587           ~~not less than eight-point type:~~

1588           ~~"It is a class A misdemeanor [for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name~~

1589           ~~other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than~~

1590           ~~once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows~~

1591           ~~that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign an initiative petition using a name other than~~

1592 your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.  
 1593 [ Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
 1594 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
 1595 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
 1596 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
 1597 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
 1598 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
 1599 you provide does not match your voter registration record."

1600 [(4) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 1601 statement:

1602 Verification of signature collector

1603 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

1604 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1605 I am at least 18 years old;

1606 All the names that appear in this initiative packet were signed by individuals who  
 1607 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed  
 1608 the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
 1609 disability, I have signed this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the  
 1610 individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
 1611 signature;

1612 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this initiative  
 1613 packet by the initials "AV":

1614 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the initiative  
 1615 petition on the individual's behalf;

1616 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the  
 1617 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

1618 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
 1619 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the initiative petition on the individual's behalf;

1620 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
 1621 or consenting for me to, sign the initiative petition on the individual's behalf; and

1622 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature  
 1623 sheet;

1624 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by  
 1625 the initiative;

1626 I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written  
 1627 correctly, that each signer has read the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is  
 1628 registered to vote in Utah;

1629 The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name; and

1630 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this initiative  
 1631 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

1632

1633 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)]

1634 [(5)] (6) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the circulator verification  
 1635 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

1636 (7) If the initial fiscal impact statement described in Subsection [(3)(f)(ii)] (5)(b), as updated  
 1637 in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5), exceeds 200 words, the Office of the  
 1638 Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare a shorter summary statement, for the purpose of  
 1639 inclusion on an initiative signature sheet, that does not exceed 200 words.

1640 [(6)] (8) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative  
 1641 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1642 Section 16. Section **20A-7-204** is amended to read:

1643 **20A-7-204 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Circulation**  
 1644 **requirements -- Lieutenant governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

1645 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1646 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 1647 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
 1648 described in Subsection (3), circulate initiative packets that meet the form  
 1649 requirements of this part.

1650 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate initiative packets using  
 1651 traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or both.

1652 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the initiative petition  
 1653 and a signature sheet no later than the first business day that is at least three calendar  
 1654 days after the day on which the following conditions are fulfilled:

1655 (a) the sponsors hold the final hearing required under Section 20A-7-204.1;

1656 (b) the sponsors provide to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor the video tape, audio  
 1657 tape, or comprehensive minutes described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(4) for each  
 1658 public hearing described in Section 20A-7-204.1;

1659 (c)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that

- 1660 the sponsors waive the opportunity to change the text of the proposed law under  
1661 Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);
- 1662 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(a), for changing the text of  
1663 the proposed law passes without the sponsors filing an application addendum in  
1664 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5); or
- 1665 (iii) if the sponsors file an application addendum in accordance with Subsection  
1666 20A-7-204.1(5), the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst provides to the Office  
1667 of the Lieutenant Governor:
- 1668 (A) an updated initial fiscal impact statement, in accordance with Subsection  
1669 20A-7-204.1(5)(b); or
- 1670 (B) a written notice indicating that no changes to the initial fiscal impact statement  
1671 are necessary;
- 1672 (d)(i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that  
1673 the sponsors waive the opportunity to:
- 1674 (A) challenge the initial fiscal impact statement in court; and  
1675 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court;
- 1676 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.5(4)(a)(i), for:
- 1677 (A) challenging the initial fiscal impact statement in court passes without the  
1678 sponsors filing a petition to challenge; and  
1679 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court  
1680 passes without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or
- 1681 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the initial fiscal impact  
1682 statement in court or, if applicable, the updated initial fiscal impact statement in  
1683 court, and the court's decision becomes final; and
- 1684 (e) the sponsors sign ~~[an agreement, under Subsection (6)(a), with the Office of the~~  
1685 ~~Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to~~  
1686 ~~number the initiative packets] the agreement described in Subsection (6)(a)(iii) with~~  
1687 ~~the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.~~
- 1688 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:
- 1689 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative  
1690 packets; and
- 1691 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
1692 meet the requirements of this part.
- 1693 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for

- 1694 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.
- 1695 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create the initiative packets by~~  
 1696 ~~binding a copy of the initiative petition with the text of the proposed law, including~~  
 1697 ~~any modification made under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5) and no more than 50~~  
 1698 ~~signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be~~  
 1699 ~~conveniently opened for signing]~~ The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create  
 1700 initiative packets by:
- 1701 (i) binding the components of each initiative packet together at the top in a manner  
 1702 that secures all components of the initiative packet together;
- 1703 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:
- 1704 (A) a copy of the initiative petition;
- 1705 (B) if the initiative packet is a traditional initiative packet, a copy of the law  
 1706 proposed by the initiative petition, including any modification to the law made  
 1707 under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);
- 1708 (C) the signature sheets; and
- 1709 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);
- 1710 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each initiative packet; and
- 1711 (iv) binding the initiative packet in a manner that allows the initiative packet to be  
 1712 conveniently opened for signing.
- 1713 (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 1714 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 1715 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
 1716 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;
- 1717 (ii) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the  
 1718 sponsors may use to number initiative packets;
- 1719 ~~[(ii)]~~ (iii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying:
- 1720 (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate initiative  
 1721 packets using traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or  
 1722 both; and
- 1723 (B) the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the initiative  
 1724 packets; and
- 1725 ~~[(iii)]~~ (iv) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 1726 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in  
 1727 the range.

- 1728 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:
- 1729 (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's
- 1730 office; or
- 1731 (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner
- 1732 directed by the lieutenant governor's office.
- 1733 Section 17. Section **20A-7-213** is amended to read:
- 1734 **20A-7-213 (Effective 05/06/26). Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**
- 1735 (1) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 1736 (a) sign any name other than the individual's own to an initiative petition or a statement
- 1737 described in Subsection [~~20A-7-105(8) or 20A-7-216(4)~~] 20A-7-105(10) or
- 1738 20A-7-216(5);
- 1739 (b) knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for the same initiative at one
- 1740 election;
- 1741 (c) knowingly indicate that an individual who signed an initiative petition signed the
- 1742 initiative petition on a date other than the date that the individual signed the initiative
- 1743 petition;
- 1744 (d) sign an initiative petition knowing the individual is not a legal voter;
- 1745 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter
- 1746 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if
- 1747 the individual:
- 1748 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;
- 1749 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give
- 1750 the voter's direction or consent;
- 1751 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose
- 1752 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;
- 1753 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or
- 1754 consent of the voter; or
- 1755 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or
- 1756 statement; or
- 1757 (f) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.
- 1758 (2) It is unlawful for an individual to sign the verification for an initiative packet, or to
- 1759 electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(10),
- 1760 knowing that:
- 1761 (a) the signature date associated with the individual's signature for the initiative petition

- 1762 is not the date that the individual signed the initiative petition;
- 1763 (b) the individual has not witnessed the signatures of those individuals whose signatures
- 1764 the individual collects or submits; or
- 1765 (c) one or more individuals who signed the initiative petition are not registered to vote in
- 1766 Utah.

- 1767 (3) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 1768 (a) pay an individual to sign an initiative petition;
- 1769 (b) pay an individual to remove the individual's signature from an initiative petition;
- 1770 (c) accept payment to sign an initiative petition; or
- 1771 (d) accept payment to have the individual's name removed from an initiative petition.
- 1772 (4) A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

1773 Section 18. Section **20A-7-215** is amended to read:

1774 **20A-7-215 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative**

1775 **petition -- Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

- 1776 (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.
- 1777 (2)(a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

1778 "This INITIATIVE PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant

1779 Governor:

1780 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following

1781 proposed law be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for their/its approval or

1782 rejection at the regular general election/session to be held/beginning on

1783 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year)."

- 1784 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link
- 1785 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and
- 1786 understand the information presented on this screen."

- 1787 (3)(a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the following
- 1788 statement:

1789 "Public hearings to discuss this initiative were held at: (list dates and locations of public

1790 hearings.)".

- 1791 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at
- 1792 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read
- 1793 and understand the information presented on this screen."

- 1794 (4)(a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of
- 1795 proposed law, described in Subsection [20A-7-202(2)(e)(i)] 20A-7-202(2)(f)(i),

- 1796 followed by the entire text of the proposed law.
- 1797 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link
- 1798 at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read
- 1799 and understand the entire text of the proposed law."
- 1800 (5)(a) The fourth screen presented on the approved device shall include the following
- 1801 question:
- 1802 "Have you contacted your state senator or state representative regarding the
- 1803 law this initiative proposes to enact?"
- 1804 (b) The screen described in Subsection (5)(a) shall require the individual to indicate a
- 1805 response of "yes" or "no".
- 1806 (c)(i) If the individual answers "no" in response to the question described in
- 1807 Subsection (5)(a), the approved device shall advance to the screens described in
- 1808 Subsection (6).
- 1809 (ii) If the individual answers "yes" in response to the question described in
- 1810 Subsection (5)(a), the screen shall, before advancing to the screens described in
- 1811 Subsection (6), prompt the individual to identify the person contacted.
- 1812 ~~(5)~~ (6) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the
- 1813 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to
- 1814 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement: "By clicking here, I
- 1815 attest that I have read and understand the information presented on this screen.":
- 1816 (a) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the
- 1817 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;
- 1818 (b)(i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative
- 1819 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage
- 1820 difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent
- 1821 increase in the current tax rate."; or
- 1822 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This
- 1823 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";
- 1824 (c) the initial fiscal impact statement issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal
- 1825 Analyst in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in
- 1826 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(b);
- 1827 (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition
- 1828 may be paid for gathering signatures; and
- 1829 (e) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":

1830 "I have personally read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
 1831 I am personally signing this initiative petition;  
 1832 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
 1833 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
 1834 accurate.

1835 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
 1836 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
 1837 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
 1838 that the individual is not a registered voter.

1839 **WARNING**

1840 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
 1841 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
 1842 made public.

1843 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

1844 [(6)] (7)(a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in  
 1845 Subsection [(5)(e)] (6)(e), the next screen shall include the following statement,  
 1846 "Thank you for your time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1847 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection [  
 1848 (5)(e)] (6)(e), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
 1849 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the initiative petition through the  
 1850 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1851 Section 19. Section **20A-7-216** is amended to read:

1852 **20A-7-216 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic initiative process -- Obtaining**  
 1853 **signatures -- Request to remove signature.**

1854 (1) This section applies to the electronic initiative process.

1855 (2) A Utah voter may sign an initiative petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1856 (3) An individual's response to the question described in Subsection 20A-7-215(5)(a), or  
 1857 whether the individual provides the information requested under Subsection  
 1858 20A-7-215(5)(c)(ii), does not affect the validity of the individual's signature.

1859 [(3)] (4) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from  
 1860 an individual:

1861 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
 1862 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1863 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read and understand the law proposed by

- 1864 the initiative.
- 1865 [~~(4)~~] (5) A voter who signs an initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed
- 1866 from the initiative petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the
- 1867 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m.
- 1868 no later than the earlier of:
- 1869 (a) for an electronic signature gathered before December 1:
- 1870 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the
- 1871 voter signs the signature removal statement; or
- 1872 (ii) the first business day that is at least 90 calendar days after the day on which the
- 1873 county clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-217(4); or
- 1874 (b) for an electronic signature gathered on or after December 1:
- 1875 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the
- 1876 voter signs the signature removal statement; or
- 1877 (ii) the first business day that is at least 45 calendar days after the day on which the
- 1878 county clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-217(4).
- 1879 [~~(5)~~] (6)(a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in
- 1880 Subsection [~~(4)~~] (5) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor
- 1881 establishes a signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of
- 1882 this section and Section 20A-21-201.
- 1883 (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from an initiative petition in
- 1884 accordance with this section.
- 1885 (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing an
- 1886 electronic signature from an initiative petition, in accordance with Subsection
- 1887 20A-1-1003(3).
- 1888 Section 20. Section **20A-7-217** is amended to read:
- 1889 **20A-7-217 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic initiative process -- Collecting**
- 1890 **signatures -- Email notification -- Removal of signatures.**
- 1891 (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.
- 1892 (2) A signature-gatherer may not collect a signature after 5 p.m., the earlier of:
- 1893 (a) the last business day that is no more than 316 calendar days after the day on which
- 1894 the initiative application is filed; or
- 1895 (b) the February 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately
- 1896 after the initiative application is filed under Section 20A-7-202.
- 1897 (3) The lieutenant governor shall send to each individual who provides a valid email

- 1898 address during the signature-gathering process an email that includes the following:
- 1899 (a) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding
- 1900 Your Petition Signature"; and
- 1901 (b) the body of the email shall include the following statement in 12-point type:
- 1902 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:
- 1903 [insert title of initiative]
- 1904 To access a copy of the initiative petition, the text of the law proposed by the initiative,
- 1905 the fiscal impact statement, and information on the deadline for removing your signature from
- 1906 the initiative petition, please visit the following link: [insert a uniform resource locator that
- 1907 takes the individual directly to the page on the lieutenant governor's website that includes the
- 1908 information referred to in the email]."
- 1909 (4) Except as provided in Subsection (5), the county clerk shall, within two business days
- 1910 after the day on which the signature of an individual who signs an initiative petition is
- 1911 certified under Section 20A-21-201, post the name, voter identification number, and date
- 1912 of signature of the individual on the lieutenant governor's website, in a conspicuous
- 1913 location designated by the lieutenant governor.
- 1914 (5)(a) If the county clerk timely receives a statement requesting signature removal under
- 1915 Subsection [~~20A-7-216(4)~~] 20A-7-216(5), the county clerk shall:
- 1916 (i) ensure that the voter's name, voter identification number, and date of signature are
- 1917 not included in the posting described in Subsection (4); and
- 1918 (ii) remove the voter's signature from the initiative petition and the initiative petition
- 1919 signature totals.
- 1920 (b) The county clerk shall comply with Subsection (5)(a) before the later of:
- 1921 (i) the deadline described in Subsection (4); or
- 1922 (ii) two business days after the day on which the county clerk receives a statement
- 1923 requesting signature removal under Subsection [~~20A-7-216(4)~~] 20A-7-216(5).
- 1924 Section 21. Section **20A-7-302** is amended to read:
- 1925 **20A-7-302 (Effective 05/06/26). Referendum process -- Application procedures.**
- 1926 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate a referendum petition shall file a referendum
- 1927 application with the lieutenant governor no later than 5 p.m. on the first business day
- 1928 that is at least five calendar days after the day on which the legislative session at which
- 1929 the law passed ends.
- 1930 (2) The referendum application shall include:
- 1931 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the referendum petition;

- 1932 (b) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
 1933 residence address, telephone number, and email address;  
 1934 ~~[(b)]~~ (c) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;  
 1935 ~~[(e)]~~ (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum  
 1936 petition may be paid for gathering signatures;  
 1937 ~~[(d)]~~ (e) the signature of each of the sponsors, attested to by a notary public; and  
 1938 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) a copy of the law that is the subject of the proposed referendum.

1939 Section 22. Section **20A-7-303** is amended to read:

1940 **20A-7-303 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Form of**  
 1941 **referendum petition and signature sheets.**

1942 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1943 (2)~~[(a)]~~ Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1944 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1945 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that [~~Senate (or House)~~] (insert  
 1946 "Senate" or "House") Bill No. \_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less  
 1947 than the whole act, set forth here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed  
 1948 by the Legislature of the state of Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of  
 1949 Utah for their approval or rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special election;

1950 Each signer says:

1951 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
 1952 qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
 1953 to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

1954 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 1955 referendum petition;

1956 I ~~[have-]~~ personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 1957 referendum packet;

1958 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1959 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."[:]

1960 ~~[(b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
 1961 ~~law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.]~~

1962 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

1963 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1964 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line ~~[three-fourths]~~ .75 inch from the top, with the space  
 1965 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

- 1966 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
 1967 14-point, bold type;
- 1968 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed referendum packet:
- 1969 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
 1970 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);
- 1971 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the lieutenant  
 1972 governor's website described in Section 20A-7-304.5; and
- 1973 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
 1974 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a web site that includes the full text  
 1975 of the law that is the subject of this referendum petition.";
- 1976 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the initiative, as  
 1977 follows:
- 1978 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
 1979 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";
- 1980 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;
- 1981 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
 1982 Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 1983 (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered  
 1984 Voter";
- 1985 (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";
- 1986 (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 1987 Code"; and
- 1988 (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 1989 (Optional)"; and
- 1990 (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 1991 (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the  
 1992 information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 1993 (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)  
 1994 and contain the following statement in 11-point type: "By signing this referendum  
 1995 petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the  
 1996 law that this referendum petition seeks to overturn.".
- 1997 [~~(d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch~~  
 1998 ~~from the left side of the paper, as follows:]~~
- 1999 [~~(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;~~]

- 2000 [(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
 2001 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]
- 2002 [(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]
- 2003 [(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2004 [(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 2005 [(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2006 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
 2007 type;]
- 2008 [(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2009 [(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2010 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]
- 2011 [(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2012 [(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 2013 [(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2014 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]
- 2015 [(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2016 [(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2017 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]
- 2018 [(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2019 [(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]
- 2020 [(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2021 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;]
- 2022 [(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2023 [(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2024 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]
- 2025 [(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]
- 2026 [(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
 2027 and contain the following words "By signing this referendum petition, you are  
 2028 stating that you have read and understand the law that this referendum petition  
 2029 seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;]
- 2030 [(e)] (4) [~~the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in  
 2031 Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the  
 2032 sheet for the information described in [~~Subsection (3)(f); and] Subsection (5).~~~~
- 2033 [(f)] (5) [~~at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,~~

2034 in the following order:

2035 (a) the following statement in at least 12-point, bold type:

2036 "This referendum petition seeks to have (insert "Senate" or "House") Bill No.  
2037 \_\_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set  
2038 forth here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the  
2039 Legislature of the state of Utah during the \_\_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of  
2040 Utah for their approval or rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special  
2041 election."; and

2042 (b) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not less  
2043 than eight-point type:

2044 "It is a class A misdemeanor [for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
2045 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
2046 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
2047 knows that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign a referendum petition using a name  
2048 other than your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.  
2049 [ Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
2050 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
2051 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
2052 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
2053 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
2054 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
2055 you provide does not match your voter registration record."

2056 [(4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
2057 statement:

2058 Verification of signature collector

2059 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2060 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

2061 I am at least 18 years old;

2062 All the names that appear in this referendum packet were signed by individuals who  
2063 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed  
2064 the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
2065 disability, I have signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of  
2066 the individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
2067 signature;

2068 ~~———— I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum~~  
 2069 ~~packet by the initials "AV":~~

2070 ~~———— I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the~~  
 2071 ~~referendum petition on the individual's behalf;~~

2072 ~~———— I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the~~  
 2073 ~~mental capacity to give direction or consent;~~

2074 ~~———— I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not~~  
 2075 ~~understand the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's~~  
 2076 ~~behalf;~~

2077 ~~———— I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,~~  
 2078 ~~or consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and~~

2079 ~~———— I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature~~  
 2080 ~~sheet;~~

2081 ~~I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition~~  
 2082 ~~seeks to overturn;~~

2083 ~~I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written~~  
 2084 ~~correctly, that each signer has read the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each~~  
 2085 ~~signer is registered to vote in Utah;~~

2086 ~~The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name; and~~

2087 ~~I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum~~  
 2088 ~~packet to encourage that individual to sign it.~~

2089

2090

2091 ~~(Name) \_\_\_\_\_ (Residence Address) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date).]~~

2092 ~~[(5)] (6) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the circulator verification~~  
 2093 ~~sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).~~

2094 ~~(7) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum~~  
 2095 ~~petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.~~

2096 ~~Section 23. Section **20A-7-304** is amended to read:~~

2097 ~~**20A-7-304 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Circulation**~~  
 2098 ~~**requirements -- Lieutenant governor to provide sponsors with materials.**~~

2099 ~~(1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.~~

2100 ~~(2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the~~  
 2101 ~~sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents~~

- 2102 described in Subsection (3), circulate referendum packets that meet the form  
 2103 requirements of this part.
- 2104 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate referendum packets using  
 2105 traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets, or both.
- 2106 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the referendum  
 2107 petition and a signature sheet no later than the first business day that is at least five  
 2108 calendar days after the day on which the sponsors sign an agreement, under Subsection  
 2109 (6)(a), with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that  
 2110 the sponsors will use to number the referendum packets.
- 2111 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:
- 2112 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum  
 2113 packets; and
- 2114 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
 2115 meet the form requirements of this section.
- 2116 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets for  
 2117 circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.
- 2118 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding~~  
 2119 ~~a copy of the referendum petition with the text of the law that is the subject of the~~  
 2120 ~~referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that~~  
 2121 ~~the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing]~~ The sponsors or an  
 2122 agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by:
- 2123 (i) binding the components of each referendum packet together at the top in a manner  
 2124 that secures all components of the initiative packet together;
- 2125 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:
- 2126 (A) a copy of the referendum petition;
- 2127 (B) if the referendum packet is a traditional referendum packet, a copy of the law  
 2128 that is the subject of the referendum petition;
- 2129 (C) the signature sheets; and
- 2130 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);
- 2131 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each referendum packet; and
- 2132 (iv) binding the referendum packet in a manner that allows the referendum packet to  
 2133 be conveniently opened for signing.
- 2134 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 2135 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:

- 2136 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
 2137 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;  
 2138 (ii) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the  
 2139 sponsors may use to number referendum packets;  
 2140 [~~(ii)~~] (iii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying:  
 2141 (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate referendum  
 2142 packets using traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets,  
 2143 or both; and  
 2144 (B) the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum  
 2145 packets; and  
 2146 [~~(iii)~~] (iv) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 2147 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in  
 2148 the range.
- 2149 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:  
 2150 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's  
 2151 office; or  
 2152 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner  
 2153 directed by the lieutenant governor's office.

2154 Section 24. Section **20A-7-502** is amended to read:

2155 **20A-7-502 (Effective 05/06/26). Local initiative process -- Application**  
 2156 **procedures.**

- 2157 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate an initiative petition shall file an initiative application  
 2158 with the local clerk.
- 2159 (2) The initiative application shall include:  
 2160 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the initiative petition;  
 2161 (b) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;  
 2162 (c) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
 2163 residence address, telephone number, and email address;  
 2164 [~~(e)~~] (d) the signature of each of the sponsors, acknowledged by a notary public;  
 2165 [~~(d)~~] (e) a copy of the proposed law that includes:  
 2166 (i) the title of the proposed law that clearly expresses the subject of the law;  
 2167 (ii) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the  
 2168 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each  
 2169 source; and

2170 (iii) the text of the proposed law;  
 2171 ~~[(e)]~~ (f) if the initiative petition proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
 2172 initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 2173 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase)  
 2174 percent increase in the current tax rate."; and

2175 ~~[(f)]~~ (g) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative  
 2176 petition may be paid for gathering signatures.

2177 (3) A proposed law submitted under this section may not contain more than one subject to  
 2178 the same extent that a bill may not pass containing more than one subject as provided in  
 2179 Utah Constitution, Article VI, Section 22.

2180 Section 25. Section **20A-7-503** is amended to read:

2181 **20A-7-503 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative**  
 2182 **petition and signature sheet.**

2183 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

2184 (2)(a) Each proposed initiative petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

2185 "INITIATIVE PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City Recorder/Town  
 2186 Clerk:

2187 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the ~~[following]~~ proposed  
 2188 law described in this initiative petition be submitted to:

2189 the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next meeting; and

2190 the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the proposed  
 2191 law or takes no action on it.

2192 Each signer says:

2193 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
 2194 disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter the  
 2195 initials "AV" as my signature;

2196 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 2197 petition;

2198 I ~~[have]~~ personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 2199 initiative packet;

2200 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

2201 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

2202 (b) ~~[If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the]~~ The following statement shall appear, in at  
 2203 least 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a)[:]

2204 , if the initiative petition proposes a tax increase:

2205 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
2206 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
2207 increase in the current tax rate.".

2208 (c) The following statement shall appear, in at least 14-point, bold type, immediately  
2209 following the information described in Subsection (2)(a), if:

2210 (i) the initiative proposes a law other than a tax increase; and

2211 (ii) the initiative petition is part of a condensed initiative packet.

2212 "This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language  
2213 description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50  
2214 words, that is understandable to the average reader)."

2215 [~~(e) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
2216 ~~proposed law to each initiative petition.]~~

2217 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

2218 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2219 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line [~~three-fourths~~] .75 inch from the top, with the space  
2220 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

2221 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least 14-point,  
2222 bold type;

2223 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet:

2224 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
2225 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);

2226 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the local clerk's website  
2227 described in Section 20A-7-502.6; and

2228 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
2229 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a web site that includes the full text  
2230 of the law proposed by this initiative petition.";

2231 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the initiative, as  
2232 follows:

2233 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
2234 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";

2235 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;

2236 (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
2237 Name (must be legible to be counted)";

- 2238 (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered  
 2239 Voter";
- 2240 (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";
- 2241 (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 2242 Code"; and
- 2243 (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 2244 (Optional)"; and
- 2245 (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 2246 (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the  
 2247 information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 2248 (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)  
 2249 and contain the following statement in 12-point type: "By signing this initiative  
 2250 petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the  
 2251 law proposed by this initiative petition.".
- 2252 ~~[(d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch~~  
 2253 ~~from the left side of the paper, as follows:]~~
- 2254 ~~[(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;]~~
- 2255 ~~[(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For~~  
 2256 ~~Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]~~
- 2257 ~~[(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]~~
- 2258 ~~[(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 2259 ~~[(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]~~
- 2260 ~~[(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 2261 ~~"Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point~~  
 2262 ~~type;]~~
- 2263 ~~[(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 2264 ~~[(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 2265 ~~"Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]~~
- 2266 ~~[(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 2267 ~~[(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]~~
- 2268 ~~[(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~  
 2269 ~~"Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]~~
- 2270 ~~[(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]~~
- 2271 ~~[(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words~~

- 2272 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]
- 2273 [(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2274 [(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]
- 2275 [(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 2276 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;]
- 2277 [(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2278 [(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 2279 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]
- 2280 [(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]
- 2281 [(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,
- 2282 and contain the following words "By signing this initiative petition, you are
- 2283 stating that you have read and understand the law proposed by this initiative
- 2284 petition." in 12-point type;]
- 2285 [(e)] (4) [~~the table described in Subsection (3)(d)] The columns and rows described in~~
- 2286 Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the
- 2287 sheet for the information described in Subsection [(3)(f); and] (5).
- 2288 [(f)] (5) [~~at the bottom of the sheet, include] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,~~
- 2289 in the following order:
- 2290 [(i)] (a) the words "Fiscal and legal impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at
- 2291 least 12-point, bold type;
- 2292 [(ii)] (b) the summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by
- 2293 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost
- 2294 estimate for printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in
- 2295 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3), in not less than 12-point, bold type;
- 2296 [(iii)] (c) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:
- 2297 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax
- 2298 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent
- 2299 increase in the current tax rate.";~~and]~~
- 2300 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed initiative packet, the following statement
- 2301 in 12-point, bold type:
- 2302 "This initiative seeks to (the sponsors shall provide a brief, plain-language
- 2303 description of the principal provisions of the proposed law, not to exceed 50 words,
- 2304 that is understandable to the average reader)."; and
- 2305 [(iv)] (e) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in

2306 not less than eight-point type:

2307 "It is a class A misdemeanor [~~for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name~~  
 2308 ~~other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than~~  
 2309 ~~once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows~~  
 2310 ~~that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign an initiative petition using a name other than  
 2311 your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.~~

2312 [ ~~Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity~~  
 2313 ~~with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be~~  
 2314 ~~verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified~~  
 2315 ~~or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
 2316 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
 2317 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
 2318 you provide does not match your voter registration record."~~

2319 [(4) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 2320 statement:

2321 "Verification of signature collector

2322 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2323 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

2324 I am at least 18 years old;

2325 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be  
 2326 the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's  
 2327 name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have  
 2328 signed this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and in  
 2329 the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;

2330 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this initiative  
 2331 packet by the initials "AV":

2332 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the initiative  
 2333 petition on the individual's behalf;

2334 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the  
 2335 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

2336 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
 2337 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the initiative petition on the individual's behalf;

2338 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
 2339 or consenting for me to, sign the initiative petition on the individual's behalf; and

2340 ~~\_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature~~  
 2341 ~~sheet;~~

2342 ~~I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by~~  
 2343 ~~the initiative; and~~

2344 ~~I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written~~  
 2345 ~~correctly, that each signer has read the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is~~  
 2346 ~~registered to vote in Utah.~~

2347 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2348 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2348 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

2349 ~~The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name.~~

2350 ~~I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition to~~  
 2351 ~~encourage that individual to sign it.~~

2352 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2353 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2353 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)"]

2354 [(5)] (6) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the circulator verification  
 2355 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

2356 (7) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative petitions  
 2357 are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

2358 Section 26. Section **20A-7-504** is amended to read:

2359 **20A-7-504 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual initiative process -- Circulation**  
 2360 **requirements -- Local clerk to provide sponsors with materials.**

2361 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

2362 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 2363 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
 2364 described in Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate initiative packets that  
 2365 meet the form requirements of this part.

2366 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate initiative packets using  
 2367 traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or both.

2368 (3) Within five calendar days after the day on which a county, city, town, or court  
 2369 determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-502.7, that a law proposed in an initiative  
 2370 petition is legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide to the sponsors:

2371 (a) a copy of the initiative petition;

2372 (b) a signature sheet; and

2373 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under

- 2374 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2375 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:
- 2376 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative
- 2377 packets; and
- 2378 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)
- 2379 meet the requirements of this part.
- 2380 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for
- 2381 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.
- 2382 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create initiative packets by binding a~~
- 2383 ~~copy of the initiative petition with the text of the proposed law and no more than 50~~
- 2384 ~~signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be~~
- 2385 ~~conveniently opened for signing.] The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall~~
- 2386 create initiative packets by:
- 2387 (i) binding the components of each initiative packet together at the top in a manner
- 2388 that secures all components of the initiative packet together;
- 2389 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:
- 2390 (A) a copy of the initiative petition;
- 2391 (B) if the initiative packet is a traditional initiative packet, a copy of the law
- 2392 proposed by the initiative petition;
- 2393 (C) the signature sheets; and
- 2394 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);
- 2395 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each initiative packet; and
- 2396 (iv) binding the initiative packet in a manner that allows the initiative packet to be
- 2397 conveniently opened for signing.
- 2398 (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 2399 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each initiative packet, a
- 2400 copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under
- 2401 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2402 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 2403 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have
- 2404 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;
- 2405 (ii) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use
- 2406 to number initiative packets;[-and]
- 2407 (iii) sign an agreement with the local clerk, specifying:

- 2408                   (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate initiative  
2409                   packets using traditional initiative packets, condensed initiative packets, or  
2410                   both; and
- 2411                   (B) the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum  
2412                   packets; and
- 2413                   [(ii)] (iv) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
2414                   provided by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.
- 2415                   (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:
- 2416                   (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or  
2417                   (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner  
2418                   directed by the county clerk.
- 2419                   (c) The county clerk shall keep a record of the number range provided under Subsection  
2420                   (6)(a).
- 2421                   Section 27. Section **20A-7-512** is amended to read:
- 2422                   **20A-7-512 (Effective 05/06/26). Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**
- 2423                   (1) It is unlawful for any individual to:
- 2424                   (a) sign any name other than the individual's own name to an initiative petition or a  
2425                   statement described in Subsection [20A-7-105(8)] 20A-7-105(10) or 20A-7-515(4);
- 2426                   (b) knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for the same initiative at one  
2427                   election;
- 2428                   (c) knowingly indicate that an individual who signed an initiative petition signed the  
2429                   initiative petition on a date other than the date that the individual signed the initiative  
2430                   petition;
- 2431                   (d) sign an initiative petition knowing the individual is not a legal voter; or  
2432                   (e) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.
- 2433                   (2) It is unlawful for an individual to sign the verification for an initiative packet, or to  
2434                   electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(10),  
2435                   knowing that:
- 2436                   (a) the signature date associated with the individual's signature for the initiative petition  
2437                   is not the date that the individual signed the initiative petition;
- 2438                   (b) the individual has not witnessed the signatures of the individuals whose signatures  
2439                   the individual collects or submits; or
- 2440                   (c) one or more individuals who signed the initiative petition are not registered to vote in  
2441                   Utah.

- 2442 (3) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 2443 (a) pay an individual to sign an initiative petition;
- 2444 (b) pay an individual to remove the individual's signature from an initiative petition;
- 2445 (c) accept payment to sign an initiative petition;
- 2446 (d) accept payment to have the individual's name removed from an initiative petition; or
- 2447 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter
- 2448 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if
- 2449 the individual:
- 2450 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;
- 2451 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give
- 2452 the voter's direction or consent;
- 2453 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose
- 2454 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;
- 2455 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or
- 2456 consent of the voter; or
- 2457 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or
- 2458 statement.

2459 (4) A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

2460 Section 28. Section **20A-7-514** is amended to read:

2461 **20A-7-514 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative**

2462 **petition -- Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

2463 (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.

2464 (2)(a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

2465 "This INITIATIVE PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City

2466 Recorder/Town Clerk:

2467 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following

2468 proposed law be submitted to: the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next

2469 meeting; and the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the

2470 proposed law or takes no action on it."

2471 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link

2472 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and

2473 understand the information presented on this screen."

2474 (3)(a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of

2475 proposed law, described in Subsection [20A-7-502(2)(d)(i)] 20A-7-502(2)(e)(i),

- 2476 followed by the entire text of the proposed law.
- 2477 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
2478 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
2479 and understand the entire text of the proposed law."
- 2480 (4) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
2481 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to  
2482 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement, "By clicking here, I  
2483 attest that I have read and understand the information presented on this screen.":
- 2484 (a)(i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative  
2485 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage  
2486 difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
2487 increase in the current tax rate."; or
- 2488 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
2489 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";
- 2490 (b) the summary statement from the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by  
2491 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost  
2492 estimate for printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in  
2493 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3);
- 2494 (c) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition  
2495 may be paid for gathering signatures; and
- 2496 (d) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":  
2497 "I have personally read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
2498 I am personally signing this petition;  
2499 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
2500 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
2501 accurate.

2502 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
2503 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
2504 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
2505 that the individual is not a registered voter.

2506 **WARNING**

2507 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
2508 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
2509 made public.

2510 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

2511 (5)(a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
2512 (4)(d), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your  
2513 time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

2514 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
2515 (4)(d), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
2516 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the petition through the signature  
2517 process described in Section 20A-21-201.

2518 Section 29. Section **20A-7-602** is amended to read:

2519 **20A-7-602 (Effective 05/06/26). Local referendum process -- Application**  
2520 **procedures.**

2521 (1) Individuals wishing to circulate a referendum petition shall file a referendum  
2522 application with the local clerk.

2523 (2) The referendum application shall include:

2524 (a) the name and residence address of at least five sponsors of the referendum petition;

2525 (b) a statement indicating that each of the sponsors is registered to vote in Utah;

2526 (c) a statement designating a sponsor liaison, including the sponsor liaison's name,  
2527 residence address, telephone number, and email address;

2528 [~~(e)~~] (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum  
2529 petition may be paid for gathering signatures;

2530 [~~(d)~~] (e) the signature of each of the sponsors, acknowledged by a notary public; and

2531 [~~(e)~~] (f)(i) if the referendum challenges an ordinance or resolution, a copy of the  
2532 ordinance or resolution; or

2533 (ii) if the referendum challenges a local law that is not an ordinance or resolution, a  
2534 written description of the local law, including the result of the vote on the local  
2535 law.

2536 Section 30. Section **20A-7-603** is amended to read:

2537 **20A-7-603 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Form of**  
2538 **referendum petition and signature sheet.**

2539 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

2540 (2)[~~(a)~~] Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

2541 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City

2542 Recorder/Town Clerk:

2543 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that (description of local law or

2544 portion of local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
 2545 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
 2546 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

2547 Each signer says:

2548 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
 2549 qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
 2550 to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

2551 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 2552 petition;

2553 I [~~have~~]personally had an opportunity to read the entire statement included with this  
 2554 packet;

2555 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

2556 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

2557 [~~(b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the~~  
 2558 ~~law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.]~~

2559 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

2560 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2561 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line [~~three-fourths~~] .75 inch from the top, with the space  
 2562 above that line blank for the purpose of binding;

2563 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
 2564 14-point type;

2565 (d) if the signature sheet is part of a condensed referendum packet:

2566 (i) contain a printed QR code at the top of the signature sheet, in a location above the  
 2567 columns described in Subsection (3)(e);

2568 (ii) ensure that the QR code links directly to the web page on the local clerk's website  
 2569 described in Section 20A-7-604.5; and

2570 (iii) include the following statement adjacent to the QR code in not less than 8-point,  
 2571 bold type: "This QR code provides access to a web site that includes the full text  
 2572 of the law that is the subject of this referendum petition.";

2573 (e) be vertically divided into columns immediately below the title of the initiative, as  
 2574 follows:

2575 (i) the first column shall begin .5 inch from the left side of the paper, be .25 inch  
 2576 wide, and be headed, together with the second column, "For Office Use Only";

2577 (ii) the second column shall be .25 inch wide;

- 2578            (iii) the third column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
 2579            Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 2580            (iv) the fourth column shall be 2.5 inches wide, headed "Signature of Registered  
 2581            Voter";
- 2582            (v) the fifth column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Date Signed";
- 2583            (vi) the sixth column shall be three inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 2584            Code"; and
- 2585            (vii) the seventh column shall be .75 inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age  
 2586            (Optional); and
- 2587            (f) be horizontally divided into rows as follows:
- 2588            (i) the first row shall be .5 inch high for purposes of a registered voter's entry of the  
 2589            information described in Subsection (3)(e); and
- 2590            (ii) the second row shall span the width of each column described in Subsection (3)(e)  
 2591            and contain the following statement in 11-point type: "By signing this referendum  
 2592            petition, you are stating that you had an opportunity to read and understand the  
 2593            law that this referendum petition seeks to overturn.".
- 2594            [(d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch  
 2595            from the left side of the paper, as follows:]
- 2596            [(i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;]
- 2597            [(ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
 2598            Office Use Only" in 10-point type;]
- 2599            [(iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;]
- 2600            [(iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2601            [(v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 2602            [(vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2603            "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
 2604            type;]
- 2605            [(vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2606            [(viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2607            "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;]
- 2608            [(ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;]
- 2609            [(x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;]
- 2610            [(xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2611            "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;]

2612 [(xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2613 [(xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2614 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;]  
 2615 [(xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2616 [(xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;]  
 2617 [(xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2618 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;]  
 2619 [(xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;]  
 2620 [(xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 2621 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;]  
 2622 [(xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and]  
 2623 [(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
 2624 and contain the following words, "By signing this referendum petition, you are  
 2625 stating that you have read and understand the law that this referendum petition  
 2626 seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;]

2627 [(e)] (4) [~~the table described in Subsection (3)(d)~~] The columns and rows described in  
 2628 Subsections (3)(e) and (f) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at the bottom of the  
 2629 sheet [or] for the information described in Subsection [(3)(f); and] (5).

2630 [(f)] (5) [~~at the bottom of the sheet, include~~] The bottom of the signature sheet shall include,  
 2631 in the following order:

2632 (a) the following statement in 12-point, bold type:

2633 "This referendum petition seeks to have (description of local law or portion of  
 2634 local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
 2635 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
 2636 \_\_\_\_\_ (month\day\year)."; and

2637 (b) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not less  
 2638 than eight-point type:

2639 "It is a class A misdemeanor [for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
 2640 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
 2641 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
 2642 knows that the individual is not a registered voter] to sign a referendum petition using a name  
 2643 other than your own name, to sign more than once, or to sign if you are not a registered voter.

2644 [ ~~Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity~~  
 2645 ~~with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be~~

2646 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
 2647 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records] Providing  
 2648 your birth date or age is optional, but it may be used to verify your identity. If you do not  
 2649 provide it, your signature may not be validated if your address changes or if the information  
 2650 you provide does not match your voter registration record."

2651 [(4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
 2652 statement:

2653 "Verification of signature collector

2654 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2655 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

2656 I am at least 18 years old;

2657 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be  
 2658 the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's  
 2659 name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have  
 2660 signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and  
 2661 in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;

2662 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum  
 2663 packet by the initials "AV":

2664 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the  
 2665 referendum petition on the individual's behalf;

2666 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the  
 2667 mental capacity to give direction or consent;

2668 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not  
 2669 understand the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's  
 2670 behalf;

2671 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to,  
 2672 or consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and

2673 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature  
 2674 sheet;

2675 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition  
 2676 seeks to overturn; and

2677 I believe that each individual's name, post office address, and residence is written  
 2678 correctly, that each signer has read the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each  
 2679 signer is registered to vote in Utah.

2680

2681

---



---

2682 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

2683 The correct date of signature appears next to each individual's name.

2684 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
2685 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

2686

---



---

2687 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)"]

2688 [(5)] (6) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the circulator verification  
2689 sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

2690 (7) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
2691 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

2692 Section 31. Section **20A-7-604** is amended to read:

2693 **20A-7-604 (Effective 05/06/26). Manual referendum process -- Circulation**  
2694 **requirements -- Local clerk to provide sponsors with materials.**

2695 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

2696 (2)(a) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
2697 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents  
2698 described in Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate referendum packets  
2699 that meet the form requirements of this part.

2700 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may circulate referendum packets using  
2701 traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets, or both.

2702 (3) Within five calendar days after the day on which a county, city, town, or court  
2703 determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-602.7, that a proposed referendum is  
2704 legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide the sponsors with:

2705 (a) a copy of the referendum petition;

2706 (b) a signature sheet; and

2707 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
2708 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).

2709 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:

2710 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum  
2711 packets; and

2712 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
2713 meet the form requirements of this section.

- 2714 (5)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets for  
 2715 circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.
- 2716 (b) ~~[The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding~~  
 2717 ~~a copy of the referendum petition with the text of the law that is the subject of the~~  
 2718 ~~referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that~~  
 2719 ~~the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing.] The sponsors or an  
 2720 agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by:~~
- 2721 (i) binding the components of each referendum packet together at the top in a manner  
 2722 that secures all components of the initiative packet together;
- 2723 (ii) arranging the components in the following order:
- 2724 (A) a copy of the referendum petition;
- 2725 (B) if the referendum packet is a traditional referendum packet, a copy of the law  
 2726 that is the subject of the referendum petition;
- 2727 (C) the signature sheets; and
- 2728 (D) the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1);
- 2729 (iii) including no more than 50 signature sheets in each referendum packet; and
- 2730 (iv) binding the referendum packet in a manner that allows the referendum packet to  
 2731 be conveniently opened for signing.
- 2732 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 2733 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each packet, a copy of  
 2734 the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under Subsection  
 2735 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2736 (6)(a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 2737 (i) ensure that the sponsors or any agent of the sponsors who gathers signatures have  
 2738 completed the online training course described in Section 20A-1-1005;
- 2739 (ii) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use  
 2740 to number referendum packets;
- 2741 ~~[(iii)]~~ (iii) sign an agreement with the local clerk, specifying:
- 2742 (A) whether the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors will circulate referendum  
 2743 packets using traditional referendum packets, condensed referendum packets,  
 2744 or both; and
- 2745 (B) the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum  
 2746 packets; and
- 2747 ~~[(iii)]~~ (iv) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers

2748 provided by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.

2749 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:

2750 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or

2751 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner  
2752 directed by the county clerk.

2753 Section 32. Section **20A-7-613** is amended to read:

2754 **20A-7-613 (Effective 05/06/26). Property tax referendum petition.**

2755 (1) As used in this section, "certified tax rate" means the same as that term is defined in  
2756 Section 59-2-924.

2757 (2) Except as provided in this section, the requirements of this part apply to a referendum  
2758 petition challenging a taxing entity's legislative body's vote to impose a tax rate that  
2759 exceeds the certified tax rate.

2760 (3)(a) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(a)(iv), and subject to Subsection (3)(b),  
2761 the sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall deliver a signed and verified  
2762 referendum packet to the county clerk of the county in which the packet was  
2763 circulated before 5 p.m. no later than the earlier of:

2764 (i) the first business day that is at least 30 calendar days after the day on which the  
2765 first individual signs the packet; or

2766 (ii) the first business day that is at least 40 calendar days after the day on which the  
2767 local clerk complies with Subsection 20A-7-604(3).

2768 (b) For a county where the county clerk's office is closed on a business day, if the  
2769 deadline described in Subsection (3)(a) is on that business day, the deadline is  
2770 extended until 5 p.m. the next day that the office is open.

2771 (4) Notwithstanding Subsections 20A-7-105(6)(a) and [~~9~~] (11), the county clerk shall take  
2772 the actions required in Subsections 20A-7-105(6)(a) and [~~9~~] (11) within 10 business  
2773 days after the day on which the county clerk receives the signed and verified referendum  
2774 packet as described in Subsection (3).

2775 (5) The local clerk shall take the actions required by Section 20A-7-607 within two  
2776 business days after:

2777 (a) in relation to the manual referendum process, the day on which the local clerk  
2778 receives the referendum packets from the county clerk; or

2779 (b) in relation to the electronic referendum process, the deadline described in Subsection  
2780 20A-7-616(2).

2781 (6) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-7-608(2), the local attorney shall prepare the ballot

- 2782 title within two business days after the day on which the referendum petition is declared  
2783 sufficient for submission to a vote of the people.
- 2784 (7) Notwithstanding Subsection 20A-7-609(2)(c), a referendum that qualifies for the ballot  
2785 under this section shall appear on the ballot for the earlier of the next regular general  
2786 election or the next municipal general election unless a special election is called.
- 2787 (8) The election officer shall mail manual ballots on a referendum under this section the  
2788 later of:
- 2789 (a) the time provided in Section 20A-3a-202 or 20A-16-403; or  
2790 (b) the time that ballots are prepared for mailing under this section.
- 2791 (9) Section 20A-7-402 does not apply to a referendum described in this section.
- 2792 (10)(a) If a majority of voters does not vote against imposing the tax at a rate calculated  
2793 to generate the increased revenue budgeted, adopted, and approved by the taxing  
2794 entity's legislative body:
- 2795 (i) the certified tax rate for the fiscal year during which the referendum petition is  
2796 filed is [its] the taxing entity's most recent certified tax rate; and  
2797 (ii) the proposed increased revenues for purposes of establishing the certified tax rate  
2798 for the fiscal year after the fiscal year described in Subsection (10)(a)(i) are the  
2799 proposed increased revenues budgeted, adopted, and approved by the taxing  
2800 entity's legislative body before the filing of the referendum petition.
- 2801 (b) If a majority of voters votes against imposing a tax at the rate established by the vote  
2802 of the taxing entity's legislative body, the certified tax rate for the taxing entity is the  
2803 taxing entity's most recent certified tax rate.
- 2804 (c) If the tax rate is set in accordance with Subsection (10)(a)(ii), a taxing entity is not  
2805 required to comply with the notice and public hearing requirements of Section  
2806 59-2-919 if the taxing entity complies with those notice and public hearing  
2807 requirements before the referendum petition is filed.
- 2808 (11) The ballot title shall, at a minimum, include in substantially this form the following:  
2809 "Shall the [name of the taxing entity] be authorized to levy a tax rate in the amount  
2810 sufficient to generate an increased property tax revenue of [amount] for fiscal year [year]  
2811 as budgeted, adopted, and approved by the [name of the taxing entity].".
- 2812 (12) A taxing entity shall pay the county the costs incurred by the county that are directly  
2813 related to meeting the requirements of this section and that the county would not have  
2814 incurred but for compliance with this section.
- 2815 (13)(a) An election officer shall include on a ballot a referendum that has not yet

- 2816 qualified for placement on the ballot, if:
- 2817 (i) sponsors file an application for a referendum described in this section;
- 2818 (ii) the ballot will be used for the election for which the sponsors are attempting to
- 2819 qualify the referendum; and
- 2820 (iii) the deadline for qualifying the referendum for placement on the ballot occurs
- 2821 after the day on which the ballot will be printed.
- 2822 (b) If an election officer includes on a ballot a referendum described in Subsection
- 2823 (13)(a), the ballot title shall comply with Subsection (11).
- 2824 (c) If an election officer includes on a ballot a referendum described in Subsection
- 2825 (13)(a) that does not qualify for placement on the ballot, the election officer shall
- 2826 inform the voters by any practicable method that the referendum has not qualified for
- 2827 the ballot and that votes cast in relation to the referendum will not be counted.
- 2828 Section 33. Section **20A-8-103** is amended to read:
- 2829 **20A-8-103 (Effective 05/06/26). Petition procedures -- Criminal penalty --**
- 2830 **Removal of signature.**
- 2831 (1) As used in this section, the proposed name or emblem of a registered political party is
- 2832 "distinguishable" if a reasonable person of average intelligence will be able to perceive a
- 2833 difference between the proposed name or emblem and any name or emblem currently
- 2834 being used by another registered political party.
- 2835 (2) To become a registered political party, an organization of registered voters that is not a
- 2836 continuing political party shall:
- 2837 (a) circulate a petition seeking registered political party status beginning no earlier than
- 2838 the date of the statewide canvass held after the last regular general election and
- 2839 ending before 5 p.m. no later than November 30 of the year before the year in which
- 2840 the next regular general election will be held;
- 2841 (b) file a petition with the lieutenant governor that is signed, with a holographic
- 2842 signature, by at least 2,000 registered voters before 5 p.m. no later than November 30
- 2843 of the year in which a regular general election will be held; and
- 2844 (c) file, with the petition described in Subsection (2)(b), a document certifying:
- 2845 (i) the identity of one or more registered political parties whose members may vote
- 2846 for the organization's candidates;
- 2847 (ii) whether unaffiliated voters may vote for the organization's candidates; and
- 2848 (iii) whether, for the next election, the organization intends to nominate the
- 2849 organization's candidates in accordance with the provisions of Section 20A-9-406.

- 2850 (3) The petition shall:
- 2851 (a) be on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;
- 2852 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space above that line  
2853 blank for the purpose of binding;
- 2854 (c) contain the name of the political party and the words "Political Party Registration  
2855 Petition" printed directly below the horizontal line;
- 2856 (d) contain the word "Warning" printed directly under the words described in Subsection  
2857 (3)(c);
- 2858 (e) contain, to the right of the word "Warning," the following statement printed in not less than  
2859 eight-point, single leaded type:
- 2860 "It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a political party registration  
2861 petition signature sheet with any name other than the individual's own name or more than once  
2862 for the same party or if the individual is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend  
2863 to become registered to vote in this state before the petition is submitted to the lieutenant  
2864 governor.";
- 2865 (f) contain the following statement directly under the statement described in Subsection (3)(e):  
2866 "POLITICAL PARTY REGISTRATION PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_,  
2867 Lieutenant Governor:
- 2868 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, seek registered political party status for \_\_\_\_\_  
2869 (name);
- 2870 Each signer says:
- 2871 I have personally signed this petition with a holographic signature;
- 2872 I am registered to vote in Utah or will register to vote in Utah before the petition is  
2873 submitted to the lieutenant governor;
- 2874 I am or desire to become a member of the political party; and
- 2875 My street address is written correctly after my name.";
- 2876 (g) be vertically divided into columns as follows:
- 2877 (i) the first column shall appear at the extreme left of the sheet, be 5/8 inch wide, be  
2878 headed with "For Office Use Only," and be subdivided with a light vertical line  
2879 down the middle;
- 2880 (ii) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's Printed  
2881 Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 2882 (iii) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Holographic Signature of  
2883 Registered Voter";

- 2884 (iv) the next column shall be one inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age (Optional)";  
 2885 (v) the final column shall be 4-3/8 inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
 2886 Code"; and  
 2887 (vi) at the bottom of the sheet, contain the following statement: "Birth date or age  
 2888 information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with voter  
 2889 registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
 2890 certified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures  
 2891 are certified or if the information you provide does not match your voter  
 2892 registration records.";

2893 ~~[(h) have a final page bound to one or more signature sheets that are bound together that~~  
 2894 ~~contains the following printed statement:~~

2895 "Verification

2896 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

2897 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:

2898 I am at least 18 years old;

2899 ~~All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were signed by~~  
 2900 ~~individuals who professed to be the individuals whose names appear on the signature sheets,~~  
 2901 ~~and each individual signed the individual's name on the signature sheets in my presence;~~

2902 ~~I believe that each individual has printed and signed the individual's name and written~~  
 2903 ~~the individual's street address correctly, and that each individual is registered to vote in Utah or~~  
 2904 ~~will register to vote in Utah before the petition is submitted to the lieutenant governor.~~

2905 \_\_\_\_\_  
 2906 ~~(Signature) (Residence Address) (Date)"; and]~~

2907 ~~[(†)] (h) have a final page bound to one or more signature sheets that contains the~~  
 2908 ~~circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1); and~~

2909 ~~(i) be bound to a cover sheet that:~~

- 2910 ~~(i) identifies the political party's name, which may not exceed four words, and the~~  
 2911 ~~emblem of the party;~~  
 2912 ~~(ii) states the process that the organization will follow to organize and adopt a~~  
 2913 ~~constitution and bylaws; and~~  
 2914 ~~(iii) is signed by a filing officer, who agrees to receive communications on behalf of~~  
 2915 ~~the organization.~~

2916 (4) The filing officer described in Subsection (3)(i)(iii) shall ensure that the individual in  
 2917 whose presence each signature sheet is signed:

- 2918 (a) is at least 18 years old; and
- 2919 (b) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification bound to one or more
- 2920 signature sheets that are bound together.
- 2921 (5) An individual may not sign the verification if the individual signed a signature sheet
- 2922 bound to the verification.
- 2923 (6) The lieutenant governor shall:
- 2924 (a) use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002 to determine whether a signer is
- 2925 a registered voter;
- 2926 (b) review the proposed name and emblem to determine if they are "distinguishable"
- 2927 from the names and emblems of other registered political parties; and
- 2928 (c) certify the lieutenant governor's findings to the filing officer described in Subsection
- 2929 (3)(i)(iii) within 30 calendar days after the day on which the organization files the
- 2930 petition described in Subsection (2)(b).
- 2931 (7)(a) If the lieutenant governor determines that the petition meets the requirements of
- 2932 this section, and that the proposed name and emblem are distinguishable, the
- 2933 lieutenant governor shall authorize the filing officer described in Subsection (3)(i)(iii)
- 2934 to organize the prospective political party.
- 2935 (b) If the lieutenant governor finds that the name, emblem, or both are not
- 2936 distinguishable from the names and emblems of other registered political parties, the
- 2937 lieutenant governor shall notify the filing officer that the filing officer has seven
- 2938 calendar days to electronically submit a new name or emblem to the lieutenant
- 2939 governor.
- 2940 (8) A registered political party may not change [its] the registered political party's name or
- 2941 emblem during the regular general election cycle.
- 2942 (9)(a) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 2943 (i) knowingly sign a political party registration petition:
- 2944 (A) with any name other than the individual's own name;
- 2945 (B) more than once for the same political party; or
- 2946 (C) if the individual is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to
- 2947 become registered to vote in this state before the petition is submitted to the
- 2948 lieutenant governor; or
- 2949 (ii) sign the verification of a political party registration petition signature sheet if the
- 2950 individual:
- 2951 (A) has not witnessed the signing by those individuals whose names appear on the

2952 political party registration petition signature sheet; or  
2953 (B) knows that an individual whose signature appears on the political party  
2954 registration petition signature sheet is not registered to vote in this state and  
2955 does not intend to become registered to vote in this state.

2956 (b) An individual who violates this Subsection (9) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

2957 (10)(a) A voter who signs a petition under this section may have the voter's signature  
2958 removed from the petition by, no later than three business days after the day on  
2959 which the petition is filed with the lieutenant governor, submitting to the lieutenant  
2960 governor a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed.

2961 (b) A statement described in Subsection (10)(a) shall comply with the requirements  
2962 described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).

2963 (c) The lieutenant governor shall use the procedures described in Subsection  
2964 20A-1-1003(3) to determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a  
2965 petition after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.

2966 Section 34. Section **20A-9-405** is amended to read:

2967 **20A-9-405 (Effective 05/06/26). Nomination petitions for regular primary**  
2968 **elections.**

2969 (1) This section applies to the form and circulation of nomination petitions for regular  
2970 primary elections described in Subsection 20A-9-403(3)(a).

2971 (2) A candidate for elective office, and the agents of the candidate, may not circulate  
2972 nomination petitions until the candidate has submitted a declaration of candidacy in  
2973 accordance with Subsection 20A-9-202(1).

2974 (3) For the manual candidate qualification process, the nomination petitions shall be in  
2975 substantially the following form:

2976 (a) the petition shall be printed on paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2977 (b) the petition shall be ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space  
2978 above that line blank for purposes of binding;

2979 (c) the petition shall be headed by a caption stating the purpose of the petition and the  
2980 name of the proposed candidate;

2981 (d) the petition shall feature the word "Warning" followed by the following statement in  
2982 no less than eight-point, single leaded type: "It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone  
2983 to knowingly sign a nomination petition with any name other than the person's own  
2984 name, or more than once for the same candidate, or if the person is not registered to  
2985 vote in this state.";

- 2986 (e) the petition shall feature 10 lines spaced one-half inch apart and consecutively  
 2987 numbered one through 10;
- 2988 (f) the signature portion of the petition shall be divided into columns headed by the  
 2989 following titles:
- 2990 (i) Registered Voter's Printed Name;
- 2991 (ii) Signature of Registered Voter;
- 2992 (iii) Party Affiliation of Registered Voter;
- 2993 (iv) Birth Date or Age (Optional);
- 2994 (v) Street Address, City, Zip Code; and
- 2995 (vi) Date of Signature; and
- 2996 (g) a photograph of the candidate may appear on the nomination petition.
- 2997 (4) For the electronic candidate qualification process, the lieutenant governor shall design  
 2998 an electronic form, using progressive screens, that includes:
- 2999 (a) the following warning:
- 3000 "Warning: It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a nomination  
 3001 petition with any name other than the person's own name, or more than once for the same  
 3002 candidate, or if the person is not registered to vote in this state."; and
- 3003 (b) the following information for each individual who signs the petition:
- 3004 (i) name;
- 3005 (ii) party affiliation;
- 3006 (iii) date of birth or age, (optional);
- 3007 (iv) street address, city, zip code;
- 3008 (v) date of signature;
- 3009 (vi) other information required under Section 20A-21-201; and
- 3010 (vii) other information required by the lieutenant governor.
- 3011 [~~5~~] For the manual candidate qualification process, if one or more nomination petitions are  
 3012 bound together, a page shall be bound to the nomination petition(s) that features the following  
 3013 printed verification statement to be signed and dated by the petition circulator:
- 3014 "Verification  
 3015 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_  
 3016 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:  
 3017 I am at least 18 years old;  
 3018 All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were, to the best of  
 3019 my knowledge, signed by the persons who professed to be the persons whose names appear on

3020 the signature sheets, and each of them signed the person's name on the signature sheets in my  
3021 presence;

3022 I believe that each has printed and signed the person's name and written the person's  
3023 street address correctly, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah." ]

3024 [(6)] (5) For the manual candidate qualification process, if one or more nomination petitions  
3025 are bound together, a final page shall be bound to the nomination petition(s) that  
3026 contains the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

3027 (6) The lieutenant governor shall prepare and make public model nomination petition forms  
3028 and associated instructions.

3029 (7) A nomination petition circulator:

3030 (a) must be at least 18 years old; and

3031 (b) may affiliate with any political party.

3032 (8) It is unlawful for any person to:

3033 (a) knowingly sign the nomination petition described in this section or Section  
3034 20A-9-408:

3035 (i) with any name other than the person's own name;

3036 (ii) more than once for the same candidate; or

3037 (iii) if the person is not registered to vote in this state;

3038 (b) sign the verification of a signature for a nomination petition if the person:

3039 (i) has not witnessed the signing by those persons whose names appear on the  
3040 nomination petition; or

3041 (ii) knows that a person whose signature appears on the nomination petition is not  
3042 registered to vote in this state;

3043 (c) pay compensation to any person to sign a nomination petition; or

3044 (d) pay compensation to any person to circulate a nomination petition[~~, if the~~  
3045 ~~compensation is based directly on the number of signatures submitted to a filing~~  
3046 ~~officer rather than on the number of signatures verified or on some other basis.]  
3047 unless the compensation is based on:~~

3048 (i) an hourly rate; or

3049 (ii) a rate per signature declared valid under Section 20A-1-1002.

3050 (9) Any person violating Subsection (8) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

3051 (10)(a) A voter who signs a nomination petition may have the voter's signature removed  
3052 from the petition by, no later than three business days after the day on which the  
3053 candidate files the petition with the appropriate filing officer, submitting to the filing

3054 officer a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed.

3055 (b) A statement described in Subsection (10)(a) shall comply with the requirements  
3056 described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).

3057 (c) The filing officer shall use the procedures described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(3) to  
3058 determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a nomination petition  
3059 after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.

3060 Section 35. Section **20A-9-502** is amended to read:

3061 **20A-9-502 (Effective 05/06/26). Certificate of nomination -- Contents --**

3062 **Circulation -- Verification -- Criminal penalty -- Removal of petition signature.**

3063 (1) The candidate shall:

3064 (a) prepare a certificate of nomination in substantially the following form:

3065 "State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

3066 I, \_\_\_\_\_, declare my intention of becoming an unaffiliated candidate for the  
3067 political group designated as \_\_\_\_ for the office of \_\_\_\_\_. I do solemnly swear that I can  
3068 qualify to hold that office both legally and constitutionally if selected, and that I reside at \_\_\_\_\_  
3069 Street, in the city of \_\_\_\_\_, county of \_\_\_\_\_, state of \_\_\_\_\_, zip code \_\_\_\_\_, phone \_\_\_\_\_, and  
3070 that I am providing, or have provided, the required number of holographic signatures of  
3071 registered voters required by law; that as a candidate at the next election I will not knowingly  
3072 violate any election or campaign law; that, if filing via a designated agent for an office other  
3073 than president of the United States, I will be out of the state of Utah during the entire candidate  
3074 filing period; I will file all campaign financial disclosure reports as required by law; and I  
3075 understand that failure to do so will result in my disqualification as a candidate for this office  
3076 and removal of my name from the ballot.

3077

3078

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

3079

3080

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public (or other officer

3081

qualified to administer oaths)";

3082 (b) for each signature packet, bind signature sheets to a copy of the certificate of

- 3083 nomination and the circulator verification, that:
- 3084 (i) are printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;
- 3085 (ii) are ruled with a horizontal line 3/4 inch from the top, with the space above that
- 3086 line blank for the purpose of binding;
- 3087 (iii) contain the name of the proposed candidate and the words "Unaffiliated
- 3088 Candidate Certificate of Nomination Petition" printed directly below the
- 3089 horizontal line;
- 3090 (iv) contain the word "Warning" printed directly under the words described in
- 3091 Subsection (1)(b)(iii);
- 3092 (v) contain, to the right of the word "Warning," the following statement printed in not less than
- 3093 eight-point, single leaded type:
- 3094 "It is a class A misdemeanor for anyone to knowingly sign a certificate of nomination
- 3095 signature sheet with any name other than the person's own name or more than once for the
- 3096 same candidate or if the person is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to
- 3097 become registered to vote in this state before the county clerk certifies the signatures.";
- 3098 (vi) contain the following statement directly under the statement described in Subsection
- 3099 (1)(b)(v):
- 3100 "Each signer says:
- 3101 I have personally signed this petition with a holographic signature;
- 3102 I am registered to vote in Utah or intend to become registered to vote in Utah before the
- 3103 county clerk certifies my signature; and
- 3104 My street address is written correctly after my name.";
- 3105 (vii) contain horizontally ruled lines, 3/8 inch apart under the statement described in
- 3106 Subsection (1)(b)(vi); and
- 3107 (viii) be vertically divided into columns as follows:
- 3108 (A) the first column shall appear at the extreme left of the sheet, be 5/8 inch wide,
- 3109 be headed with "For Office Use Only," and be subdivided with a light vertical
- 3110 line down the middle;
- 3111 (B) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Registered Voter's
- 3112 Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)";
- 3113 (C) the next column shall be 2-1/2 inches wide, headed "Holographic Signature of
- 3114 Registered Voter";
- 3115 (D) the next column shall be one inch wide, headed "Birth Date or Age
- 3116 (Optional)";

3117 (E) the final column shall be 4-3/8 inches wide, headed "Street Address, City, Zip  
3118 Code"; and

3119 (F) at the bottom of the sheet, contain the following statement: "Birth date or age  
3120 information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with  
3121 voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may  
3122 not be certified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition  
3123 signatures are certified or if the information you provide does not match your  
3124 voter registration records."; and

3125 (c) bind a final page to one or more signature sheets that contains the circulator  
3126 verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1).

3127 [~~e) bind a final page to one or more signature sheets that are bound together that contains,~~  
3128 ~~except as provided by Subsection (3), the following printed statement:~~

3129 ~~"Verification~~

3130 ~~State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_~~

3131 ~~I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:~~

3132 ~~I am at least 18 years old;~~

3133 ~~All the names that appear on the signature sheets bound to this page were signed by~~  
3134 ~~persons who professed to be the persons whose names appear on the signature sheets, and each~~  
3135 ~~of them signed the person's name on the signature sheets in my presence;~~

3136 ~~I believe that each has printed and signed the person's name and written the person's~~  
3137 ~~street address correctly, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah or will register to~~  
3138 ~~vote in Utah before the county clerk certifies the signatures on the signature sheet.~~

3139 \_\_\_\_\_  
3140 ~~(Signature) (Residence Address) (Date)".]~~

3141 (2) An agent designated to file a certificate of nomination under Subsection  
3142 20A-9-503(2)(b) or (4)(b) may not sign the form described in Subsection (1)(a).

3143 (3)(a) The candidate shall circulate the nomination petition and ensure that the person in  
3144 whose presence each signature sheet is signed:

3145 (i) is at least 18 years old; and

3146 (ii) verifies each signature sheet by completing the verification bound to one or more  
3147 signature sheets that are bound together.

3148 (b) A person may not sign the circulator verification if the person signed a signature  
3149 sheet bound to the verification.

3150 (4)(a) It is unlawful for any person to:

- 3151 (i) knowingly sign a certificate of nomination signature sheet:
- 3152 (A) with any name other than the person's own name;
- 3153 (B) more than once for the same candidate; or
- 3154 (C) if the person is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to
- 3155 become registered to vote in this state before the county clerk certifies the
- 3156 signatures; or
- 3157 (ii) sign the verification of a certificate of nomination signature sheet if the person:
- 3158 (A) has not witnessed the signing by those persons whose names appear on the
- 3159 certificate of nomination signature sheet; or
- 3160 (B) knows that a person whose signature appears on the certificate of nomination
- 3161 signature sheet is not registered to vote in this state and does not intend to
- 3162 become registered to vote in this state.
- 3163 (b) Any person violating this Subsection (4) is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.
- 3164 (5)(a) To qualify for placement on the general election ballot, the candidate shall, no
- 3165 earlier than the start of the applicable declaration of candidacy period described in
- 3166 Section 20A-9-201.5 and no later than 5 p.m. on June 15 of the year in which the
- 3167 election will be held:
- 3168 (i) comply with Subsection 20A-9-503(1); and
- 3169 (ii) submit each signature packet to the county clerk where the majority of the
- 3170 signatures in the packet were collected, with signatures totaling:
- 3171 (A) at least 1,000 registered voters residing within the state when the nomination
- 3172 is for an office to be filled by the voters of the entire state; or
- 3173 (B) at least 300 registered voters residing within a political division or at least 5%
- 3174 of the registered voters residing within a political division, whichever is less,
- 3175 when the nomination is for an office to be filled by the voters of any political
- 3176 division smaller than the state.
- 3177 (b) A candidate has not complied with Subsection (5)(a)(ii), unless the county clerks
- 3178 verify that each required signature is a valid signature of a registered voter who is
- 3179 eligible to sign the signature packet and has not signed a signature packet to nominate
- 3180 another candidate for the same office.
- 3181 (c) In reviewing the signature packets, the county clerk shall count and certify only those
- 3182 persons who signed with a holographic signature, who:
- 3183 (i) are registered voters within the political division that the candidate seeks to
- 3184 represent; and

- 3185 (ii) did not sign any other certificate of nomination for that office.
- 3186 (d) The county clerk shall count and certify the number of registered voters who validly  
3187 signed a signature packet, no later than 30 calendar days after the day on which the  
3188 candidate submits the signature packet.
- 3189 (e) The candidate may supplement the signatures or amend the certificate of nomination  
3190 or declaration of candidacy at any time on or before 5 p.m. on June 15 of the year in  
3191 which the election will be held.
- 3192 (f) The county clerk shall use the procedures described in Section 20A-1-1002 to  
3193 determine whether a signer is a registered voter who is qualified to sign the signature  
3194 packet.
- 3195 (6)(a) A voter who signs a signature packet under this section may have the voter's  
3196 signature removed from the signature packet by, no later than 5 p.m. three business  
3197 days after the day on which the candidate submits the signature packet to the county  
3198 clerk, submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature  
3199 be removed.
- 3200 (b) A statement described in Subsection (6)(a) shall comply with the requirements  
3201 described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).
- 3202 (c) The county clerk shall use the procedures described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(3) to  
3203 determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a signature packet after  
3204 receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature.
- 3205 Section 36. Section **20A-21-201** is amended to read:
- 3206 **20A-21-201 (Effective 05/06/26). Electronic signature gathering for an initiative,**  
3207 **a referendum, or candidate qualification.**
- 3208 (1) After filing a petition for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum, and before  
3209 gathering signatures, the sponsors shall, after consulting with the Office of the  
3210 Lieutenant Governor, sign a form provided by the Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
3211 indicating whether the sponsors will gather signatures manually, electronically, or both.
- 3212 (2) After filing a petition for a local initiative or a local referendum, and before gathering  
3213 signatures, the sponsors shall, after consulting with the local clerk's office, sign a form  
3214 provided by the local clerk's office indicating whether the sponsors will gather  
3215 signatures manually, electronically, or both.
- 3216 (3) After a candidate files a notice of intent to gather signatures to qualify for a ballot, and  
3217 before gathering signatures, the candidate shall, after consulting with the election  
3218 officer, sign a form provided by the election officer indicating whether the candidate

- 3219 will gather signatures manually, electronically, or both.
- 3220 (4) To gather a signature electronically, a signature-gatherer shall:
- 3221 (a) use a device provided by the signature-gatherer or a sponsor of the petition that:
- 3222 (i) is approved by the lieutenant governor;
- 3223 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4)(a)(iii), does not store a signature or any
- 3224 other information relating to an individual signing the petition in any location
- 3225 other than the location used by the website to store the information;
- 3226 (iii) does not, on the device, store a signature or any other information relating to an
- 3227 individual signing the petition except for the minimum time necessary to upload
- 3228 information to the website;
- 3229 (iv) does not contain any applications, software, or data other than those approved by
- 3230 the lieutenant governor; and
- 3231 (v) complies with cyber-security and other security protocols required by the
- 3232 lieutenant governor;
- 3233 (b) use the approved device to securely access a website designated by the lieutenant
- 3234 governor, directly, or via an application designated by the lieutenant governor; and
- 3235 (c) while connected to the website, present the approved device to an individual
- 3236 considering signing the petition and, while the signature-gatherer is in the physical
- 3237 presence of the individual:
- 3238 (i) wait for the individual to reach each screen presented to the individual on the
- 3239 approved device; and
- 3240 (ii) wait for the individual to advance to each subsequent screen by clicking on the
- 3241 acknowledgement at the bottom of the screen.
- 3242 (5) Each screen shown on an approved device as part of the signature-gathering process
- 3243 shall appear as a continuous electronic document that, if the entire document does not
- 3244 appear on the screen at once, requires the individual viewing the screen to, before
- 3245 advancing to the next screen, scroll through the document until the individual reaches
- 3246 the end of the document.
- 3247 (6) After advancing through each screen required for the petition, the signature process
- 3248 shall proceed as follows:
- 3249 (a) except as provided in Subsection (6)(b):
- 3250 (i) the individual desiring to sign the petition shall present the individual's driver
- 3251 license or state identification card to the signature-gatherer;
- 3252 (ii) the signature-gatherer shall verify that the individual pictured on the driver

- 3253 license or state identification card is the individual signing the petition;
- 3254 (iii) the signature-gatherer shall scan or enter the driver license number or state  
3255 identification card number through the approved device; and
- 3256 (iv) immediately after the signature-gatherer complies with Subsection (6)(a)(iii), the  
3257 website shall determine whether the individual desiring to sign the petition is  
3258 eligible to sign the petition;
- 3259 (b) if the individual desiring to sign the petition is unable to provide a driver license or  
3260 state identification card to the signature gatherer:
- 3261 (i) the individual may present other valid voter identification;
- 3262 (ii) if the valid voter identification contains a picture of the individual, the  
3263 signature-gatherer shall verify that the individual pictured is the individual signing  
3264 the petition;
- 3265 (iii) if the valid voter identification does not contain a picture of the individual, the  
3266 signature-gatherer shall, to the extent reasonably practicable, use the individual's  
3267 address or other available means to determine whether the identification relates to  
3268 the individual presenting the identification;
- 3269 (iv) the signature-gatherer shall scan an image of the valid voter identification and  
3270 immediately upload the image to the website; and
- 3271 (v) the individual:
- 3272 (A) shall enter the individual's address; and
- 3273 (B) may, at the discretion of the individual, enter the individual's date of birth or  
3274 age after the individual clicks on the screen acknowledging that they have read  
3275 and understand the following statement, "Birth date or age information is not  
3276 required, but may be used to verify your identity with voter registration  
3277 records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be verified as a  
3278 valid signature if you change your address before your signature is verified or  
3279 if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records.";
- 3280 and
- 3281 (c) after completing the process described in Subsection (6)(a) or (b), the screen shall:
- 3282 (i) except for a petition to qualify a candidate for the ballot, give the individual  
3283 signing the petition the opportunity to enter the individual's email address after the  
3284 individual reads the following statement, "If you provide your email address, you  
3285 may receive an email with additional information relating to the petition you are  
3286 signing."; and

3287 (ii)(A) if the website determines, under Subsection (6)(a)(iv), that the individual is  
 3288 eligible to sign the petition, permit the individual to enter the individual's name  
 3289 as the individual's electronic signature and, immediately after the  
 3290 signature-gatherer timely complies with Subsection (10), certify the signature; or  
 3291 (B) if the individual provides valid voter identification under Subsection (6)(b),  
 3292 permit the individual to enter the individual's name as the individual's  
 3293 electronic signature.

3294 (7) If an individual provides valid voter identification under Subsection (6)(b), the county  
 3295 clerk shall, within seven calendar days after the day on which the individual submits the  
 3296 valid voter identification, certify the signature if:

- 3297 (a) the individual is eligible to sign the petition;
- 3298 (b) the identification provided matches the information on file; and
- 3299 (c) the signature-gatherer timely complies with Subsection (10).

3300 (8) For each signature submitted under this section, the website shall record:

- 3301 (a) the information identifying the individual who signs;
- 3302 (b) the date the signature was collected; and
- 3303 (c) the name of the signature-gatherer.

3304 (9) An individual who is a signature-gatherer may not sign a petition unless another  
 3305 individual acts as the signature-gatherer when the individual signs the petition.

3306 ~~[(10) Except for a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party,~~  
 3307 ~~each individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within one business day after~~  
 3308 ~~the day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically sign and submit the~~  
 3309 ~~following statement to the website:~~

3310 ~~"VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE-GATHERER~~

3311 ~~State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_~~

3312 ~~I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:~~

3313 ~~I am at least 18 years old;~~

3314 ~~All the signatures that I collected on [Date signatures were gathered] were signed by~~  
 3315 ~~individuals who professed to be the individuals whose signatures I gathered, and each of the~~  
 3316 ~~individuals signed the petition in my presence;~~

3317 ~~I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law or proposed~~  
 3318 ~~law to which the petition relates;~~

3319 ~~I believe that each individual has signed the individual's name and written the~~  
 3320 ~~individual's residence correctly, that each signer has read and understands the law to which the~~

3321 petition relates, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah;

3322 Each signature correctly reflects the date on which the individual signed the petition;

3323 and

3324 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition to  
3325 encourage that individual to sign it."]

3326 [(H)] (10) Except for a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered  
3327 political party, each individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within  
3328 one business day after the day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically  
3329 sign and submit the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1)  
3330 to the website.

3331 (11) Except for a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political  
3332 party:

3333 (a) the county clerk may not certify a signature that is not timely verified in accordance  
3334 with Subsection (10); and

3335 (b) if a signature certified by a county clerk under Subsection (6)(c)(ii)(A) is not timely  
3336 verified in accordance with Subsection (10), the county clerk shall:

3337 (i) revoke the certification;

3338 (ii) remove the signature from the posting described in Subsection 20A-7-217(4),  
3339 20A-7-315(4), 20A-7-516(4), or 20A-7-616(4); and

3340 (iii) update the totals described in Subsections 20A-7-217(5)(a)(ii),  
3341 20A-7-315(5)(a)(ii), 20A-7-516(5)(a)(ii), and 20A-7-616(5)(a)(ii).

3342 [(12) For a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party, each  
3343 individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within one business day after the  
3344 day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically sign and submit the following  
3345 statement to the lieutenant governor in the manner specified by the lieutenant governor:

3346 "VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE-GATHERER

3347 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

3348 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state that:

3349 I am at least 18 years old;

3350 All the signatures that I collected on [Date signatures were gathered] were signed by  
3351 individuals who professed to be the individuals whose signatures I gathered, and each of the  
3352 individuals signed the petition in my presence;

3353 I believe that each individual has signed the individual's name and written the  
3354 individual's residence correctly and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah; and

3355 ~~Each signature correctly reflects the date on which the individual signed the petition."]~~

3356 (12) For a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party,  
 3357 each individual who gathers a signature under this section shall, within one business day  
 3358 after the day on which the individual gathers a signature, electronically sign and submit  
 3359 the circulator verification sheet described in Subsection 20A-1-1004(1) to the lieutenant  
 3360 governor in the manner specified by the lieutenant governor.

3361 (13) For a petition for a candidate to seek the nomination of a registered political party, the  
 3362 election officer may not certify a signature that is not timely verified in accordance with  
 3363 Subsection (12).

3364 Section 37. Section **63I-2-220** is amended to read:

3365 **63I-2-220 (Effective 05/06/26). Repeal dates: Title 20A.**

3366 (1) Section 20A-7-103.1, Constitutional amendments proposed during specified timeframe  
 3367 -- Analysis -- Arguments -- Publication, is repealed July 1, 2025.

3368 [(2) Title 20A, Chapter 4, Part 6, Municipal Alternate Voting Methods Pilot Project, is  
 3369 repealed January 1, 2026.]

3370 (2) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(c), regarding the email that the sponsors of an initiative  
 3371 petition send to certain individuals before delivering an initiative packet to the county  
 3372 clerk, is repealed January 1, 2027.

3373 (3) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(d), regarding the email recipient list and written verification  
 3374 that the sponsors of a statewide initiative petition submit to the lieutenant governor, is  
 3375 repealed January 1, 2027.

3376 (4) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(e), regarding the email recipient list and written verification  
 3377 that the sponsors of a local initiative petition submit to the local clerk, is repealed  
 3378 January 1, 2027.

3379 (5) Subsection 20A-7-105(5)(f), regarding the validity of signatures gathered for an  
 3380 initiative petition, is repealed January 1, 2027.

3381 Section 38. **Effective Date.**

3382 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), this bill takes effect May 6, 2026.

3383 (2) The actions affecting Section 20A-1-1002 (Effective 07/01/27) take effect on July 1,  
 3384 2027.