

# INITIATIVES AND REFERENDA AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

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## LONG TITLE

### General Description:

This bill amends provisions relating to collecting signatures for, or removing signatures from, an initiative petition or a referendum petition.

### Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- defines terms;
- modifies requirements for a form to remove a signature from an initiative petition or a referendum petition;
- clarifies that a particular document that a signature gatherer is required to provide to a petition signer must only be offered to the petition signer;
- establishes an alternate procedure for an individual with a disability to sign, or to request removal of a signature from, an initiative petition or a referendum petition and an alternate procedure for verifying the individual's signature;
- modifies certain forms to reflect the alternate procedure described in the preceding paragraph;
- requires the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to draft an impartial petition summary of:
  - the law proposed by a statewide initiative; or
  - the law that a statewide referendum seeks to overturn;
- establishes requirements and procedures for drafting and for challenging a petition summary;
- requires that the petition summary is included with the signature packets for a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum and provides that a petition signer may read the petition summary rather than the entire text of the law that is the subject of those petitions;
- modifies the requirements that must be fulfilled before circulating a statewide initiative or a statewide referendum;

- ▶ provides that an individual who signs an initiative packet or a referendum packet must read the entire statement included with the packet;
- ▶ provides that the attestation relating to reading a statement provided with an initiative packet or a referendum packet or reading the law to which the initiative or referendum relates, does not require an attestation that the individual understands the statement or law;
- ▶ modifies certain mailing requirements to permit other delivery methods;
- ▶ requires a local clerk to provide petition sponsors with a copy of the voter information pamphlet to be included in the signature packet; and
- ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

**Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

None

**Other Special Clauses:**

None

**Utah Code Sections Affected:****AMENDS:**

**20A-1-1003**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116 and last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116

**20A-7-101**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116

**20A-7-104**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 418

**20A-7-105**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116

**20A-7-202.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

**20A-7-202.7**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

**20A-7-203**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

**20A-7-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

**20A-7-204.1**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 435 and last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

**20A-7-209**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107 and last amended by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 45

**20A-7-215**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107

**20A-7-216**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116

64        **20A-7-303**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
65        **20A-7-304**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
66        **20A-7-304.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
67        **20A-7-308**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107  
68        **20A-7-313**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
69        **20A-7-314**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116  
70        **20A-7-502.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
71        **20A-7-503**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
72        **20A-7-504**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
73        **20A-7-508**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107 and last amended  
74        by Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 45  
75        **20A-7-514**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
76        **20A-7-515**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116  
77        **20A-7-602.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
78        **20A-7-603**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
79        **20A-7-604**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
80        **20A-7-608**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107  
81        **20A-7-614**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107  
82        **20A-7-615**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116

83    ENACTS:

84        **20A-7-106**, Utah Code Annotated 1953  
85        **20A-7-202.3**, Utah Code Annotated 1953  
86        **20A-7-302.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

89        Section 1. Section **20A-1-1003** is amended to read:

90        **20A-1-1003. Signature removal -- Statement required.**

91        (1) A voter who signs a petition may have the voter's signature removed from the  
92    petition by submitting to the clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed.

93        (2) (a) (i) The statement described in Subsection (1) shall include:

(A) the name or description of the petition from which the voter seeks to remove the voter's signature;

~~[(A)]~~ (B) the name of the voter;

~~[(B)]~~ (C) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;

~~[(C)]~~ (D) except as otherwise provided in Section 20A-7-106, the voter's signature; and

~~[(D)]~~ (E) the date of the signature described in Subsection ~~[(2)(a)(i)(C)]~~ (2)(a)(i)(D).

(ii) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed, the statement may include the voter's birth date or age.

(b) Except as provided in Subsection ~~[20A-7-216(5)(c), 20A-7-314(5)(c), 20A-7-515(4)(d), or 20A-7-615(4)(d)]~~ 20A-7-216(5)(a), 20A-7-314(5)(a), 20A-7-515(4)(b), or 20A-7-615(4)(b), a voter may not submit a statement described in Subsection (1) by email or other electronic means.

(c) In order for the signature to be removed, the clerk must receive the statement described in Subsection (1) no later than the deadline described in the provision of law governing the petition.

(d) A voter may only remove a signature from a petition in accordance with this section and the provision of law governing the petition.

(e) A clerk shall analyze a signature, for purposes of removing a signature from a petition, in accordance with Subsection (3).

(3) ~~[The]~~ Except to the extent otherwise required under Section 20A-7-106, the clerk shall use the following procedures to determine whether to remove an individual's signature from a petition after receiving a timely, valid statement requesting removal of the signature:

(a) if the signer's name and address shown on the statement and the petition exactly match a name and address shown on the official register and the individual's signature on the statement is reasonably consistent with the individual's signature on the statewide voter registration database, the clerk shall remove the signature from the petition;

(b) if there is no exact match of an address and a name, the clerk shall remove the signature from the petition if:

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

(ii) the individual's signature on the statement is reasonably consistent with the signature on the statewide voter registration database of the individual described in Subsection (3)(b)(i); and

(c) if there is no match of an address and a substantially similar name, the clerk shall remove the signature from the petition if:

(i) the birth date or age on the statement and the birth date or age provided by the individual with the individual's petition signature match the birth date or age of an individual on the official register with a substantially similar name; and

(ii) the individual's signature on the statement is reasonably consistent with the signature on the statewide voter registration database of the individual described in Subsection (3)(b)(i) ~~[; and]~~.

~~[(d)]~~ (4) [if] If a signature does not qualify for removal under Subsection (3)(a), (b), or (c), or, if applicable, Section 20A-7-106, the clerk may not remove the signature from the petition.

Section 2. Section **20A-7-101** is amended to read:

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

As used in this chapter:

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

(2) "Budget officer" means:

(a) for a county, the person designated as finance officer as defined in Section 17-36-3;

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

(c) for a town, the town council; or

(d) for a metro township, the person described in Subsection (2)(a) for the county in which the metro township is located.

(3) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the signature of a registered voter.

(4) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative petition or a referendum petition to legal voters for their signature.

(5) "Electronic initiative process" means:

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

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

(6) "Electronic referendum process" means:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(12) "Initiative application" means:

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

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

(13) "Initiative packet" means:

(a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the

petition summary, a copy of the proposed law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit; or

(b) as it relates to a local initiative, a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the proposed law, and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.

(14) "Initiative petition":

(a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the manual initiative process:

(i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a), petitioning for submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and

(ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(b);

(b) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the electronic initiative process:

(i) means the form described in Subsections 20A-7-215(2) and (3), petitioning for submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and

(ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-215(5)(b);

(c) as it relates to a local initiative, using the manual initiative process:

(i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a), petitioning for submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and

(ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(b); or

(d) as it relates to a local initiative, using the electronic initiative process:

(i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-514(2)(a), petitioning for submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and

(ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in Subsection 20A-7-514(4)(a).

(15) (a) "Land use law" means a law of general applicability, enacted based on the weighing of broad, competing policy considerations, that relates to the use of land, including land use regulation, a general plan, a land use development code, an annexation ordinance, the rezoning of a single property or multiple properties, or a comprehensive zoning ordinance or resolution.

(b) "Land use law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section

218 10-9a-103 or 17-27a-103.

219 (16) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:

220 (a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and

221 (b) have been obtained, certified, and verified as provided in this chapter.

222 (17) "Legal voter" means an individual who is registered to vote in Utah.

223 (18) "Legally referable to voters" means:

224 (a) for a proposed local initiative, that the proposed local initiative is legally referable  
225 to voters under Section 20A-7-502.7; or

226 (b) for a proposed local referendum, that the proposed local referendum is legally  
227 referable to voters under Section 20A-7-602.7.

228 (19) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney in  
229 whose jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.

230 (20) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose  
231 jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.

232 (21) (a) "Local law" includes:

233 (i) an ordinance;

234 (ii) a resolution;

235 (iii) a land use law;

236 (iv) a land use regulation, as defined in Section 10-9a-103; or

237 (v) other legislative action of a local legislative body.

238 (b) "Local law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-9a-103.

239 (22) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, town, or  
240 metro township.

241 (23) "Local obligation law" means a local law passed by the local legislative body  
242 regarding a bond that was approved by a majority of qualified voters in an election.

243 (24) "Local tax law" means a law, passed by a political subdivision with an annual or  
244 biannual calendar fiscal year, that increases a tax or imposes a new tax.

245 (25) "Manual initiative process" means the process for gathering signatures for an  
246 initiative using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.

247 (26) "Manual referendum process" means the process for gathering signatures for a  
248 referendum using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.



249 (27) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or  
250 referendum.

251 (28) "Petition summary" means:

252 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, the summary described in Section  
253 20A-7-202.3; or

254 (b) as it relates to a statewide referendum, the summary described in Section  
255 20A-7-302.5.

256 ~~[(28)]~~ (29) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or  
257 by a local legislative body is submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection.

258 ~~[(29)]~~ (30) "Referendum application" means:

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

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

265 ~~[(30)]~~ (31) "Referendum packet" means:

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

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

273 ~~[(31)]~~ (32) "Referendum petition" means:

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

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

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

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

~~[(32)]~~ (33) "Signature":

(a) for a statewide initiative:

(i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature collected under Section 20A-7-215 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or

(ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:

(A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet described in Section 20A-7-203; ~~and~~

(B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in Section 20A-7-106; and

~~[(B)]~~ (C) does not include an electronic signature;

(b) for a statewide referendum:

(i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature collected under Section 20A-7-313 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or

(ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:

(A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet described in Section 20A-7-303; ~~and~~

(B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in Section 20A-7-106; and

~~[(B)]~~ (C) does not include an electronic signature;

(c) for a local initiative:

(i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature

collected under Section 20A-7-514 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or

(ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:

(A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet described in Section 20A-7-503; ~~and~~

(B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in Section 20A-7-106; and

~~(B)~~ (C) does not include an electronic signature; or

(d) for a local referendum:

(i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature collected under Section 20A-7-614 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or

(ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:

(A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet described in Section 20A-7-603; ~~and~~

(B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in Section 20A-7-106; and

~~(B)~~ (C) does not include an electronic signature.

~~(33)~~ (34) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used under the manual initiative process or the manual referendum process to collect signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.

~~(34)~~ (35) "Special local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition that is not a standard local ballot proposition.

~~(35)~~ (36) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and who sign the initiative application or referendum application.

~~(36)~~ (37) (a) "Standard local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition for an initiative or a referendum.

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

342           ~~[(37)]~~ (38) "Tax percentage difference" means the difference between the tax rate  
343 proposed by an initiative or an initiative petition and the current tax rate.

344           ~~[(38)]~~ (39) "Tax percentage increase" means a number calculated by dividing the tax  
345 percentage difference by the current tax rate and rounding the result to the nearest thousandth.

346           ~~[(39)]~~ (40) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as  
347 required in Section 20A-7-105.

348           Section 3. Section **20A-7-104** is amended to read:

349           **20A-7-104. Signature gatherers -- Payments -- Badges -- Information --**  
350 **Requirement to provide initiative or referendum for reading.**

351           (1) A person may not pay a person to gather signatures under this chapter based on a  
352 rate per signature, on a rate per verified signature, or on the initiative or referendum qualifying  
353 for the ballot.

354           (2) A person that pays a person to gather signatures under this section shall base the  
355 payment solely on an hourly rate.

356           (3) A person may not accept payment made in violation of this section.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

371           (5) ~~[Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), an]~~ An individual who gathers signatures  
372 under this chapter shall ~~[provide]~~ offer a paper document to each individual who signs the

373 petition that:

374 (a) is printed in black ink on white paper, white cardstock, or a white sticker, in at least  
375 12-point type; and

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

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

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

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

384 (6) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter[;]

385 [~~(a)~~] shall, before collecting a signature from an individual, present to the individual a  
386 printed or digital copy of the initiative or referendum and wait for the individual to read the  
387 initiative or referendum[; ~~and~~].

388 [~~(b) is not required to provide the document described in Subsection (5) if, after the~~  
389 ~~individual offers to provide the document, the individual who signs the petition declines to~~  
390 ~~accept the document.~~]

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

392 Section 4. Section **20A-7-105** is amended to read:

393 **20A-7-105. Manual petition processes -- Obtaining signatures -- Verification --**

394 **Submitting the petition -- Certification of signatures -- Transfer to lieutenant governor --**

395 **Removal of signature.**

396 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process and the manual  
397 referendum process.

398 (2) As used in this section:

399 (a) "Local petition" means:

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

401 or

402 (ii) a manual local referendum petition described in Part 6, Local Referenda -

403 Procedures.

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

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

(d) "Statewide petition" means:

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

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

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

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

(i) is a legal voter; and

(ii) resides in the local jurisdiction.

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

(i) is at least 18 years old and meets the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105;

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

(iii) is informed that each signer is required to read [~~and understand~~]:

(A) for a statewide initiative petition, the petition summary or the law proposed by the initiative;

~~[(A)]~~ (B) for [an] a local initiative petition, the law proposed by the initiative; ~~[or]~~

(C) for a statewide referendum petition, the petition summary or the law that the referendum petition seeks to overturn; or

~~[(B)]~~ (D) for a local referendum petition, the law that the referendum seeks to overturn.

(b) An individual may not sign the verification printed on the last page of a packet if the individual signed a signature sheet in the packet.

(5) (a) The sponsors, or an agent of the sponsors, shall submit a signed and verified packet to the county clerk of the county in which the packet was circulated before 5 p.m. no later than the earlier of:

(i) for a statewide initiative:

(A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the initiative packet;

(B) 316 days after the day on which the application for the initiative petition is filed; or

(C) the February 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202;

(ii) for a statewide referendum:

(A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the referendum packet; or

(B) 40 days after the day on which the legislative session at which the law passed ends;

(iii) for a local initiative:

(A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the initiative packet;

(B) 316 days after the day on which the application is filed;

(C) the April 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local initiative is a county initiative; or

(D) the April 15 immediately before the next municipal general election immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local initiative is a municipal initiative; or

(iv) for a local referendum:

(A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the referendum packet; or

(B) 45 days after the day on which the sponsors receive the items described in Subsection 20A-7-604(3) from the local clerk.

(b) A person may not submit a packet after the applicable deadline described in Subsection (5)(a).

(c) Before delivering an initiative packet to the county clerk under this Subsection (5), the sponsors shall send an email to each individual who provides a legible, valid email address on the signature sheet that includes the following:

(i) the subject of the email shall include the following statement, "Notice Regarding Your Petition Signature"; and

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

"You signed a petition for the following initiative:

[insert title of initiative]

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

(d) When the sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the county clerk, the sponsors

466 shall submit to the county clerk:

467 (i) a list containing:

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

470 (B) the date the email was sent;

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

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

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

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

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

479 \_\_\_\_\_

480

481 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)".

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

484 (6) (a) Within 21 days after the day on which the county clerk receives the packet, the  
485 county clerk shall:

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

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

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

491 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal  
492 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's website, in a  
493 conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and

494 (C) deliver the verified packet to the lieutenant governor;

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

496 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter who is registered



in the jurisdiction to which the initiative or referendum relates;

(B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and

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

(b) For a local initiative or local referendum, the local clerk shall post a link in a conspicuous location on the local government's website to the posting described in Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(B):

(i) for a local initiative, during the period of time described in Subsection 20A-7-507(3)(a); or

(ii) for a local referendum, during the period of time described in Subsection 20A-7-607(2)(a)(i).

(7) The county clerk may not certify a signature under Subsection (6):

(a) on a packet that is not verified in accordance with Subsection (4); or

(b) that does not have a date of signature next to the signature.

(8) (a) A voter who signs a statewide initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than the earlier of:

(i) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk before December 1:

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

(B) 90 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-207(2); or

(ii) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk on or after December 1:

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

(B) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-207(2).

(b) A voter who signs a statewide referendum petition may have the voter's signature removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than the earlier of:

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

(ii) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under

Subsection 20A-7-307(2).

(c) A voter who signs a local initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than the earlier of:

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

(ii) 90 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under

Subsection 20A-7-507(2);

(iii) 316 days after the day on which the application is filed; or

(iv) (A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502; or

(B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal general election immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502.

(d) A voter who signs a local referendum petition may have the voter's signature removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later than the earlier of:

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

(ii) 45 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under

Subsection 20A-7-607(2)(a).

~~[(e) A statement described in this Subsection (8) shall comply with the requirements described in Subsection 20A-1-1003(2).]~~

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

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

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

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

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

(b) The county clerk shall comply with Subsection (9)(a) before the later of:

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

(ii) two business days after the day on which the county clerk receives a statement requesting signature removal under Subsection (8).

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

Section 5. Section **20A-7-106** is enacted to read:

**20A-7-106. Petition signature or removal for an individual with a disability.**

(1) If a voter who desires to sign a petition is, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, unable to fill out the signature sheet or to sign the voter's name consistently, the voter may:

(a) inform the individual gathering signatures that, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, the voter is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to sign the voter's name consistently; and

(b) direct the individual gathering signatures to:

(i) fill out the form on the signature sheet with the information provided by the voter; and

(ii) in place of the registered voter's signature:

(A) place the initials "AV" to indicate that the county clerk must use an alternate verification process to verify the validity of the voter's signature; and

(B) place next to the initials described in Subsection (1)(b)(ii)(A) a phone number, email address, or other method that the county clerk may use to contact the voter to verify the identity of the voter.

(2) If a voter who desires to remove the voter's signature from a petition is, due to a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, unable to sign the voter's name consistently, the voter may, instead of signing the statement described in Section 20A-1-1003:

(a) place the initials "AV" to indicate that the county clerk must use an alternate verification process to verify the validity of the voter's signature; and

(b) include in the statement a phone number, email address, or other method that the county clerk may use to contact the voter to verify the identity of the voter.

(3) The alternate verification process described in this section includes:

(a) the process described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(7)(b); or

(b) another process established by rule, made by the director of elections within the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.

Section 6. Section **20A-7-202.3** is enacted to read:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(ii) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has filed

written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the individual designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the initiative.

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

(d) The court may not revise the petition summary unless the plaintiffs rebut the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the petition summary is false or biased.

(e) The court shall:

(i) examine the petition summary;

(ii) hear arguments; and

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

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

**20A-7-202.5. Initial fiscal impact statement -- Preparation of statement --  
Challenge to statement.**

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

(2) (a) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare an unbiased, good faith initial fiscal impact statement for the proposed law, not exceeding 100 words plus 100 words per revenue source created or impacted by the proposed law, that contains:

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

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

(iii) if the proposed law would increase a particular tax or tax rate, the tax percentage

652 difference and the tax percentage increase for each tax or tax rate increased;

653 (iv) if the proposed law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of bonds,  
654 notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or  
655 decrease in public debt under the proposed law;

656 (v) a dollar amount representing the estimated cost or savings, if any, to state or local  
657 government entities under the proposed law;

658 (vi) if the proposed law would increase costs to state government, a listing of all  
659 sources of funding for the estimated costs; and

660 (vii) a concise description and analysis titled "Funding Source," not to exceed 100  
661 words for each funding source, of the funding source information described in Subsection  
662 20A-7-202(2)(e)(ii).

663 (b) If the proposed law is estimated to have no fiscal impact, the Office of the  
664 Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact  
665 statement in substantially the following form:

666 "The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst estimates that the law proposed by this  
667 initiative would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an increase or  
668 decrease in taxes or debt."

669 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the lieutenant governor delivers a  
670 copy of the initiative application, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:

671 (a) [~~deliver~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant  
672 governor's office; and

673 (b) [~~mail~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the first five sponsors  
674 named in the initiative application.

675 (4) (a) (i) Three or more of the sponsors of the initiative petition may, within 20  
676 calendar days after the day on which the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst delivers the  
677 initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's office, file a petition with the  
678 appropriate court, alleging that the initial fiscal impact statement, taken as a whole, is an  
679 inaccurate estimate of the fiscal impact of the initiative.

680 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
681 notice of the petition filed with the court to:

682 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument with the lieutenant governor's office

for or against the initiative that is the subject of the challenge; and

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

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

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

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

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

Section 8. Section **20A-7-202.7** is amended to read:

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

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

(a) the initiative application;

(b) the initiative petition;

(c) the petition summary;

~~(d)~~ (d) the text of the proposed law;

~~(e)~~ (e) the initial fiscal impact statement; and

~~(f)~~ (f) information describing how an individual may remove the individual's

714 signature from the initiative petition.

715 (2) The lieutenant governor shall:

716 (a) promptly update the information described in Subsection (1) if the information  
717 changes; and

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

720 Section 9. Section **20A-7-203** is amended to read:

721 **20A-7-203. Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative petition and signature**  
722 **sheets.**

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

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

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

727 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the following proposed  
728 law be submitted to the legal voters/Legislature of Utah for their/its approval or rejection at the  
729 regular general election/session to be held/ beginning on \_\_\_\_\_ (month\day\year);

730 Each signer says:

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

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

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

738 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

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

740 NOTICE TO SIGNERS:

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

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



745 (2)(a):

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

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

751 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

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

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

755 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
756 14-point, bold type;

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

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

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

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

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

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

765 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
766 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point type;

767 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

768 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
769 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;

770 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

771 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

772 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

773 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;

774 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;

775 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

776 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;  
777 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;  
778 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;  
779 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
780 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;  
781 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;  
782 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
783 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;  
784 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and  
785 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
786 and contain the following statement, "By signing this initiative petition, you are stating that you  
787 have read [~~and understand~~] the petition summary or the law proposed by this initiative  
788 petition." in 12-point type;  
789 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
790 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and  
791 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include in the following order:  
792 (i) the words "Fiscal Impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at least  
793 12-point, bold type;  
794 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (5), the initial fiscal impact statement issued by  
795 the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2)(a),  
796 including any update in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5), in not less than 12-point  
797 type;  
798 (iii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold  
799 type:  
800 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
801 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
802 increase in the current tax rate."; and  
803 (iv) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in  
804 not less than eight-point type:  
805 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
806 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than

once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

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

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

Verification of signature collector

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

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

I am a resident of Utah and am at least 18 years old;

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

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

I believe that each ~~[individual has printed and signed the]~~ individual's name ~~[and written the individual's]~~, post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer has read ~~[and understands]~~ the petition summary or the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah.

~~[Each individual who signed the initiative packet wrote the]~~ The correct date of signature appears next to ~~[the]~~ each individual's name.

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

---

(Name)

(Residence Address)

(Date)

(5) If the initial fiscal impact statement described in Subsection (3)(f)(ii), as updated in

accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5), exceeds 200 words, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare a shorter summary statement, for the purpose of inclusion on an initiative signature sheet, that does not exceed 200 words.

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

(7) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in accordance with Section 20A-2-105.

Section 10. Section **20A-7-204** is amended to read:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(c) (i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that the sponsors waive the opportunity to change the text of the proposed law under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);

(ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(a), for changing the text of the proposed law passes without the sponsors filing an application addendum in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5); or

(iii) if the sponsors file an application addendum in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)[~~7~~];

(A) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel provides to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor an updated petition summary, in accordance with Subsection

869 20A-7-204.1(5)(b) or a written notice indicating that no changes to the petition summary are  
870 necessary; and  
871 (B) the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst provides to the Office of the Lieutenant  
872 Governor[;]  
873 [~~(A)~~] an updated initial fiscal impact statement, in accordance with Subsection  
874 20A-7-204.1(5)(b)[;] or  
875 [~~(B)~~] a written notice indicating that no changes to the initial fiscal impact statement  
876 are necessary; [~~and~~]  
877 (d) (i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that the  
878 sponsors waive the opportunity to:  
879 (A) challenge the petition summary in court; and  
880 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated petition summary in court;  
881 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.3(4)(a), for:  
882 (A) challenging the petition summary in court passes without the sponsors filing a  
883 petition to challenge; and  
884 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated petition summary in court passes without the  
885 sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or  
886 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the petition summary in court or,  
887 if applicable, the updated petition summary in court, the court's decision becomes final;  
888 (e) (i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that the  
889 sponsors waive the opportunity to:  
890 (A) challenge the initial fiscal impact statement in court; and  
891 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court;  
892 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.5(4)(a)(i), for:  
893 (A) challenging the initial fiscal impact statement in court passes without the sponsors  
894 filing a petition to challenge; and  
895 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court passes  
896 without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or  
897 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the initial fiscal impact statement  
898 in court or, if applicable, the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court, the court's  
899 decision becomes final; and

900           ~~[(d)]~~ (f) the sponsors sign an agreement, under Subsection (6)(a), with the Office of the  
901 Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the  
902 initiative packets.

903           (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:

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

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

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

910           (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create the initiative packets by  
911 binding a copy of the initiative petition with the petition summary and the text of the proposed  
912 law, including any modification made under Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5) and no more than 50  
913 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be conveniently  
914 opened for signing.

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

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

917           (i) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the  
918 sponsors may use to number initiative packets;

919           (ii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying the range  
920 of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the initiative packets; and

921           (iii) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers provided  
922 by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in the range.

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

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

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

928           Section 11. Section **20A-7-204.1** is amended to read:

929           **20A-7-204.1. Public hearings to be held before initiative petitions are circulated --**  
930 **Changes to a proposed law or an initial fiscal impact statement.**

(1) (a) After ~~[issuance of]~~ receiving the petition summary and the initial fiscal impact statement ~~[by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst]~~, and before circulating initiative packets for signature statewide, sponsors of the initiative shall hold at least seven public hearings throughout Utah as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(i) to the lieutenant governor;

(ii) to the county clerk of each county in the region where the public hearing will be held;

(iii) each state senator, state representative, and county commission or county council member who is elected in whole or in part from the region where the public hearing will be

962 held; and

963 (iv) in accordance with Section 45-1-101, for at least three calendar days before the day

964 of the public hearing.

965 (b) The lieutenant governor shall post the notice described in Subsection (2)(a) on the

966 lieutenant governor's website for at least three days before the day of the public hearing.

967 (c) The county clerk of each county in the region where the public hearing will be held:

968 (i) shall post the notice described in Subsection (2)(a) for the county, as a class A

969 notice under Section 63G-30-102, for at least three days before the day of the public hearing;

970 and

971 (ii) may bill the sponsors of the initiative for the cost of preparing, printing, and

972 posting the notice described in Subsection (2)(c)(i).

973 (3) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the written notice described in Subsection

974 (2) shall include the following statement, in bold, in the same font and point size as the largest

975 font and point size appearing in the notice:

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

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

978 increase in the current tax rate."

979 (4) (a) During the public hearing, the sponsors shall either:

980 (i) video tape or audio tape the public hearing; or

981 (ii) take comprehensive minutes of the public hearing, detailing the names and titles of

982 each speaker and summarizing each speaker's comments.

983 (b) The lieutenant governor shall make copies of the tapes or minutes available to the

984 public.

985 (c) For each public hearing, the sponsors shall:

986 (i) during the entire time that the public hearing is held, post a copy of the petition

987 summary and the initial fiscal impact statement in a conspicuous location at the entrance to the

988 room where the sponsors hold the public hearing; and

989 (ii) place at least 50 copies of the petition summary and the initial fiscal impact

990 statement, for distribution to public hearing attendees, in a conspicuous location at the entrance

991 to the room where the sponsors hold the public hearing.

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



993 hearing:

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

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

998 (5) (a) Before 5 p.m. within 14 days after the day on which the sponsors conduct the  
999 seventh public hearing described in Subsection (1)(a), and before circulating an initiative  
1000 signature packet for signatures, the sponsors of the initiative may change the text of the  
1001 proposed law if:

1002 (i) a change to the text is:

1003 (A) germane to the text of the proposed law filed with the lieutenant governor under  
1004 Section 20A-7-202; and

1005 (B) consistent with the requirements of Subsection 20A-7-202(5); and

1006 (ii) each sponsor signs, attested to by a notary public, an application addendum to  
1007 change the text of the proposed law.

1008 (b) (i) Within three working days after the day on which the lieutenant governor  
1009 receives an application addendum to change the text of the proposed law for an initiative, the  
1010 lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the application addendum to the Office of  
1011 Legislative Research and General Counsel and the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst.

1012 (ii) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

1013 (A) update the petition summary, by following the procedures and requirements of  
1014 Section 20A-7-202.3; or

1015 (B) provide notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that no changes to the  
1016 petition summary are necessary.

1017 ~~[(ii)]~~ (iii) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:

1018 (A) update the initial fiscal impact statement, by following the procedures and  
1019 requirements of Section 20A-7-202.5 to reflect a change to the text of the proposed law; or

1020 (B) provide written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor indicating that no  
1021 changes to the initial fiscal impact statement are necessary.

1022 Section 12. Section **20A-7-209** is amended to read:

1023 **20A-7-209. Short title and summary of initiative -- Duties of lieutenant governor**

1024 **and Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.**

1025 (1) On or before June 5 before the regular general election, the lieutenant governor  
1026 shall deliver a copy of all of the proposed laws that have qualified for the ballot to the Office of  
1027 Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1028 (2) (a) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

1029 (i) entitle each statewide initiative that has qualified for the ballot "Proposition Number  
1030 \_\_\_\_" and give it a number as assigned under Section 20A-6-107;

1031 (ii) prepare for each initiative:

1032 (A) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the subject  
1033 of the initiative; and

1034 (B) an impartial summary of the contents of the initiative, not exceeding 125 words;

1035 and

1036 (iii) provide each short title, and summary to the lieutenant governor on or before June  
1037 26.

1038 (b) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the proposed law.

1039 (c) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the Office of Legislative Research and  
1040 General Counsel shall include the following statement, in bold, in the summary:

1041 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
1042 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1043 increase in the current tax rate."

1044 (d) Subject to Subsection (4), for each statewide initiative, the official ballot shall  
1045 show, in the following order:

1046 (i) the number of the initiative, determined in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;

1047 (ii) the short title;

1048 (iii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(e):

1049 (A) the summary;

1050 (B) the text of the proposed law; and

1051 (C) a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review  
1052 additional information relating to each initiative, including the information described in  
1053 Subsection 20A-7-202(2), the initial fiscal impact statement described in Section 20A-7-202.5,  
1054 as updated under Section 20A-7-204.1, and the arguments relating to the initiative that are

included in the voter information pamphlet; and

(iv) the initial fiscal impact statement prepared under Section 20A-7-202.5, as updated under Section 20A-7-204.1.

(e) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) is shown on the official ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition insert that includes the short title and summary for each initiative on the ballot and a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review the additional information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(C).

(f) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) for all initiatives on the ballot, and the information described in Subsection 20A-7-308(2)(c)(iii) for all referenda on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed directly on the ballot."

(3) On or before June 27, the lieutenant governor shall ~~mail~~ send a copy of the short title and summary to any sponsor of the petition.

(4) (a) (i) At least three of the sponsors of the petition may, on or before July 6, challenge the wording of the short title and summary prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to the appropriate court.

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

(A) any person or group that has filed an argument for or against the initiative that is the subject of the challenge; or

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

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

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

(iii) There is a presumption that the summary prepared by the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel is an impartial summary of the contents of the initiative.

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

(c) The court shall:

(i) examine the short title and summary;

(ii) hear arguments; and

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

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

Section 13. Section **20A-7-215** is amended to read:

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

**Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1117 at the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~  
1118 ~~understand~~] the information presented on this screen."

1119 (4) (a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of  
1120 proposed law, described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2)(e)(i), followed by the petition summary,  
1121 followed by the entire text of the proposed law.

1122 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
1123 at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~  
1124 ~~understand~~] the petition summary or the entire text of the proposed law."

1125 (5) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
1126 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to click a  
1127 link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement: "By clicking here, I attest that I  
1128 have read [~~and-understand~~] the information presented on this screen.":

1129 (a) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the  
1130 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;

1131 (b) (i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative  
1132 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage difference)  
1133 percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent increase in the current tax  
1134 rate."; or

1135 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1136 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";

1137 (c) the initial fiscal impact statement issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal  
1138 Analyst in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in accordance  
1139 with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(6);

1140 (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative  
1141 petition may be paid for gathering signatures; and

1142 (e) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or  
1143 "no":

1144 "I have personally [~~reviewed the~~] read the entirety of each statement presented on this  
1145 device, except that, in relation to the law proposed by the initiative, I have read either the entire  
1146 petition summary or the entire proposed law;

1147 I am personally signing this initiative petition;

1148 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
1149 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1150 accurate.

1151 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
1152 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1153 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
1154 that the individual is not a registered voter.

1155 **WARNING**

1156 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
1157 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
1158 made public.

1159 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

1160 (6) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1161 (5)(e), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time. Please  
1162 return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1163 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1164 (5)(e), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the signature-gatherer  
1165 and the individual signing the initiative petition through the signature process described in  
1166 Section 20A-21-201.

1167 Section 14. Section **20A-7-216** is amended to read:

1168 **20A-7-216. Electronic initiative process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1169 **remove signature.**

1170 (1) This section applies to the electronic initiative process.

1171 (2) A Utah voter may sign an initiative petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1172 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from  
1173 an individual:

1174 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1175 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1176 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read [~~and understand~~] the petition  
1177 summary or the law proposed by the initiative.

1178 (4) A voter who signs an initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed

1179 from the initiative petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
1180 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m. no later  
1181 than the earlier of:

1182 (a) for an electronic signature gathered before December 1:

1183 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

1184 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the county clerk posts the voter's name under

1185 Subsection 20A-7-217(4); or

1186 (b) for an electronic signature gathered on or after December 1:

1187 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

1188 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the county clerk posts the voter's name under

1189 Subsection 20A-7-217(4).

1190 (5) ~~[(a) The statement described in Subsection (4) shall include:]~~

1191 ~~[(i) the name of the voter;]~~

1192 ~~[(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;]~~

1193 ~~[(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~

1194 ~~[(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (5)(a)(iii).]~~

1195 ~~[(b) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed,~~

1196 ~~the statement described in Subsection (4) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~

1197 ~~[(c)]~~ (a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection

1198 (4) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a signature

1199 removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and Section

1200 20A-21-201.

1201 ~~[(d)]~~ (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from an initiative petition

1202 in accordance with this section.

1203 ~~[(e)]~~ (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing

1204 an electronic signature from an initiative petition, in accordance with Subsection

1205 20A-1-1003(3).

1206 Section 15. Section **20A-7-302.5** is enacted to read:

1207 **20A-7-302.5. Petition summary -- Preparation -- Challenge.**

1208 (1) Within three working days after the day on which the lieutenant governor receives a

1209 referendum application, the lieutenant governor shall submit a copy of the referendum

1210 application to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

1211 (2) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall prepare a petition  
1212 summary that:

1213 (a) is an impartial, general description of the law that is the subject of the proposed  
1214 referendum; and

1215 (b) is as short as reasonably possible, given the length and complexity of the law that is  
1216 the subject of the proposed referendum.

1217 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research  
1218 and General Counsel receives a copy of the referendum application from the lieutenant  
1219 governor, the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

1220 (a) send a copy of the petition summary to the lieutenant governor's office; and

1221 (b) send a copy of the petition summary to the first five sponsors named in the  
1222 referendum application.

1223 (4) (a) Three or more of the sponsors of the referendum petition may, within 20  
1224 calendar days after the day on which the Office of the Legislative Research and General  
1225 Counsel delivers the petition summary to the lieutenant governor's office, challenge the  
1226 wording of the petition summary to the appropriate court.

1227 (b) After receipt of the challenge, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
1228 notice of the challenge to:

1229 (i) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel; and

1230 (ii) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has filed  
1231 written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the name, mailing or  
1232 email address, and telephone number of the individual designated to receive notice about any  
1233 issues relating to the referendum.

1234 (c) There is a presumption that the petition summary prepared by the Office of  
1235 Legislative Research and General Counsel is an impartial and accurate general description of  
1236 the law that is the subject of the proposed referendum.

1237 (d) The court may not revise the petition summary unless the plaintiffs rebut the  
1238 presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the petition summary is false or  
1239 biased.

1240 (e) The court shall:



- 1241 (i) examine the petition summary;  
1242 (ii) hear arguments; and  
1243 (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

1244 Section 16. Section **20A-7-303** is amended to read:

1245 **20A-7-303. Manual referendum process -- Form of referendum petition and**  
1246 **signature sheets.**

1247 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1248 (2) (a) Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the  
1249 following form:

1250 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1251 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that Senate (or House) Bill No.  
1252 \_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set forth here  
1253 the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the Legislature of the state of  
1254 Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of Utah for their approval or rejection  
1255 at a regular general election or a statewide special election;

1256 Each signer says:

1257 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
1258 qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
1259 to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

1260 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
1261 referendum petition;

1262 I have personally [~~reviewed the entire statement~~] read the petition summary or the text  
1263 of the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and the other statements included with this  
1264 referendum packet;

1265 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1266 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

1267 (b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
1268 law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.

1269 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

1270 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1271 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above

1272 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1273 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least

1274 14-point, bold type;

1275 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch

1276 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

1277 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

1278 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For

1279 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

1280 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

1281 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

1282 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

1283 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

1284 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point type;

1285 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

1286 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

1287 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;

1288 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

1289 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

1290 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

1291 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;

1292 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;

1293 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

1294 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;

1295 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;

1296 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;

1297 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

1298 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;

1299 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;

1300 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

1301 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;

1302 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and

1303 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
1304 and contain the following words "By signing this referendum petition, you are stating that you  
1305 have read [~~and understand~~] the petition summary or the law that this referendum petition seeks  
1306 to overturn." in 12-point type;

1307 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
1308 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and

1309 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type,  
1310 followed by the following statement in not less than eight-point type:

1311 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
1312 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1313 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
1314 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

1315 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
1316 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
1317 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
1318 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records."

1319 (4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or  
1320 typed statement:

1321 Verification of signature collector

1322 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_

1323 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1324 I am a Utah resident and am at least 18 years old;

1325 All the names that appear in this referendum packet were signed by individuals who  
1326 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the  
1327 individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
1328 disability, I have signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of  
1329 the individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
1330 signature;

1331 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition  
1332 seeks to overturn;

1333 I believe that each [~~individual has printed and signed the~~] individual's name, [~~and~~

1334 ~~written the individual's~~ post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer  
 1335 has read ~~[and understands]~~ the petition summary or the law that the referendum seeks to  
 1336 overturn, and that each signer is registered to vote in Utah.

1337 ~~[Each individual who signed the referendum packet wrote the]~~ The correct date of  
 1338 signature appears next to ~~[the]~~ each individual's name.

1339 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
 1340 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

1341

1342

---

1343 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date).

1344 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
 1345 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1346 (6) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in  
 1347 accordance with Section 20A-2-105.

1348 Section 17. Section **20A-7-304** is amended to read:

1349 **20A-7-304. Manual referendum process -- Circulation requirements --**  
 1350 **Lieutenant governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

1351 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1352 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 1353 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described  
 1354 in Subsection (3), circulate referendum packets that meet the form requirements of this part.

1355 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with  
 1356 a copy of the referendum petition, the petition summary, and  
 1357 a signature sheet within three days after the day on which all of the following  
 1358 conditions are fulfilled:

1359 (a) the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel has, in accordance with  
 1360 Subsection 20A-7-302.5(3), provided the petition summary;

1361 (b) (i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that the  
 1362 sponsors waive the opportunity to challenge the petition summary in court;

1363 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-302.5(4)(a), for challenging the  
 1364 petition summary in court passes without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or

(iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the petition summary in court, the court's decision becomes final; and

(c) the sponsors sign an agreement, under Subsection (6)(a), with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor specifying the range of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the referendum packets.

(4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:

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

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

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

(b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding a copy of the referendum petition with the petition summary, the text of the law that is the subject of the referendum, and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing.

(c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.

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

(i) contact the lieutenant governor's office to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use to number referendum packets;

(ii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying the range of numbers that the sponsor will use to number the referendum packets; and

(iii) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in the range.

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

(i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the lieutenant governor's office; or

(ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner directed by the lieutenant governor's office.

Section 18. Section **20A-7-304.5** is amended to read:

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

(1) ~~On~~ Within one business day after the day on which the lieutenant governor ~~[complies with Subsection 20A-7-304(3), or provides the sponsors with access to the website defined in Section 20A-21-101]~~ receives the petition summary under Subsection 20A-7-302.5(3), the lieutenant governor shall post the following information together in a conspicuous place on the lieutenant governor's website:

- (a) the referendum application;
- ~~[(a)]~~ (b) the referendum petition;
- (c) the petition summary;
- ~~[(b)]~~ (d) a copy of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition; and
- ~~[(c)]~~ (e) information describing how an individual may remove the individual's signature from the referendum petition.

(2) The lieutenant governor shall:

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

Section 19. Section **20A-7-308** is amended to read:

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

(1) Whenever a referendum petition is declared sufficient for submission to a vote of the people, the lieutenant governor shall deliver a copy of the referendum petition and the law to which the referendum relates to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

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

(i) entitle each statewide referendum that qualifies for the ballot "Proposition Number \_\_\_" and assign a number to the referendum in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;

(ii) prepare for each referendum:

(A) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the law to which the referendum relates; and

(B) an impartial summary of the contents of the law to which the referendum relates, not exceeding 125 words; and

(iii) submit the short title and summary to the lieutenant governor within 15 days after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel receives the petition under Subsection (1).

(b) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the law that is the subject of the referendum.

(c) Subject to Subsection (4), for each statewide referendum, the official ballot shall show, in the following order:

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

(ii) the short title; and

(iii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(d):

(A) the summary;

(B) a copy of the law; and

(C) a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review additional information relating to each referendum, including the information described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2) and the arguments relating to the referendum that are included in the voter information pamphlet.

(d) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii) is shown on the official ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition insert that includes the short title and summary for each referendum on the ballot and a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review the additional information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii)(C).

(e) Unless the information described in Subsection 20A-7-209(2)(d)(iii) for all initiatives on the ballot, and the information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii) for all referenda on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed directly on the ballot."

(3) Immediately after the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel submits the short title and summary to the lieutenant governor, the lieutenant governor shall mail or email a copy of the short title and summary to any of the sponsors of the referendum petition.

(4) (a) (i) At least three of the sponsors of the referendum petition may, within 15 days

1458 after the day on which the lieutenant governor [maile] sends the short title and summary,  
1459 challenge the wording of the short title and summary prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1460 Research and General Counsel to the appropriate court.

1461 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
1462 notice of the appeal to:

1463 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument for or against the law to which the  
1464 referendum relates; and

1465 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has filed  
1466 written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the name, mailing or  
1467 email address, and telephone number of the person designated to receive notice about any  
1468 issues relating to the referendum.

1469 (b) (i) There is a presumption that the short title prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1470 Research and General Counsel is an impartial description of the contents of the referendum.

1471 (ii) The court may not revise the wording of the short title unless the plaintiffs rebut the  
1472 presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the short title is false or biased.

1473 (iii) There is a presumption that the summary prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1474 Research and General Counsel is an impartial summary of the contents of the law to which the  
1475 referendum relates.

1476 (iv) The court may not revise the wording of the summary unless the plaintiffs rebut  
1477 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the summary is false or biased.

1478 (c) The court shall:

1479 (i) examine the short title and summary;

1480 (ii) hear arguments; and

1481 (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

1482 (d) The lieutenant governor shall, in accordance with the court's order, certify the short  
1483 title and summary to the county clerks for inclusion in the ballot or ballot proposition insert, as  
1484 required by this section.

1485 Section 20. Section **20A-7-313** is amended to read:

1486 **20A-7-313. Electronic referendum process -- Form of referendum petition --**  
1487 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

1488 (1) This section applies only to the electronic referendum process.



1489 (2) (a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following  
1490 statement:

1491 "This REFERENDUM PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_, Lieutenant  
1492 Governor:

1493 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully order that Senate (or House)  
1494 Bill No. \_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set  
1495 forth here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the Legislature of the  
1496 state of Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of Utah for their approval or  
1497 rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special election."

1498 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a  
1499 link at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~  
1500 ~~understand~~] the information presented on this screen."

1501 (3) (a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the entire text  
1502 of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition.

1503 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link  
1504 at the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~  
1505 ~~understand~~] the entire text of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition."

1506 (4) (a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include a statement  
1507 indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum petition may be paid for  
1508 gathering signatures.

1509 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
1510 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~  
1511 ~~understand~~] the information presented on this screen."

1512 (5) The fourth screen presented on the approved device shall include the following  
1513 statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":

1514 "I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entirety of each statement presented on this  
1515 device, except that, in relation to the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, I have read  
1516 either the entire petition summary or the entire text of the law;

1517 I am personally signing this referendum petition;

1518 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1519 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is

1520 accurate.

1521 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
1522 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1523 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
1524 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

1525 WARNING

1526 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter  
1527 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this referendum petition will  
1528 be made public.

1529 Do you wish to continue and sign this referendum petition?"

1530 (6) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1531 (5), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time. Please  
1532 return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1533 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1534 (5), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the signature-gatherer  
1535 and the individual signing the referendum petition through the signature process described in  
1536 Section 20A-21-201.

1537 Section 21. Section **20A-7-314** is amended to read:

1538 **20A-7-314. Electronic referendum process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1539 **remove signature.**

1540 (1) This section applies to the electronic referendum process.

1541 (2) A Utah voter may sign a referendum petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1542 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from  
1543 an individual:

1544 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1545 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1546 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read [~~and understand~~] the petition  
1547 summary or the law that is the subject of the referendum petition.

1548 (4) A voter who signs a referendum petition may have the voter's signature removed  
1549 from the referendum petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
1550 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m. no later

1551 than the earlier of:

1552 (a) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the statement requesting removal; or

1553 (b) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under

1554 Subsection 20A-7-315(4).

1555 (5) ~~[(a) The statement described in Subsection (4) shall include:]~~

1556 ~~[(i) the name of the voter;]~~

1557 ~~[(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;]~~

1558 ~~[(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~

1559 ~~[(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (5)(a)(iii).]~~

1560 ~~[(b) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed,~~

1561 ~~the statement described in Subsection (4) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~

1562 ~~[(c)]~~ (a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection

1563 (4) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a signature

1564 removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and Section

1565 20A-21-201.

1566 ~~[(d)]~~ (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from a referendum petition

1567 in accordance with this section.

1568 ~~[(e)]~~ (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing

1569 an electronic signature from a referendum petition, in accordance with Subsection

1570 20A-1-1003(3).

1571 Section 22. Section **20A-7-502.5** is amended to read:

1572 **20A-7-502.5. Initial fiscal and legal impact statement -- Preparation of statement.**

1573 (1) Within three business days after the day on which the local clerk receives an

1574 initiative application, the local clerk shall submit a copy of the initiative application to the

1575 county, city, or town's budget officer.

1576 (2) (a) The budget officer, together with legal counsel, shall prepare an unbiased, good

1577 faith initial fiscal and legal impact statement for the proposed law that contains:

1578 (i) a dollar amount representing the total estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law;

1579 (ii) if the proposed law would increase or decrease taxes, a dollar amount representing

1580 the total estimated increase or decrease for each type of tax affected under the proposed law

1581 and a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or decrease in taxes under the

1582 proposed law;

1583 (iii) if the proposed law would increase taxes, the tax percentage difference and the tax  
1584 percentage increase;

1585 (iv) if the proposed law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of bonds,  
1586 notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or  
1587 decrease in public debt under the proposed law;

1588 (v) a listing of all sources of funding for the estimated costs associated with the  
1589 proposed law showing each source of funding and the percentage of total funding provided  
1590 from each source;

1591 (vi) a dollar amount representing the estimated costs or savings, if any, to state and  
1592 local government entities under the proposed law;

1593 (vii) the proposed law's legal impact, including:

1594 (A) any significant effects on a person's vested property rights;

1595 (B) any significant effects on other laws or ordinances;

1596 (C) any significant legal liability the city, county, or town may incur; and

1597 (D) any other significant legal impact as determined by the budget officer and the legal  
1598 counsel; and

1599 (viii) a concise explanation, not exceeding 100 words, of the information described in  
1600 this Subsection (2)(a) and of the estimated fiscal impact, if any, under the proposed law.

1601 (b) (i) If the proposed law is estimated to have no fiscal impact, the local budget officer  
1602 shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in  
1603 substantially the following form:

1604 "The (title of the local budget officer) estimates that the law proposed by this initiative  
1605 would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an increase or decrease in  
1606 taxes or debt."

1607 (ii) If the proposed law is estimated to have a fiscal impact, the local budget officer  
1608 shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in  
1609 substantially the following form:

1610 "The (title of the local budget officer) estimates that the law proposed by this initiative  
1611 would result in a total fiscal expense/savings of \$\_\_\_\_\_, which includes a (type of tax or  
1612 taxes) tax increase/decrease of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and a \$\_\_\_\_\_ increase/decrease in public debt."

(iii) If the estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law is highly variable or is otherwise difficult to reasonably express in a summary statement, the local budget officer may include in the summary statement a brief explanation that identifies those factors affecting the variability or difficulty of the estimate.

(iv) If the proposed law would increase taxes, the local budget officer shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in substantially the following form:

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

(3) The budget officer shall prepare an unbiased, good faith estimate of the cost of printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in the voter information pamphlet as required by Section 20A-7-402.

(4) Within 20 calendar days after the day on which the local clerk submits a copy of the proposed law under Subsection (1), the budget officer shall:

(a) [~~deliver~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the local clerk's office; and

(b) [~~mail~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the first three sponsors named in the initiative application.

Section 23. Section **20A-7-503** is amended to read:

**20A-7-503. Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative petition and signature sheet.**

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

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

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

We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the following proposed law be submitted to: the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next meeting; and the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the proposed law or takes no action on it.

1644 Each signer says:

1645 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a  
1646 qualifying disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to  
1647 enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

1648 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
1649 petition;

1650 I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entire statement included with this packet;

1651 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1652 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

1653 (b) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement shall appear, in at  
1654 least 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection  
1655 (2)(a):

1656 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
1657 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1658 increase in the current tax rate."

1659 (c) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
1660 proposed law to each initiative petition.

1661 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

1662 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1663 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above  
1664 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1665 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
1666 14-point, bold type;

1667 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch  
1668 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

1669 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

1670 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
1671 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

1672 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

1673 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

1674 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

1675 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1676 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point type;  
1677 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;  
1678 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1679 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;  
1680 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;  
1681 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;  
1682 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1683 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;  
1684 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;  
1685 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1686 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;  
1687 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;  
1688 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;  
1689 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1690 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;  
1691 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;  
1692 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1693 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;  
1694 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and  
1695 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
1696 and contain the following words "By signing this initiative petition, you are stating that you  
1697 have read [~~and understand~~] the law proposed by this initiative petition." in 12-point type;  
1698 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
1699 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and  
1700 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include in the following order:  
1701 (i) the words "Fiscal and legal impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at  
1702 least 12-point, bold type;  
1703 (ii) the summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by the  
1704 budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost estimate for  
1705 printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in accordance with

1706 Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3), in not less than 12-point, bold type;

1707 (iii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold  
1708 type:

1709 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
1710 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1711 increase in the current tax rate."; and

1712 (iv) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in  
1713 not less than eight-point type:

1714 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
1715 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1716 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
1717 that the individual is not a registered voter.

1718 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity  
1719 with voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be  
1720 verified as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified  
1721 or if the information you provide does not match your voter registration records."

1722 (4) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
1723 statement:

1724 "Verification of signature collector

1725 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_

1726 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1727 I am a resident of Utah and am at least 18 years old;

1728 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be  
1729 the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's  
1730 name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have  
1731 signed this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and in  
1732 the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;

1733 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by  
1734 the initiative;

1735 I believe that each [~~individual has printed and signed the~~] individual's name [~~and~~  
1736 ~~written the individual's~~], post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer



1737 has read [~~and understands~~] the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is registered  
 1738 to vote in Utah.

1739

1740

1741 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

1742 [~~Each individual who signed the packet wrote the~~] The correct date of signature appears  
 1743 next to [~~the~~] each individual's name.

1744 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition to  
 1745 encourage that individual to sign it.

1746

1747 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)".

1748 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative  
 1749 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1750 (6) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in  
 1751 accordance with Section 20A-2-105.

1752 Section 24. Section **20A-7-504** is amended to read:

1753 **20A-7-504. Manual initiative process -- Circulation requirements -- Local clerk to**  
 1754 **provide sponsors with materials.**

1755 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1756 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 1757 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described  
 1758 in Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate initiative packets that meet the form  
 1759 requirements of this part.

1760 (3) Within five days after the day on which a county, city, town, metro township, or  
 1761 court determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-502.7, that a law proposed in an initiative  
 1762 petition is legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide to the sponsors:

1763 (a) a copy of the initiative petition; [~~and~~]

1764 (b) a signature sheet[-]; and

1765 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
 1766 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).

1767 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:

1768 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative  
1769 packets; and

1770 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
1771 meet the requirements of this part.

1772 (5) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for  
1773 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.

1774 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create initiative packets by binding a  
1775 copy of the initiative petition with the text of the proposed law and no more than 50 signature  
1776 sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be conveniently opened for  
1777 signing.

1778 (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.

1779 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each initiative packet, a  
1780 copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under Subsection  
1781 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).

1782 (6) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:

1783 (i) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use to  
1784 number initiative packets; and

1785 (ii) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers provided  
1786 by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.

1787 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:

1788 (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or

1789 (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner directed  
1790 by the county clerk.

1791 (c) The county clerk shall keep a record of the number range provided under  
1792 Subsection (6)(a).

1793 Section 25. Section **20A-7-508** is amended to read:

1794 **20A-7-508. Short title and summary of initiative -- Duties of local clerk and local**  
1795 **attorney.**

1796 (1) Upon receipt of an initiative petition, the local clerk shall deliver a copy of the  
1797 initiative petition and the proposed law to the local attorney.

1798 (2) The local attorney shall:

1799 (a) entitle each county or municipal initiative that has qualified for the ballot  
1800 "Proposition Number \_\_\_" and give it a number as assigned under Section 20A-6-107;  
1801 (b) prepare for each initiative:  
1802 (i) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the subject  
1803 of the initiative; and  
1804 (ii) an impartial summary of the contents of the initiative, not exceeding 125 words;  
1805 (c) file the proposed short title, summary, and the numbered initiative titles with the  
1806 local clerk within 20 days after the day on which an eligible voter submits the initiative petition  
1807 to the local clerk; and  
1808 (d) promptly provide notice of the filing of the proposed short title and summary to:  
1809 (i) the sponsors of the initiative; and  
1810 (ii) the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the initiative petition was  
1811 circulated.  
1812 (3) (a) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the proposed law.  
1813 (b) In preparing a short title, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's  
1814 ability, give a true and impartial description of the subject of the initiative.  
1815 (c) In preparing a summary, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's  
1816 ability, give a true and impartial summary of the contents of the initiative.  
1817 (d) The short title and summary may not intentionally be an argument, or likely to  
1818 create prejudice, for or against the initiative.  
1819 (e) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the local attorney shall include the  
1820 following statement, in bold, in the summary:  
1821 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
1822 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1823 increase in the current tax rate."  
1824 (4) (a) Within five calendar days after the date the local attorney files a proposed short  
1825 title and summary under Subsection (2)(c), the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where  
1826 the initiative petition was circulated and the sponsors of the initiative may file written  
1827 comments in response to the proposed short title and summary with the local clerk.  
1828 (b) Within five calendar days after the last date to submit written comments under  
1829 Subsection (4)(a), the local attorney shall:

1830 (i) review any written comments filed in accordance with Subsection (4)(a);  
1831 (ii) prepare a final short title and summary that meets the requirements of Subsection  
1832 (3); and  
1833 (iii) return the initiative petition and file the short title and summary with the local  
1834 clerk.

1835 (c) Subject to Subsection (6), for each county or municipal initiative, the following  
1836 shall be printed on the official ballot:

1837 (i) the short title; and  
1838 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4)(d):  
1839 (A) the summary;  
1840 (B) a copy of the proposed law; and  
1841 (C) a link to a location on the election officer's website where a voter may review  
1842 additional information relating to each initiative, including the information described in  
1843 Subsection 20A-7-502(2), the initial fiscal impact and legal statement described in Section  
1844 20A-7-502.5, as updated, and the arguments relating to the initiative that are included in the  
1845 local voter information pamphlet.

1846 (d) Unless the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) is printed on the official  
1847 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition insert that  
1848 includes the short title and summary for each initiative on the ballot and a link to a location on  
1849 the election officer's website where a voter may review the additional information described in  
1850 Subsection (4)(c)(ii)(C).

1851 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) for all initiatives on the  
1852 ballot, and the information described in Subsection 20A-7-608(4)(c)(ii) for all referenda on the  
1853 ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement at the beginning  
1854 of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot proposition sheet included  
1855 with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each initiative and referendum on this ballot,  
1856 unless the summary is printed directly on the ballot."

1857 (5) Immediately after the local attorney files a copy of the short title and summary with  
1858 the local clerk, the local clerk shall ~~[serve]~~ send a copy of the short title and summary ~~[by mail~~  
1859 ~~upon]~~ to the sponsors of the initiative and the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where  
1860 the initiative petition was circulated.

(6) (a) If the short title or summary furnished by the local attorney is unsatisfactory or does not comply with the requirements of this section, the decision of the local attorney may be appealed to the appropriate court by:

(i) at least three sponsors of the initiative; or  
(ii) a majority of the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the initiative petition was circulated.

(b) The court:  
(i) shall examine the short title and summary and consider arguments; and  
(ii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

(c) The local clerk shall include the short title and summary in the ballot or ballot proposition insert, as required by this section.

Section 26. Section **20A-7-514** is amended to read:

**20A-7-514. Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative petition --  
Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

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

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

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

The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following proposed law be submitted to: the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next meeting; and the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the proposed law or takes no action on it."

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

(3) (a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of proposed law, described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2)(d)(i), followed by the entire text of the proposed law.

(b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~

1892 ~~understand~~] the entire text of the proposed law."

1893           (4) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
1894 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to click a  
1895 link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement, "By clicking here, I attest that I  
1896 have read [~~and understand~~] the information presented on this screen.":

1897           (a) (i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative  
1898 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage difference)  
1899 percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent increase in the current tax  
1900 rate."; or

1901           (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1902 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";

1903           (b) the summary statement from the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by  
1904 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost estimate for  
1905 printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in accordance with  
1906 Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3);

1907           (c) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative  
1908 petition may be paid for gathering signatures; and

1909           (d) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or  
1910 "no":

1911           "I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entirety of each statement presented on this  
1912 device;

1913           I am personally signing this petition;

1914           I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1915           All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1916 accurate.

1917           It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
1918 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1919 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
1920 that the individual is not a registered voter.

1921           WARNING

1922           Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter

1923 identification number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be  
1924 made public.

1925 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

1926 (5) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1927 (4)(d), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time. Please  
1928 return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1929 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1930 (4)(d), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the signature-gatherer  
1931 and the individual signing the petition through the signature process described in Section  
1932 20A-21-201.

1933 Section 27. Section **20A-7-515** is amended to read:

1934 **20A-7-515. Electronic initiative process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1935 **remove signature.**

1936 (1) This section applies to the electronic initiative process.

1937 (2) A Utah voter may sign a local initiative petition if the voter is a legal voter and  
1938 resides in the local jurisdiction.

1939 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from  
1940 an individual:

1941 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1942 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1943 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read [~~and understand~~] the law proposed  
1944 by the initiative.

1945 (4) (a) A voter who signs an initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed  
1946 from the initiative petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
1947 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m. no later  
1948 than the earlier of:

1949 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement;

1950 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under  
1951 Subsection 20A-7-516(4);

1952 (iii) 316 days after the day on which the initiative application is filed; or

1953 (iv) (A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular general

1954 election immediately after the initiative application is filed under Section 20A-7-502; or

1955 (B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal general  
1956 election immediately after the initiative application is filed under Section 20A-7-502.

1957 ~~[(b) The statement described in Subsection (4)(a) shall include:]~~

1958 ~~[(i) the name of the voter;]~~

1959 ~~[(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;]~~

1960 ~~[(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~

1961 ~~[(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (4)(b)(iii).]~~

1962 ~~[(c) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed,~~  
1963 ~~the statement described in Subsection (4)(a) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~

1964 ~~[(d)]~~ (b) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection  
1965 (4)(a) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a signature  
1966 removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and Section  
1967 20A-21-201.

1968 ~~[(e)]~~ (c) A person may only remove an electronic signature from an initiative petition  
1969 in accordance with this section.

1970 ~~[(f)]~~ (d) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing  
1971 an electronic signature from an initiative petition, in accordance with Subsection  
1972 20A-1-1003(3).

1973 Section 28. Section **20A-7-602.5** is amended to read:

1974 **20A-7-602.5. Initial fiscal and legal impact statement -- Preparation of statement.**

1975 (1) Within three business days after the day on which the local clerk receives a  
1976 referendum application, the local clerk shall submit a copy of the referendum application to the  
1977 county, city, or town's budget officer.

1978 (2) (a) The budget officer, together with legal counsel, shall prepare an unbiased, good  
1979 faith initial fiscal and legal impact statement for repealing the law the referendum proposes to  
1980 repeal that contains:

1981 (i) a dollar amount representing the total estimated fiscal impact of repealing the law;

1982 (ii) if repealing the law would increase or decrease taxes, a dollar amount representing  
1983 the total estimated increase or decrease for each type of tax that would be impacted by the law's  
1984 repeal and a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or decrease in taxes that



1985 would result from the law's repeal;

1986 (iii) if repealing the law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of bonds,

1987 notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total estimated increase or

1988 decrease in public debt that would result;

1989 (iv) a listing of all sources of funding for the estimated costs that would be associated

1990 with the law's repeal, showing each source of funding and the percentage of total funding that

1991 would be provided from each source;

1992 (v) a dollar amount representing the estimated costs or savings, if any, to state and

1993 local government entities if the law were repealed;

1994 (vi) the legal impacts that would result from repealing the law, including:

1995 (A) any significant effects on a person's vested property rights;

1996 (B) any significant effects on other laws or ordinances;

1997 (C) any significant legal liability the city, county, or town may incur; and

1998 (D) any other significant legal impact as determined by the budget officer and the legal

1999 counsel; and

2000 (vii) a concise explanation, not exceeding 100 words, of the information described in

2001 this Subsection (2)(a) and of the estimated fiscal impact, if any, if the law were repealed.

2002 (b) (i) If repealing the law would have no fiscal impact, the local budget officer shall

2003 include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in substantially the

2004 following form:

2005 "The (title of the local budget officer) estimates that repealing the law this referendum

2006 proposes to repeal would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an

2007 increase or decrease in taxes or debt."

2008 (ii) If repealing the law is estimated to have a fiscal impact, the local budget officer

2009 shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal and legal impact statement describing the

2010 fiscal impact.

2011 (iii) If the estimated fiscal impact of repealing the law is highly variable or is otherwise

2012 difficult to reasonably express in a summary statement, the local budget officer may include in

2013 the summary statement a brief explanation that identifies those factors impacting the variability

2014 or difficulty of the estimate.

2015 (3) Within 20 calendar days after the day on which the local clerk submits a copy of the

2016 application under Subsection (1), the budget officer shall:

2017 (a) [~~deliver~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the local  
2018 clerk's office; and

2019 (b) [~~mail~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the first three  
2020 sponsors named in the referendum application.

2021 Section 29. Section **20A-7-603** is amended to read:

2022 **20A-7-603. Manual referendum process -- Form of referendum petition and**  
2023 **signature sheet.**

2024 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

2025 (2) (a) Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the  
2026 following form:

2027 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City  
2028 Recorder/Town Clerk:

2029 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that (description of local law or  
2030 portion of local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
2031 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
2032 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

2033 Each signer says:

2034 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a  
2035 qualifying disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer  
2036 to enter the initials "AV" as my signature;

2037 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
2038 petition;

2039 I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entire statement included with this packet;

2040 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

2041 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

2042 (b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
2043 law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.

2044 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

2045 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

2046 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above

2047 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

2048 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least

2049 14-point type;

2050 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch

2051 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

2052 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

2053 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For

2054 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

2055 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

2056 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

2057 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

2058 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

2059 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point type;

2060 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

2061 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

2062 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;

2063 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

2064 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

2065 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

2066 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;

2067 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;

2068 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

2069 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;

2070 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;

2071 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;

2072 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

2073 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;

2074 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;

2075 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

2076 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;

2077 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and

(xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall, and contain the following words, "By signing this referendum petition, you are stating that you have read ~~[and understand]~~ the law that this referendum petition seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;

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

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

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

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

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

"Verification of signature collector

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

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

I am a resident of Utah and am at least 18 years old;

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

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

I believe that each ~~[individual has printed and signed the]~~ individual's name ~~[and written the individual's]~~, post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer

2109 has read ~~[and understands]~~ the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each signer  
 2110 is registered to vote in Utah.

2111

2112

2113

2114 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

2115 ~~[Each individual who signed the packet wrote the]~~ The correct date of signature

2116 appears next to ~~[the]~~ each individual's name.

2117 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
 2118 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

2119

2120 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)".

2121 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
 2122 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

2123 (6) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in  
 2124 accordance with Section 20A-2-105.

2125 Section 30. Section **20A-7-604** is amended to read:

2126 **20A-7-604. Manual referendum process -- Circulation requirements -- Local**  
 2127 **clerk to provide sponsors with materials.**

2128 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

2129 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the  
 2130 sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described  
 2131 in Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate referendum packets that meet the form  
 2132 requirements of this part.

2133 (3) Within five days after the day on which a county, city, town, metro township, or  
 2134 court determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-602.7, that a proposed referendum is  
 2135 legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide the sponsors with

2136 ~~[a copy of the referendum petition and a signature sheet.]~~

2137 (a) a copy of the referendum petition;

2138 (b) a signature sheet; and

2139 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under

2140 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).

2141 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:

2142 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum  
2143 packets; and

2144 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection  
2145 (4)(a) meet the form requirements of this section.

2146 (5) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets  
2147 for circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.

2148 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by  
2149 binding a copy of the referendum petition with the text of the law that is the subject of the  
2150 referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the  
2151 referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing.

2152 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.

2153 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each packet, a copy of  
2154 the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under Subsection  
2155 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).

2156 (6) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:

2157 (i) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use to  
2158 number referendum packets;

2159 (ii) sign an agreement with the local clerk, specifying the range of numbers that the  
2160 sponsor will use to number the referendum packets; and

2161 (iii) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
2162 provided by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.

2163 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:

2164 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or

2165 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner  
2166 directed by the county clerk.

2167 Section 31. Section **20A-7-608** is amended to read:

2168 **20A-7-608. Short title and summary of referendum -- Duties of local clerk and**  
2169 **local attorney.**

2170 (1) Upon receipt of a referendum petition, the local clerk shall deliver a copy of the

2171 referendum petition and the law to which the referendum relates to the local attorney.

2172 (2) The local attorney shall:

2173 (a) entitle each county or municipal referendum that qualifies for the ballot  
2174 "Proposition Number \_\_\_" and give the referendum a number assigned in accordance with  
2175 Section 20A-6-107;

2176 (b) prepare for the referendum:

2177 (i) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the subject  
2178 of the law to which the referendum relates; and

2179 (ii) an impartial summary of the contents of the law to which the referendum relates,  
2180 not exceeding 125 words;

2181 (c) file the proposed short title, summary, and the numbered referendum title with the  
2182 local clerk within 20 days after the day on which an eligible voter submits the referendum  
2183 petition to the local clerk; and

2184 (d) promptly provide notice of the filing of the proposed short title and summary to:

2185 (i) the sponsors of the petition; and

2186 (ii) the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the referendum petition was  
2187 circulated.

2188 (3) (a) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the law that is the  
2189 subject of the referendum petition.

2190 (b) In preparing a short title, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's  
2191 ability, give a true and impartial description of the subject of the referendum.

2192 (c) In preparing a summary, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's  
2193 ability, give a true and impartial summary of the contents of the referendum.

2194 (d) The short title and summary may not intentionally be an argument, or likely to  
2195 create prejudice, for or against the referendum.

2196 (4) (a) Within five calendar days after the day on which the local attorney files a  
2197 proposed short title and summary under Subsection (2)(c), the local legislative body for the  
2198 jurisdiction where the referendum petition was circulated and the sponsors of the referendum  
2199 petition may file written comments in response to the proposed short title and summary with  
2200 the local clerk.

2201 (b) Within five calendar days after the last date to submit written comments under

2202 Subsection (4)(a), the local attorney shall:

2203 (i) review any written comments filed in accordance with Subsection (4)(a);

2204 (ii) prepare a final short title and summary that meets the requirements of Subsection  
2205 (3); and

2206 (iii) return the referendum petition and file the short title and summary with the local  
2207 clerk.

2208 (c) Subject to Subsection (6), for each county or municipal referendum, the following  
2209 shall be printed on the official ballot:

2210 (i) the short title; and

2211 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4)(d):

2212 (A) the summary;

2213 (B) a copy of the ordinance, resolution, or written description of the local law; and

2214 (C) a link to a location on the election officer's website where a voter may review  
2215 additional information relating to each referendum, including the information described in  
2216 Subsection 20A-7-602(2) and the arguments relating to the referendum that are included in the  
2217 local voter information pamphlet.

2218 (d) Unless the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) is printed on the official  
2219 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition insert that  
2220 includes the short title and summary for each referendum on the ballot and a link to a location  
2221 on the election officer's website where a voter may review the additional information described  
2222 in Subsection (4)(c)(ii)(C).

2223 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection 20A-7-508(4)(c)(ii) for all  
2224 initiatives on the ballot, and the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) for all referenda  
2225 on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement at the  
2226 beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot proposition  
2227 sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each initiative and referendum  
2228 on this ballot, unless the summary is printed directly on the ballot."

2229 (5) Immediately after the local attorney files a copy of the short title and summary with  
2230 the local clerk, the local clerk shall ~~[serve]~~ send a copy of the short title and summary ~~[by mail~~  
2231 ~~upon]~~ to the sponsors of the referendum petition and the local legislative body for the  
2232 jurisdiction where the referendum petition was circulated.



(6) (a) If the short title or summary provided by the local attorney is unsatisfactory or does not comply with the requirements of this section, the decision of the local attorney may be appealed to the appropriate court by:

(i) at least three sponsors of the referendum petition; or  
(ii) a majority of the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the referendum petition was circulated.

(b) The court:  
(i) shall examine the short title and summary and consider the arguments; and  
(ii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.  
(c) The local clerk shall include the short title and summary in the ballot or ballot proposition insert, as required by this section.

Section 32. Section **20A-7-614** is amended to read:

**20A-7-614. Electronic referendum process -- Form of referendum petition -- Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

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

"This REFERENDUM PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City Recorder/Town Clerk:

The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully order that (description of local law or portion of local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ (month\day\year)."

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

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

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

2264 (4) (a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include a statement  
2265 indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum petition may be paid for  
2266 gathering signatures.

2267 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
2268 at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read [~~and~~  
2269 ~~understand~~] the information presented on this screen."

2270 (5) The fourth screen presented on the approved device shall include the following  
2271 statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":

2272 "I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entirety of each statement presented on this  
2273 device;

2274 I am personally signing this referendum petition;

2275 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

2276 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
2277 accurate.

2278 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
2279 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
2280 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
2281 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

2282 Do you wish to continue and sign this referendum petition?"

2283 (6) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
2284 (5), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time. Please  
2285 return this device to the signature-gatherer."

2286 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
2287 (5), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the signature-gatherer  
2288 and the individual signing the referendum petition through the signature process described in  
2289 Section 20A-21-201.

2290 Section 33. Section **20A-7-615** is amended to read:

2291 **20A-7-615. Electronic referendum process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
2292 **remove signature.**

2293 (1) This section applies to the electronic referendum process described in Section  
2294 20A-21-201.

(2) A Utah voter may sign a local referendum petition if the voter is a legal voter and resides in the local jurisdiction.

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

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

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

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

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

(ii) 45 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under Subsection 20A-7-616(3).

~~[(b) The statement described in Subsection (4)(a) shall include:]~~

~~[(i) the name of the voter;]~~

~~[(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;]~~

~~[(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~

~~[(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (4)(b)(iii).]~~

~~[(c) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed, the statement described in Subsection (4)(a) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~

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

~~[(e)]~~ (c) A person may only remove an electronic signature from a referendum petition in accordance with this section.

~~[(f)]~~ (d) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing an electronic signature from a referendum petition, in accordance with Subsection 20A-1-1003(3).

2326           Section 34. **Effective date.**

2327           This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.