CHRISTI JACOBSEN
MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

BALLOT ISSUES AND SIGNATURE GATHERING

In 1906, Montana voters approved establishing the initiative and referendum process - a system of making laws by the people. Thus, the Constitution of the State of Montana guarantees the people the right to enact laws by initiative on all matters except appropriations of money and local or special laws. The Constitution also guarantees the people the right to approve or reject by referendum any act of the Legislature except an appropriation of money.

This publication provides information about enacting laws by initiative or submitting an act of the Legislature to a vote of the people. The ballot issue proponent and sponsor are responsible for ensuring all applicable laws are followed, including laws governing signature gathering activities and deadline requirements.

Please visit our website at sosmt.gov for more information about ballot issues, elections, and voting.

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***Please note**: Information on the ballot issue process is on the Secretary of State's (SOS) ballot issue web page at https://sosmt.gov/elections/ballot_issues/. In addition to the information in this publication, the ballot issue proponent and sponsor should research the SOS website, Title 13, Chapter 27 MCA, Article III, Article IV, and Article XIV of the Montana Constitution, as it is the ballot issue proponent and sponsor that is responsible for ensuring compliance with applicable laws. The information provided herein is for general informational purposes and is intended to be used solely as a guide for assisting the ballot issue proponent and sponsor in the ballot initiative process. This document should not in any way take the place of the ballot issue proponent and sponsor ensuring their compliance with applicable law(s). While every effort is made by the Secretary of State to keep information in this document accurate and up to date, please be aware that information in this document, including but not limited to applicable dates and deadlines below, is subject to change based on actions of the legislature and/or court cases, and may or may not be reflected herein.*

Ballot Issues

TYPES OF BALLOT ISSUES

Initiative. An initiative is a proposal by petition to enact a new law or revise a current law by a vote of the people on any matter except the appropriation of money and local or special laws. Subject to applicable laws and deadlines, the proposed initiative is placed on the ballot if the required number of qualified electors sign the petition. An example name is I-166.

Referendum. A referendum is a proposal by which the people, by their majority vote, can approve or reject a previously enacted statute, except an appropriation of money. A referendum may originate from the Legislature or the people.

By the Legislature. When a piece of legislation is considered, a majority of each house of the Legislature may decide to have its action ratified by a vote of the people. This is referred to as a Legislative Referendum. An example name is LR-122.

By the people. After the Legislature enacts a statute, the people may petition to refer such statute to a vote of the people. Subject to the laws and deadlines, the proposed Referendum is placed on the ballot if the required number of qualified electors sign the petition.

If Referendum petitioners desire to render an enacted statute inoperative pending a vote, a petition containing more signatures is required. If so suspended, the act becomes operative only if and after it is approved at an election. An example name is IR-124.

Constitutional Amendment. A Constitutional Amendment is a proposal originated by either the Legislature (Section 8) or the people (Section 9) to change the Constitution.

By the Legislature. Any member of the Legislature may propose amendments. These are referred to as Constitutional Amendments. An example name is C-45.

By the people. Amendments may be proposed by initiative. These are referred to as Constitutional Initiatives. An example name is CI-112.

Constitutional Convention. Whether to hold an unlimited Constitutional Convention to revise, alter, or amend the Constitution originates from the Legislature or the people, for example, CC-2.

By the Legislature. By an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the members, the Legislature may at any time submit to the qualified electors the question of whether there will be a Constitutional Convention.

By the people. The people may, by petition, direct the Secretary of State (SOS) to submit to the qualified electors whether there will be a Constitutional Convention. If, subject to applicable laws and deadlines, the petitions are signed by the required number of electors, the proposed convention call must be submitted to the qualified electors.

By statute. Under the Constitution and state law, the Secretary of State shall raise the question of holding an unlimited Constitutional Convention to be placed on the ballot every 20th year following its last submission.

WHEN IS THE ELECTION FOR BALLOT ISSUES?

Except when the Legislature orders a special election on a Legislative Referendum, elections on all types of statewide ballot issues are held with a statewide general election on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in even-numbered years (13-1-104 MCA). See the Ballot Issue Calendar for various key dates and deadlines.

DRAFTING AND SUBMITTING A BALLOT ISSUE OVERVIEW

The proponent drafts and submits the proposed ballot issue and ballot statements to the Secretary of State at soselections@mt.gov, who forwards the text to the Legislative Services Division (LSD) for review. The LSD staff will review the text and statements as the law requires.

The draft ballot issue must include the following:

- Draft ballot statement – The Statement of Purpose and Implication to appear on the ballot (13-27-212 MCA) expresses the true and impartial explanation of the proposal in plain, easily understood language and not to exceed 135 words.
- "Yes" and "No" statements to appear on the ballot (13-27-213 MCA).
- Text of the ballot issue should follow the most recent edition of the Bill Drafting Manual furnished by the LSD (13-27-225 MCA).

The Secretary of State may not accept a proposed **statutory initiative and referendum** until 10 days after the adjournment sine die of the regular legislative session preceding the general election during which the proposal is intended to be voted on. If the SOS rejects a proposed statutory initiative or referendum because of this timing, the SOS will notify the person who submitted the proposal of the reason for the rejection. See (13-27-216 MCA and 13-27-217 MCA).

1. If the submission is complete, the Secretary of State's office will forward the submission text and statements to the LSD following 13-27-214 MCA. LSD reviews the submission for clarity, consistency, and conformity using the Bill Drafting Manual and reviews for other legal requirements. If necessary, LSD recommends revisions within 14 days of submission of the proposed text and statements. Depending on the type of ballot issue proposed, see 13-27-216 MCA, 13-27-217 MCA, 13-27-218 MCA, or 13-27-219 MCA.
    a. LSD notifies the ballot issue proponent **directly** of any proposed recommendations.
    b. The ballot issue proponent **must** respond in writing directly to the LSD as directed in the correspondence, either accepting, rejecting, or modifying the proposed ballot issue per 13-27-225 MCA. A response is not required if revisions are not recommended.

2. After the proponent responds to the LSD as provided in 13-27-225 MCA, the proponent shall submit the final text of the proposed statutory initiative and ballot statements to the SOS. However, if a response to the LSD correspondence is not required by the proponent, under 13-27-225 MCA, the proponent shall instead submit the final text of the proposed statutory initiative and ballot statements to the SOS after the proponent receives the LSD's response.

3. The Secretary of State's office reviews the final text and ballot statements and determines if **substantive** changes not recommended by the LSD were made.

4. If the Secretary of State's office approves the final text and ballot statements, it is referred to the Attorney General's Office for legal sufficiency review per 13-27-226 MCA. If a fiscal note is prepared for the proposed ballot issue, the Attorney General will prepare a fiscal statement of no more than 50 words for the petition and the ballot if the measure is placed on the ballot.

5. The budget director shall determine whether a fiscal note is necessary if the proposed ballot issue affects the state's revenue, expenditures, or fiscal liability. If a fiscal note is required, the budget director shall prepare the fiscal note in cooperation with the agency or agencies affected by the statewide ballot issue, notify the attorney general of its necessity, and shall return the fiscal note to the attorney general, per 13-27-227 MCA. Receipt of the notice from the budget director begins the time frame for the Attorney General to begin their review.

6. The Attorney General has 30 days to review the ballot issue for legal sufficiency, review the proposed ballot statements, determine if the proposed ballot issue would likely cause significant material harm to one or more business interests in the state, and, if necessary, develop a fiscal impact statement. See 13-27-216 MCA, 13-27-218 MCA.

7. ***Review by Attorney General*** *13-27-226, MCA.*
(1) On receipt of a proposed statutory initiative, statutory referendum, constitutional initiative, or constitutional convention initiative and the proposal's ballot statements from the office of the secretary of state and the fiscal note determination from the budget director as provided in this part, the attorney general shall examine the proposal, review the proposal for legal sufficiency as provided in subsection (2), review the ballot statements if required by subsection (3), prepare a fiscal statement if required by subsection (4), and determine if the proposal conflicts with other issues that may appear on the ballot at the same election as provided in subsection (5).

(2) The attorney general shall examine the proposal received pursuant to subsection (1), prepare an opinion as to the proposal's legal sufficiency, and forward the opinion to the secretary of state.

(3) (a) If the attorney general determines that the proposal is legally sufficient, the attorney general shall review the ballot statements to determine whether they contain the following matters:
*(i) a statement of purpose and implication that complies with **13-27-212**; and*
*(ii) a yes and no statement that complies with **13-27-213**.*

(b) The attorney general shall, in reviewing the ballot statements, endeavor to seek out parties on both sides of the issue and obtain their advice.

(c) If the attorney general determines the ballot statements comply with the requirements provided in subsection (3)(a), the attorney general shall approve the ballot statements and forward them to the secretary of state. However, if the attorney general determines in writing that a ballot statement clearly does not comply with the relevant requirements of subsection (3)(a), the attorney general shall prepare a ballot statement that complies with the relevant requirements of subsection (3)(a). The attorney general shall forward the revised ballot statement to the secretary of state as the approved ballot statement and shall provide a copy to the petitioner.

*(4) If the proposal affects the revenue, expenditures, or fiscal liability of the state, the budget director shall prepare the fiscal note as provided in **13-27-227**. If the fiscal note indicates a fiscal impact, the attorney general shall prepare a fiscal statement of no more than 50 words and forward it to the secretary of state. The statement must be used on the proposal's petition and on the ballot if the proposal is placed on the ballot.*

*(5) The attorney general shall determine if the proposal conflicts with one or more issues that may appear on the ballot at the same election for the purposes of **13-27-501**(2)(h) and shall forward the attorney general's written determination to the secretary of state.*

*(6) If the attorney general determines that the proposal is not legally sufficient, the secretary of state may not deliver a sample petition form unless the attorney general's opinion is overruled pursuant to **13-27-605** and the attorney general has approved or prepared ballot statements under this section.*

8. If the Attorney General approves the ballot issue, the Secretary of State's office assigns a ballot initiative number in a serial sequence of the next ballot issue when approved for signature gathering (13-27-237, MCA), e.g., CI-159, then CI-160, etc. Ballot issues submitted to the SOS before this step are referred to by their submission number, where the first ballot issue submitted for the upcoming election is "Ballot Issue #1", then "Ballot Issue #2", etc.

9. If the Attorney General approves the ballot issue, the SOS provides the Executive Director of the LSD with a copy of the final text of the proposed ballot issue and ballot statements.

10. The SOS creates the final petition form for the approved ballot issue with the assigned number, ballot statements, other information required by statute, and provides it to the proponent for signature gathering. Only the approved final petition form may be used for signature gathering (13-27-233 MCA).

11. The SOS will provide copies of the petition form to any interested parties who request to be informed of a petition approved for signature gathering.

FILE REPORTS

Proponents or opponents of a ballot issue petition may be required to file reports with the ***Commissioner of Political Practices***. Their phone number is (406) 444-2942.

NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED

For an initiative or referendum, the number of qualified electors required in each legislative representative (house) district and the state is determined by the number of votes cast for the governor's office in the most recent gubernatorial election (MT Constitution, Article III, Part III, Section 7).

Electronic, digital, or facsimile signatures, including electronic signatures under Title 30, chapter 18, part 1, are prohibited (13-27-103 MCA).

Initiative:

i. The petition must be signed by at least five percent (5%) of the qualified electors in the state at large, including at least five percent (5%) in each of at least one-third (34) of the legislative representative districts.

Referendum:

i. Legislative Referendum – Placed on the ballot by the Legislature.
ii. Referendum – Placed on the ballot by petition by the people **to repeal** an act of the legislature. The petition must be signed by at least five percent (5%) of the qualified electors in the state at large, including at least five percent (5%) in each of at least one-third (34) of the legislative representative districts.
iii. Referendum – Placed on the ballot by petition by the people **to suspend** an act of the legislature. The act is in effect **until suspended by petition**, which must be signed by at least fifteen percent (15%) of the qualified electors in a majority of the legislative representative districts (51).

Constitutional Amendment – Sections 8 & 9:

i. By the Legislature – These must be adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of all the legislative members in order to be submitted to the qualified electors.
ii. By the people – These petitions shall be signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the qualified electors of the state. That number shall include at least ten percent (10%) of the qualified electors in each of two-fifths (40 of the 100) of the legislative representative districts.

Constitutional Convention:

i. To call a Constitutional Convention, the petition must be signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the qualified electors of the state. That number shall include at least ten percent of the qualified electors in each of two-fifths (40 of the 100) of the legislative districts.

Petition Signature **Totals** required for **2026** (Calculated from the 2024 General Election)
5% requirement = **30,121**
10% requirement = **60,241**
15% requirement = **90,361**

The calculated statewide ballot issue signature requirements **per Legislative Representative District** can be found on the Ballot Issue Overview and Forms page. Click the *Number of Statewide Ballot Issue Signatures Required by House District* link to open or download the chart.

DEADLINES FOR SUBMISSION AND FILING OF PETITION SHEETS

(See the Ballot Issue Calendar page for more applicable dates and statutory references.)

Submit petitions to the county's Election Administrator (EA) where electors who signed are registered.

1. *Constitutional Initiatives and Statutory Initiatives* – Petition submittals must be submitted to EAs no sooner than 9 months (**October 17, 2025**) and no later than 4 weeks (**June 19, 2026**) before the final date for filing the petition with the Secretary of State (**July 17, 2026**). For submission requirements between the October and June deadlines, see SB 226 of the 2025 Legislature, signed into law and effective 5/12/2025. Specific dates and more information are provided further below in this document.
2. *Statutory Referendum Petitions* – Petition submittals must be submitted to county EAs not later than 5 months after adjournment of the Legislature that passed the act, for the petition to be forwarded by the county EA to the SOS within 6 months of the adjournment of the Legislature that passed the act.

Filing by County Election Administrators with the Secretary of State

1. *Constitutional Initiatives and Statutory Initiatives* – Each county EA must forward certified petition sheets to the Secretary of State by 5 p.m. of the third Friday of the fourth month (**July 17, 2026**) before the election at which the measure is to be voted upon by the people, 13-27-104, MCA.
2. 13-27-303, MCA. Except as required by 13-27-104 MCA, within 4 weeks after receiving the sheets or sections of a petition, the county official shall check the names of all signers to verify they are registered electors of the county before certifying to the Secretary of State.
3. *Statutory Referendum Petitions*—The county EAs must forward certified petition sheets to the SOS no later than 6 months after the adjournment of the Legislature that passed the act.

Gathering Signatures

QUALIFICATIONS OF SIGNERS

A petition for initiative, referendum, or to call a Constitutional Convention may be signed only by a qualified elector of the State of Montana. A qualified elector is defined in the Montana Constitution, Article IV, Part IV, Section 2.

PAID SIGNATURE GATHERERS

1. A person who employs a paid signature gatherer shall register with the Secretary of State before collecting signatures (13-27-112 MCA). Registration forms are available upon request by emailing soselections@mt.gov. There is no fee for registering (ARM 44.3.2801).

2. A person gathering signatures for a petition may not be paid anything of value based on the number of signatures gathered (13-27-102 MCA).

3. A person who employs paid signature gatherers shall also file reports as required with the Commissioner of Political Practices (13-27-112 MCA). For more information, see the COPP's website, https://politicalpractices.mt.gov/, or call them at 406-444-2942.

4. HB 201 of the 2025 Legislature was signed into law and effective 5/1/2025. It requires verbal disclosure of the paid signature gatherer's name, state of residency, status as a paid signature gatherer, and wearing a badge that displays the same information.

GATHERING SIGNATURES

1. Signature gatherers may be volunteers as well.

2. For statewide ballot issues, signatures **may not be gathered before June 19, 2025,** which is one year before the deadline for filing petition sheets with the county EA (13-27-243 MCA).

3. **Signature gatherers must be present** when the qualified electors sign the petition. Do not leave petition sheets unattended. The affidavit form you sign requires you, in part, to swear that you gathered the signatures, and the signers knew the contents of the petition. If you were not present when the signers signed, you cannot logically or legally claim the signers knew the contents of the petition.

4. Collect and submit signatures from **one county per sheet**. Do not mix different county signers on one sheet. For example, if a sheet of signatures is submitted to County A and contains signatures from County B, those signatures cannot be verified by County A and will be rejected. A new sheet of signatures can be started if a signer from another county is encountered.

5. Each person must sign a petition individually. Signers may not sign for friends, family, or spouse.

6. Signers should write the **correct date** they signed in the format called for on the petition form.

7. A common reason signatures are rejected is that the **printed name** is illegible. Signature gatherers should ensure signers print their name clearly.

8. Signers provide their residence or mailing address to assist EAs in locating their records for signature verification. A telephone number is also acceptable.

9. A copy of the full text of the ballot issue must be available for signers to read 13-27-236(2), MCA.

10. Signature gatherers' rights:

    a. Right to gather signatures without the threat of physical intimidation or prevention of obtaining signatures (13-27-611 MCA).
    b. If paid by the hour, the employer must pay for the number of hours worked, regardless of how many signatures are gathered.
    c. Signature gatherers must be paid at least minimum wage and must be paid overtime for any hours over 40 hours worked in a work week.
    d. If you believe you have not been paid correctly, contact the Montana Department of Labor and Industry. Their phone is 406-444-2840, and their website is dli.mt.gov.
    e. If asked to accept payment based on the number of signatures obtained, visit the Montana Fair Elections Center, or email fairelections@mt.gov.

COMPLETING THE PETITION SIGNATURE GATHERER AFFIDAVIT OR UNSWORN DECLARATION

1. **Affidavit** – To simplify and avoid excessive repetition, the word "Affidavit" in this document refers to the use of two forms with the same purpose. Both are used as an affidavit for signature gatherers and are available on the Ballot Issue Overview and Forms page. They are:
    a. Petition Signature Gatherer Affidavit
    b. Petition Signature Gatherer Unsworn Declaration

2. **The affidavit** is attached to one or up to 25 petition signature sheets and submitted to the county EA. The attached sheets contain the signatures gathered by the gatherer who signs the affidavit.

3. Each submittal must include a **completed** affidavit with dates and information clearly printed.
    a. When submitting to the county EA, the affidavit must be signed by the signature gatherer and notarized **AFTER** signatures are gathered.
    b. Similarly, if using the Petition Signature Gatherer Unsworn Declaration, it must be signed and dated by the signature gatherer **AFTER** signatures are gathered.

    Note: The affidavit requires you, in part, to swear the signers knew the contents of the petition; if you complete and sign the affidavit **before** the signers sign the petition, you cannot logically or legally claim the signers knew the contents of the petition at the time you completed the affidavit. That is why the affidavit is signed **AFTER** signatures are gathered.

4. As additional signatures are gathered, a new submittal requires a new affidavit when signature sheets are submitted (up to 25 pages per affidavit).

5. The **first signature gathered** date on the affidavit should accurately match the earliest date a signature was collected on the attached signature sheet(s).

SUBMITTING SIGNATURES TO COUNTY ELECTION OFFICES

1. **Sponsors, signature gatherers, and employers of signature gatherers are responsible** for ensuring all applicable laws are followed, including those governing signature gathering activities and deadlines.
    a. Ballot issue sponsors should review MCA Title 13, Chapter 27, and Article III, Article IV, and Article XIV of the Montana Constitution.
    b. It is also recommended to review recent legislation passed in **2025** related to ballot issues.
    c. Information and forms related to the ballot issue and petition process are on the Secretary of State's website at https://sosmt.gov/elections/ballot_issues/.

2. County Election Administrators (EA) contact information is online at sosmt.gov/elections.

3. The **earliest** date allowed to submit signed petition sheets for a statewide ballot issue to county EAs is **October 17, 2025** (13-27-301 MCA).

4. SB 226 (2025), effective upon passage (5/12/2025), modified 13-27-302, MCA, requiring sponsors and signature gatherers to submit gathered signatures with an affidavit between the earliest allowed and the final deadline. Submissions begin October 17, 2025, followed by these deadlines: January 16, 2026; March 27, 2026; and April 24, 2026, with the final on June 19, 2026. Click the SB 226 link above to see the bill's text. This is a chart summarizing signature dates and deadlines.

Signatures Gathered	Submission Deadline
287 days or earlier (October 3, 2025, or earlier)	Due by 273 days (October 17, 2025)
196 days or earlier (Between October 4, 2025, and January 2, 2026)	Due by 182 days (January 16, 2026)
126 days or earlier (Between January 3, 2026, and March 13, 2026)	Due by 112 days (March 27, 2026)
98 days or earlier (Between March 14, 2026, and April 10, 2026)	Due by 84 days (April 24, 2026)
Final Deadline: Signatures gathered after April 11, 2026, must be submitted to the county Election Administrator by 5:00 p.m., June 19, 2026, 13-27-301(1) MCA.	

5. SB 226 also requires the EA to date stamp, register the submission in a log, and provide the submitter with a receipt.

6. Electronic, digital, or facsimile signatures, including electronic signatures under Title 30, Chapter 18, part 1, are not valid for petition purposes (13-27-103 MCA).

WITHDRAWAL OF SIGNATURES

A signer may withdraw their signature from a petition until the final submission deadline of petition sheets to the County EA (**June 19, 2026**) (13-27-301 MCA). The signer completes a *Request for Withdrawal* form available on the SOS Ballot Issue Forms page and submits it to their local county election office.

CERTIFICATION TO GOVERNOR WHEN PETITION IS QUALIFIED

When a petition for a ballot issue is filed with the Secretary of State, it will be processed and tabulated. If it has enough verified signatures, the SOS will certify to the Governor the petition has qualified to appear on the upcoming ballot (13-27-308 MCA).

After the Election

CANVASS OF VOTES CAST

After the election, each county board of canvassers must canvass the votes cast for each ballot issue when they canvass the candidate races. The canvass results must be certified to the board of state canvassers, who shall, in turn, canvass and certify the statewide results.

EFFECTIVE DATES

> ***13-27-105, MCA. Effective date of statewide initiative and statewide referendum issues.*** *(1) Unless the petition states otherwise, a statutory initiative or constitutional convention initiative approved by the people is effective on* ***October 1*** *following approval. If a statutory initiative delegates rulemaking authority, it is effective no sooner than October 1 following approval.*
>
> *(2) A constitutional initiative or constitutional referendum that is approved by the people is effective on* ***July 1*** *following approval unless the constitutional initiative or constitutional referendum provides otherwise.*
>
> *(3) Unless specifically provided by the legislature in an act referred by it to the people or until suspended by a petition signed by at least 15% of the qualified electors in a majority of the legislative representative districts, an act referred to the people is in effect as provided by law until it is approved or rejected at the election. An act that is rejected is repealed effective the date the result of the canvass is filed by the secretary of state under* ***13-27-503****. An act referred to the people that was in effect at the time of the election and is approved by the people remains in effect. An act that was suspended by a petition and is approved by the people is effective the date the result of the canvass is filed by the secretary of state under* ***13-27-503****. An act referred by the legislature that contains an effective date following the election becomes effective on that date if approved by the people. An act that provides no effective date and whose substantive provisions were delayed by the legislature pending approval at an election and that is approved is effective October 1 following the election.*

Statewide Ballot Issue Petition Forms and Information

Visit https://sosmt.gov/elections/ballot_issues/ and https://sosmt.gov/elections/official-forms/#36-55-petition-forms for the most updated information and petition forms, such as:

- 2026 Ballot Issue Calendar
- Petition Signature Gatherer Affidavit
- Petition Signature Gatherer Unsworn Declaration
- Designation of Lead Petitioner

Statewide Ballot Issue Petition Example Form:

See the next page for an example of the format of a ballot issue signature form. The exact content on the form varies by type of petition and is set in statute:

Petition for Statutory Initiative – 13-27-238 MCA

Petition for Statutory Referendum – 13-27-240 MCA

Petition for Constitutional Initiative – 13-27-241 MCA

Petition for Constitutional Convention Initiative – 13-27-242 MCA

Sample of a Ballot Issue Signature Sheet (Constitutional Amendment)

Petition to Place Constitutional Amendment No. CI-XXX on the General Election Ballot

Subject to applicable laws and deadlines, if 10% of the voters in each of two-fifths of the legislative representative districts (totaling 40 legislative representative districts) sign this petition and the total number of voters signing this petition is 60,241, this constitutional amendment will appear on the next general election ballot. If a majority of voters vote for this amendment at that election, it will become part of the constitution.

Voters are urged to read the complete text of the constitutional amendment, which appears with this sheet. A signature on this petition is only to put the constitutional amendment on the ballot and does not necessarily mean the signer agrees with the amendment.

We, the undersigned Montana voters, propose that the Secretary of State place the following constitutional amendment on the November 3, 2026, general election ballot.

WARNING

A person who purposefully signs a name other than the person's own to this petition, who signs more than once for the same issue at one election, or who signs when not a legally registered Montana voter is subject to a $500 fine, 6 months in jail, or both. Each person is required to sign the person's name and list the person's address or telephone number in substantially the same manner as on the person's voter registration form or the signature will not be counted.

Statement of Purpose and Implication:

CI-XXX amends the Montana Constitution to … (Title of initiative written per 13-27-212, MCA)

If passed, CI-XXX would … (Fiscal statement, if applicable, written under 13-27-227, MCA)

☐ Yes on Constitutional Initiative CI-XXX ☐ No on Constitutional Initiative CI-XXX

Printed Last and First Name and Middle Initial	Signature	Signature Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Residential Address or Post-Office Address or Home Telephone Number	
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				

COUNTY _____

Rev 2-2025

Contact Information:

Please visit the ***Secretary of State's*** website for questions about the ballot issue process. The information in this publication and online is meant to assist citizens with a complicated process. The Secretary of State cannot provide legal advice and recommends citizens consult legal counsel regarding legal questions.

- Secretary of State
  Elections and Voter Services Division
  State Capitol, Room 260
  (PO Box 202801)
  Helena, MT 59620-2801,

- Phone (406) 444-9608
- Email soselections@mt.gov.

Contact the ***Legislative Services Division*** for more information about the Bill Drafting Manual and the review process of a ballot issue. The Bill Drafting Manual can be found on their home page by scrolling to the bottom and clicking the *Agency Bill Drafting* link. On the Drafting page, find the button for the latest version (2024, 2026).

- Legislative Services Division
  State Capitol, Room 110
  PO Box 201706
  Helena, MT 59620-1706

- Phone (406) 444-3064
- Email Todd.Everts@legmt.gov

For information about ballot issue campaign finances or campaign reporting requirements, contact the ***Commissioner of Political Practices***.

- Commissioner of Political Practices
  1209 8th Ave
  PO Box 202401
  Helena, MT 59620-2401

- Phone (406) 444-2942
- Email cpphelp@mt.gov