

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

.

Representative Persons-Mulicka offered the following:

Amendment to Amendment (476344)

Remove lines 80-979 of the amendment and insert:
delivers, or otherwise physically possesses no more than 25
signed petition forms in addition to his or her own signed
petition form or a signed petition form belonging to the
person's spouse, or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild,
or sibling of the person or the person's spouse.

Section 5. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (4) of
section 99.097, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph (b)
of subsection (1) of that section is reenacted, to read:

99.097 Verification of signatures on petitions.—

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

(1)

(b) Rules and guidelines for petition verification shall be adopted by the Department of State. Rules and guidelines for a random sample method of verification may include a requirement that petitions bear an additional number of names and signatures, not to exceed 15 percent of the names and signatures otherwise required. If the petitions do not meet such criteria or if the petitions are prescribed by s. 100.371, the use of the random sample method of verification is not available to supervisors.

(4) (a) The supervisor must be paid in advance the sum of 10 cents for each signature checked or the actual cost of checking such signature, whichever is less, by the candidate or, in the case of a petition to have a local issue placed on the ballot, by the person or organization submitting the petition. In the case of a petition to place a statewide issue on the ballot, the person or organization submitting the petition must pay the supervisor in advance the cost posted by the supervisor pursuant to s. 100.371(14) ~~s. 100.371(11) for the actual cost of checking signatures to place a statewide issue on the ballot.~~

(d) Except as provided in s. 100.371(14) (d), petitions must be retained by the supervisors for a period of 1 year following the election for which the petitions were circulated.

Section 6. Section 100.371, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on ballot.—

(1) (a) Constitutional amendments proposed by initiative shall be placed on the ballot for the general election, provided the initiative petition has been filed with the Secretary of State no later than February 1 of the year the general election is held. A petition shall be deemed to be filed with the Secretary of State upon the date the secretary determines that valid and verified petition forms have been signed by the constitutionally required number and distribution of voters ~~electors~~ under this code.

(b) A sponsor of an initiative petition must obtain, at least every third election cycle, a letter pursuant to s. 15.21(1)(c). Failure to obtain such letter results in expiration of the initiative petition's signatures and disbanding of the sponsor's political committee.

(c) Initiative petition signatures expire and the sponsor's political committee is disbanded if a constitutional amendment proposed by initiative submitted to the Secretary of State before February 1, 2022, fails to obtain a letter pursuant to s. 15.21(1)(c) on or before February 1, 2026. This paragraph does not preclude such a sponsor from refiling the proposed amendment as a new petition.

(2) The sponsor of an initiative amendment may not sponsor more than one amendment and must ~~shall~~, before circulating any petition forms ~~prior to obtaining any signatures~~, register as a

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

political committee pursuant to s. 106.03 and submit the ballot title, ballot summary, article and section of the State Constitution being amended, and full text of the proposed amendment to the Secretary of State. The proposed amendment and all forms filed in connection with this section must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats, ~~with the form on which the signatures will be affixed, and shall obtain the approval of the Secretary of State of such form.~~ Upon receipt, the Secretary of State shall assign the initiative petition a petition number and submit a copy of the proposed amendment to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for review, analysis, and estimation of the financial impact of the proposed amendment. After the review by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference, the division shall publish the forms with the information provided for in subsection (3) and on which signatures for the initiative petition will be affixed ~~The Secretary of State shall adopt rules pursuant to s. 120.54 prescribing the style and requirements of such form. Upon filing with the Secretary of State, the text of the proposed amendment and all forms filed in connection with this section must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats.~~

(3) (a) Beginning July 1, 2025, the petition form must prominently display all of the following:

1. The petition number.
2. The ballot title.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

89 3. The ballot summary.

90 4. A notice that the form becomes a public record upon
91 receipt by the supervisor.

92 5. A notice that it is a misdemeanor of the first degree
93 to knowingly sign the petition more than once.

94 6. A notice that the form will not be validated if all of
95 the requested information is not completed.

96 7. For a proposed amendment submitted to the Secretary of
97 State after the effective date of this act, the financial impact
98 statement.

99 (b) The petition form must also include all of the
100 following:

101 1. The full text of the proposed amendment.

102 2. The name and address of the sponsor.

103 3. The date received by the Secretary of State.

104 4. A bar code or serial number associated with the
105 initiative petition.

106 (c) The petition form must solicit and require all of the
107 following information:

108 1. The full name of the voter.

109 2. The voter's address and county of legal residence.

110 3. The voter's Florida voter registration number or date
111 of birth.

112 4. The voter's Florida driver license number or the
113 voter's Florida identification card number issued pursuant to s.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

114 322.051, or the last four digits of the voter's social security
115 number.

116 5. An attestation that the voter is a registered Florida
117 voter and is petitioning the Secretary of State to place the
118 proposed amendment on the ballot.

119 6. The voter's signature and the date on which the voter
120 signed the form.

121 (d) A petition form distributed by a petition circulator
122 must also include all of the following:

123 1. The Petition Circulator's Affidavit with the
124 circulator's name, permanent address, and petition circulator
125 number or barcode.

126 2. The following statement, which must be signed and dated
127 by the circulator:

128
129 By my signature below, as petition circulator, I
130 verify that the petition was completed and signed by
131 the voter in my presence. Under penalty of perjury, I
132 declare that I have read the foregoing Petition
133 Circulator's Affidavit, and that the facts stated in
134 it are true, and that if I was paid to circulate or
135 collect this petition, payment was not on a per
136 signature basis.
137

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

138 (e) A petition form distributed by a person other than a
139 petition circulator must also include, in lieu of the Petition
140 Circulator's Affidavit, the following notice:

141
142 This form is for PERSONAL USE only. Unless registered
143 as a petition circulator, it is a third degree felony
144 to collect, deliver, or otherwise physically possess
145 more than 25 signed petition forms in addition to your
146 own or those of immediate family members.

147
148 (f) The petition form must be in a type not less than 10
149 points, except for the full text of the proposed amendment,
150 which may be in a type not less than 6 points if 10-point type
151 would cause the length of the petition form to exceed one page
152 front and back.

153 (4) (a) Beginning July 1, 2025, unless registered as a
154 petition circulator with the Secretary of State and issued a
155 petition circulator number, a person may not collect, deliver,
156 or otherwise physically possess more than 25 signed petition
157 forms in addition to his or her own signed petition form or a
158 signed petition form belonging to an immediate family member.
159 This paragraph may not be construed to prohibit a person from
160 distributing petition forms designated for personal use as
161 described in paragraph (3) (e). For the purposes of this
162 subsection, the term "immediate family" means a person's spouse,

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

163 or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the
164 person or the person's spouse ~~signatures or initiative petitions~~
165 ~~for compensation unless the person is registered as a petition~~
166 ~~circulator with the Secretary of State.~~

167 (b) A person may not collect signatures or initiative
168 petitions if he or she:

169 1. Has been convicted of a felony violation and has not
170 had his or her right to vote restored.

171 2. Is not a citizen of the United States.

172 3. Is not a resident of this state.

173 ~~(b) A citizen may challenge a petition circulator's~~
174 ~~registration under this section by filing a petition in circuit~~
175 ~~court. If the court finds that the respondent is not a~~
176 ~~registered petition circulator, the court may enjoin the~~
177 ~~respondent from collecting signatures or initiative petitions~~
178 ~~for compensation until she or he is lawfully registered.~~

179 (c)(4) An application for registration must be submitted
180 in the format required by the Secretary of State and must
181 include the following:

182 1.(a) The information required to be on the petition form
183 under s. 101.161, including the ballot summary and title as
184 received ~~approved~~ by the Secretary of State.

185 2.(b) The applicant's name, permanent address, temporary
186 address, if applicable, ~~and~~ date of birth, Florida driver

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

187 license or Florida identification card number, and the last four
188 digits of his or her social security number.

189 3.(e) An address in this state at which the applicant will
190 accept service of process related to disputes concerning the
191 petition process, ~~if the applicant is not a resident of this~~
192 ~~state.~~

193 4.(d) A statement that the applicant consents to the
194 jurisdiction of the courts of this state in resolving disputes
195 concerning the petition process.

196 5.(e) Any information required by the Secretary of State
197 to verify the applicant's identity or address.

198 6. Whether the applicant has been convicted of a felony
199 violation and has not had his or her right to vote restored, by
200 including the statement, "I affirm that I am not a convicted
201 felon, or, if I am, my right to vote has been restored," and
202 providing a box for the applicant to check to affirm the
203 statement.

204 7. Whether the applicant is a citizen of the United
205 States, by asking the question, "Are you a citizen of the United
206 States of America?" and providing boxes for the applicant to
207 check whether the applicant is or is not a citizen of the United
208 States.

209 8. Whether the applicant is a Florida resident by asking
210 the question, "Are you a resident of the state of Florida?" and

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

211 providing boxes for the applicant to check whether the applicant
212 is or is not a resident of the state of Florida.

213 9. The signature of the applicant under penalty of perjury
214 for false swearing pursuant to s. 104.011, by which the
215 applicant swears or affirms that the information contained in
216 the application is true.

217 (d) A citizen may challenge a petition circulator's
218 registration under this section by filing a petition in circuit
219 court. If the court finds that the respondent is not a
220 registered petition circulator, the court may enjoin the
221 respondent from collecting signatures or initiative petitions
222 until he or she is lawfully registered.

223 (e) The division may revoke a petition circulator's
224 registration upon the written request of the sponsor of the
225 initiative petition or if the circulator violates this section.

226 (f) A person may not register to collect signatures or
227 initiative petitions until he or she has completed the training
228 concerning the requirements for petition circulators. The
229 training must be developed by the division and must be in an
230 electronic format available on the division's public website.
231 The training must, at a minimum, include the following:

- 232 1. An overview of the petition-gathering process.
233 2. An overview of the petition circulator registration
234 requirements.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

235 3. An explanation that the sponsor of an initiative
236 amendment serves as a fiduciary to each voter who signs a
237 petition.

238 4. An explanation that the Florida Election Code prohibits
239 compensation or provision of any benefit based on the number of
240 petition forms gathered or the time within which a number of
241 petition forms are gathered.

242 5. The specific criminal penalties to which a petition
243 circulator may be subject for violating the Florida Election
244 Code.

245 (g) The sponsor of the initiative amendment is liable for
246 a fine in the amount of \$50,000 for each person the sponsor
247 knowingly allows to collect petition forms on behalf of the
248 sponsor in violation of this subsection.

249 (5) A sponsor may not compensate a petition circulator
250 based on the number of petition forms gathered or the time
251 within which a number of petition forms are gathered. This
252 prohibition includes, but is not limited to, paying a specified
253 amount per petition form gathered, basing an hourly rate on the
254 number of petition forms gathered over a specified period of
255 time, or providing any other benefit or form of compensation
256 based on the number of petition forms gathered. All petitions
257 collected by a petition circulator must contain, in a format
258 required by the Secretary of State, a completed Petition
259 Circulator's Affidavit which includes:

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

~~(a) The circulator's name and permanent address;~~

~~(b) The following statement, which must be signed by the
circulator:~~

~~By my signature below, as petition circulator, I~~

~~verify that the petition was signed in my presence.~~

~~Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have read~~

~~the foregoing Petition Circulator's Affidavit and the~~

~~facts stated in it are true.~~

(6) The division ~~or the supervisor of elections~~ shall make
~~hard copy petition forms or~~ electronic portable document format
petition forms available to registered petition circulators. All
such forms must contain information identifying the petition
circulator to whom ~~which~~ the forms are provided. The division
shall maintain a database of all registered petition circulators
and the petition forms assigned to each. Each supervisor of
elections shall provide to the division information on petition
forms ~~assigned to and~~ received from petition circulators. The
information must be provided in a format and at times as
required by the division by rule. The division must update
information on petition forms daily and make the information
publicly available.

(7)(a) A sponsor that collects petition forms or uses a
petition circulator to collect petition forms serves as a

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

285 fiduciary to the voter elector signing the petition form and
286 shall ensure, ~~ensuring~~ that any petition form entrusted to the
287 sponsor or petition circulator ~~is~~ ~~shall be~~ promptly delivered to
288 the supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter
289 resides within 10 ~~30~~ days after the voter elector signs the
290 form. If a petition form collected by the sponsor or any
291 petition circulator is not promptly delivered to the supervisor
292 of elections, the sponsor is liable for the following fines:

293 1. A fine in the amount of \$50 per each day late for each
294 petition form received by the supervisor of elections in the
295 county in which the voter resides more than 10 ~~30~~ days after the
296 voter elector signed the petition form ~~or the next business day,~~
297 ~~if the office is closed.~~ A fine in the amount of \$2,500 ~~\$250~~ for
298 each petition form received if the sponsor or petition
299 circulator acted willfully.

300 2. A fine in the amount of \$100 per each day late, up to a
301 maximum of \$5,000, for each petition form collected by a sponsor
302 or a petition circulator, signed by a voter on or before
303 February 1 of the year the general election is held and received
304 by the supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter
305 resides after the deadline for such election. A fine in the
306 amount of \$5,000 for each such petition form received if the
307 sponsor or petition circulator acted willfully.

308 3. A fine in the amount of \$500 for each petition form
309 collected by a petition circulator which is not submitted to the

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

supervisor of elections in the county in which the voter resides. A fine in the amount of \$5,000 ~~\$1,000~~ for any petition form not so submitted if the sponsor or petition circulator acting on its behalf acted willfully.

(b) A showing by the sponsor that the failure to deliver the petition form within the required timeframe is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance is an affirmative defense to a violation of this subsection. The fines described in this subsection may be waived upon a showing that the failure to deliver the petition form promptly is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance.

(8) If a person collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor of an initiative petition signs another person's name or a fictitious name to any petition, or fills in missing information on a signed petition, to secure a ballot position in violation of s. 104.185(2), the sponsor of the initiative petition is liable for a fine in the amount of \$5,000 for each such petition.

(9) If a person collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor of an initiative petition copies or retains a voter's personal information, such as the voter's Florida driver license number, Florida identification card number, social security number, or signature, for any reason other than to provide such information to the sponsor of the initiative petition, the

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

334 person commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as
335 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

336 (10) A sponsor of an initiative petition or a person
337 collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor of an
338 initiative petition may not mail or otherwise provide a petition
339 form upon which any information about a voter has been filled in
340 before it is provided to the voter. The sponsor of an initiative
341 petition is liable for a fine in the amount of \$50 for each
342 petition form that is a violation of this subsection.

343 (11)(8) If the Secretary of State reasonably believes that
344 a person or entity has committed a violation of this section,
345 the secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General for
346 enforcement. The Attorney General may institute a civil action
347 for a violation of this section or to prevent a violation of
348 this section. An action for relief may include a permanent or
349 temporary injunction, a restraining order, or any other
350 appropriate order. If the sponsor of an initiative petition
351 discovers a violation of this section and reports the violation
352 as soon as practicable to the secretary, the sponsor may not be
353 finned for such violation.

354 (12)(9) The division shall adopt by rule a complaint form
355 for a voter ~~an elector~~ who claims to have had his or her
356 signature misrepresented, forged, or not delivered to the
357 supervisor. The division shall also adopt rules to ensure the
358 integrity of the petition form gathering process, including

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

rules requiring sponsors to account for all petition forms used by their agents. Such rules may require a sponsor or petition circulator to provide identification information on each petition form as determined by the department as needed to assist in the accounting of petition forms.

(13) ~~(10)~~ The date on which a voter ~~an elector~~ signs a petition form is presumed to be the date on which the petition circulator received or collected the petition form.

(14) (a) ~~(11) (a)~~ An initiative petition form circulated for signature may not be bundled with or attached to any other petition. Each signature shall be dated when made and shall be valid until the next February 1 occurring in an even-numbered year for the purpose of the amendment appearing on the ballot for the general election occurring in that same year, provided all other requirements of law are met. The sponsor shall submit signed and dated forms to the supervisor of elections for the county of residence listed by the person signing the form for verification of the number of valid signatures obtained.

(b) The supervisor shall record the date each submitted petition is received. If a signature on a petition is from a registered voter in another county, the supervisor must ~~shall~~ notify the petition sponsor and the division of the misfiled petition. The supervisor shall promptly verify the signatures within 60 days after receipt of the petition forms and payment and processing of a fee for the actual cost of signature

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

verification incurred by the supervisor. However, for petition forms submitted less than 60 days before February 1 of an even-numbered year, the supervisor shall promptly verify the signatures within 30 days after receipt of the form and payment of the fee for signature verification.

(c) Beginning July 1, 2025, the supervisor shall promptly record, in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State, the date each form is received by the supervisor, and the date the signature on the form is verified as valid. The supervisor may verify that the signature on a form is valid only if:

1. The form contains the original signature of the purported voter ~~elector~~.

2. The purported voter ~~elector~~ has accurately recorded on the form the date on which he or she signed the form.

3. The form sets forth the purported voter's: ~~elector's~~

a. Full name; ~~and~~

b. Address and city, county of residence; ~~and~~

c. Voter registration number or date of birth; ~~and~~

d. Florida driver license or Florida identification card number issued pursuant to s. 322.051 or the last four digits of the voter's social security number.

4. The purported voter ~~elector~~ is, at the time he or she signs the form and at the time the form is verified, a duly qualified and registered voter ~~elector~~ in the state.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

408 5. The signature was obtained legally, including that if a
409 ~~paid~~ petition circulator was used, the circulator was validly
410 registered under subsection (4) ~~(3)~~ when the signature was
411 obtained.

412
413 ~~The supervisor shall retain all signature forms, separating~~
414 ~~forms verified as valid from those deemed invalid, for at least~~
415 ~~1 year following the election for which the petition was~~
416 ~~circulated.~~

417 (d)1.(b) On the last day of each month, or on the last day
418 of each week from December 1 of an odd-numbered year through
419 February 1 of the following year, each supervisor shall
420 electronically transmit all received petition forms to the
421 division. The digital images of the scanned petition forms must
422 be of high enough quality that division personnel are able to
423 accurately discern elements contained in such forms. Forms must
424 be identified as valid or as invalid.

425 2. Each supervisor shall retain all petition forms,
426 identifying forms verified as valid from those deemed invalid,
427 until all petition forms have been processed following the
428 February 1 deadline. As soon as practicable following the
429 processing of the last timely submitted petition form, but not
430 later than March 15 following the February 1 deadline, the
431 supervisor shall deliver the physical forms to the division. The

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

division shall retain all petition forms for 1 year following the election for which the petition was circulated.

(e) Beginning October 1, 2025, when the signature on the petition form is verified as valid, the supervisor shall, as soon as practicable, notify the voter by mail at the mailing address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System.

1. Such notice must be sent by forwardable mail with a postage prepaid preaddressed form, which may be returned to the Office of Election Crimes and Security. The notice must include contact information for the Office of Election Crimes and Security, including the telephone number, fax number, mailing address, and e-mail address. The notice must include all of the following statements or information in substantially the following form:

NOTICE

A petition to place a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot for the next general election, bearing your name and signature, has been received and verified by the Supervisor of Elections Office in ... (insert county)....

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

The petition is for ...(insert the petition serial
number and ballot title)... and was signed on
...(insert the date the voter signed the petition)....

Check this box ☐, sign, and return this notice to the
Office of Election Crimes and Security if you believe
your signature has been misrepresented or forged on a
petition. The petition form in question will be
invalidated and will not be counted toward the number
of signatures required to place this proposed
constitutional amendment on the ballot.

A notice being returned must be received by the Office
of Election Crimes and Security on or before February
1 ... (insert the year in which the general election
is held)....

...(Insert the voter's Florida voter registration
number, and if applicable, the petition circulator's
number)....

By signing below, I swear or affirm that my signature
was misrepresented or forged on the petition form
indicated in this notice.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

...(Voter's Signature)... ...(Date)...

This notice becomes a public record upon receipt by the Office of Election Crimes and Security. It is a second degree misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, Florida Statutes, or s. 772.083, Florida Statutes, for a person to knowingly make a false official statement pursuant to s. 837.06, Florida Statutes.

2. Upon receiving a completed notice, the Office of Election Crimes and Security shall transmit a copy of such notices to the division. The division shall deem the voter's petition form invalid.

(f) Each supervisor shall post the actual cost of signature verification for petition forms received more than 60 days before February 1 of an even-numbered year and for petition forms received less than 60 days before February 1 of an even-numbered year on his or her website, and may increase such cost, as necessary, annually on March 1 ~~February 2 of each even-numbered year.~~ These costs include operating and personnel costs associated with comparing signatures, printing and all postage costs related to the verification notice required by paragraph (e), and transmitting petition forms to the division. The division shall also publish each county's current cost on its

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

505 website. The division and each supervisor shall biennially
506 review available technology aimed at reducing verification
507 costs.

508 ~~(g)-(e)~~ On the last day of each month, or on the last day
509 of each week from December 1 of an odd-numbered year through
510 February 1 of the following year, each supervisor shall post on
511 his or her website the total number of signatures submitted, the
512 total number of invalid signatures, the total number of
513 signatures processed, and the aggregate number of verified valid
514 signatures and the distribution of such signatures by
515 congressional district for each proposed amendment proposed by
516 initiative, along with the following information specific to the
517 reporting period: the total number of signed petition forms
518 received, the total number of signatures verified, the
519 distribution of verified valid signatures by congressional
520 district, and the total number of verified petition forms
521 forwarded to the Secretary of State. For any reporting period in
522 which the percentage of petition forms deemed invalid by the
523 supervisor exceeds a total of 25 percent of the petition forms
524 received by the supervisor for that reporting period, the
525 supervisor shall notify the Office of Election Crimes and
526 Security. The Office of Election Crimes and Security shall
527 conduct a preliminary investigation into the activities of the
528 sponsor, one or more petition circulators, or a person
529 collecting petition forms on behalf of a sponsor, to determine

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

530 whether the invalidated petitions are a result of fraud or any
531 other violation of this section. As authorized by ss. 97.012(15)
532 and 97.022(1), the Office of Elections Crimes and Security may,
533 if warranted, report findings to the statewide prosecutor or the
534 state attorney for the judicial circuit in which the alleged
535 violation occurred for prosecution.

536 (h) A signed petition form submitted by an ineligible or
537 unregistered petition circulator must be invalidated and may not
538 be counted toward the number of necessary signatures for
539 placement on the ballot.

540 (15) ~~(12)~~ The Secretary of State shall determine from the
541 signatures verified by the supervisors of elections the total
542 number of verified valid signatures, less any signatures that
543 were invalidated pursuant to subsection (14), and the
544 distribution of such signatures by congressional districts, and
545 the division shall post such information on its website at the
546 same intervals specified in paragraph (14)(g) ~~(11)(e)~~. Upon a
547 determination that the requisite number and distribution of
548 valid signatures have been obtained, the secretary shall issue a
549 certificate of ballot position for that proposed amendment and
550 shall assign a designating number pursuant to s. 101.161. The
551 secretary must rescind the certificate of ballot position if an
552 advisory opinion issued by the Supreme Court pursuant to s.
553 16.061(1) deems the initiative petition invalid.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

554 (16) (a) ~~(13) (a)~~ Upon receipt of a proposed revision or
555 amendment from the Secretary of State, the coordinator of the
556 Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall contact the
557 person identified as the sponsor to request an official list of
558 all persons authorized to speak on behalf of the named sponsor
559 and, if there is one, the sponsoring organization at meetings
560 held by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference. All other
561 persons must be deemed interested parties or proponents or
562 opponents of the initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating
563 Conference shall provide an opportunity for any representative
564 of the sponsor, interested parties, and proponents or opponents
565 of the initiative to submit information and may solicit
566 information or analysis from any other entities or agencies,
567 including the Office of Economic and Demographic Research ~~At the~~
568 ~~same time the Secretary of State submits an initiative petition~~
569 ~~to the Attorney General pursuant to s. 15.21, the secretary~~
570 ~~shall submit a copy of the initiative petition to the Financial~~
571 ~~Impact Estimating Conference.~~

572 (b) Within 75 days after receipt of a proposed revision or
573 amendment to the State Constitution by initiative petition from
574 the Secretary of State, the Financial Impact Estimating
575 Conference shall complete an analysis and financial impact
576 statement to be placed on the ballot of the estimated increase
577 or decrease in any revenues or costs to state or local
578 governments and the overall impact to the state budget resulting

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

579 from the proposed initiative. The 75-day time limit is tolled
580 when the Legislature is in session. The Financial Impact
581 Estimating Conference shall submit the financial impact
582 statement to the ~~Attorney General and~~ Secretary of State. If the
583 ~~initiative petition has been submitted to the Financial Impact~~
584 ~~Estimating Conference but the validity of signatures has expired~~
585 ~~and the initiative petition no longer qualifies for ballot~~
586 ~~placement at the ensuing general election, the Secretary of~~
587 ~~State must notify the Financial Impact Estimating Conference.~~
588 The Financial Impact Estimating Conference does ~~is~~ not required
589 ~~to~~ complete an analysis and financial impact statement for an
590 initiative petition ~~that fails to meet the requirements of~~
591 ~~subsection (1) for placement on the ballot before the 75-day~~
592 ~~time limit, including any tolling period, expires, the ballot~~
593 ~~must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(e). The~~
594 ~~initiative petition may be resubmitted to the Financial Impact~~
595 ~~Estimating Conference if the initiative petition meets the~~
596 ~~requisite criteria for a subsequent general election cycle. A~~
597 ~~new Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be established~~
598 ~~at such time as the initiative petition again satisfies the~~
599 ~~criteria in s. 15.21(1).~~

600 ~~(b) Immediately upon receipt of a proposed revision or~~
601 ~~amendment from the Secretary of State, the coordinator of the~~
602 ~~Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall contact the~~
603 ~~person identified as the sponsor to request an official list of~~

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

~~all persons authorized to speak on behalf of the named sponsor and, if there is one, the sponsoring organization at meetings held by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference. All other persons shall be deemed interested parties or proponents or opponents of the initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall provide an opportunity for any representatives of the sponsor, interested parties, proponents, or opponents of the initiative to submit information and may solicit information or analysis from any other entities or agencies, including the Office of Economic and Demographic Research.~~

(c) The Financial Impact Estimating Conference may be convened only by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, jointly. All meetings of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be open to the public. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, jointly, shall be the sole judge for the interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of this subsection.

1. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference is established to review, analyze, and estimate the financial impact of amendments to or revisions of the State Constitution proposed by initiative. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall be composed ~~consist~~ of four principals: one person from the professional staff of the Executive Office of the Governor or from a state agency, designated by the Governor;

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

the coordinator of the Office of Economic and Demographic Research, or his or her designee; one person from the professional staff of the Senate, designated by the President of the Senate; and one person from the professional staff of the House of Representatives, designated by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Each principal shall have appropriate fiscal expertise in the subject matter of the initiative. A Financial Impact Estimating Conference may be appointed for each initiative.

2. Principals of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall reach a consensus or majority concurrence on a clear and unambiguous financial impact statement, no more than 150 words in length, and immediately submit the statement to the Attorney General. Nothing in this subsection prohibits the Financial Impact Estimating Conference from setting forth a range of potential impacts in the financial impact statement. ~~Any financial impact statement that a court finds not to be in accordance with this section shall be remanded solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for redrafting. The Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall redraft the financial impact statement within 15 days.~~

~~3. If the Supreme Court has rejected the initial submission by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference and no redraft has been approved by the Supreme Court by 5 p.m. on the 75th day before the election, the following statement shall~~

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

~~appear on the ballot: "The impact of this measure, if any, has not been determined at this time."~~

(d) The financial impact statement must be separately contained on the petition form and the ballot and be set forth after the ballot summary as required in s. 101.161(1).

1. If the financial impact statement projects a net negative impact on the state budget, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(b).

2. If the financial impact statement projects a net positive impact on the state budget, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(c).

3. If the financial impact statement estimates an indeterminate financial impact or if the members of the Financial Impact Estimating Conference are unable to agree on the statement required by this subsection, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(d).

4. If the financial impact statement was not produced or if the Financial Impact Estimating Conference did not meet to produce the financial statement, the ballot must include the statement required by s. 101.161(1)(e).

~~(e)1. Any financial impact statement that the Supreme Court finds not to be in accordance with this subsection shall be remanded solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for redrafting, provided the court's advisory opinion is rendered at least 75 days before the election at which the~~

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

~~question of ratifying the amendment will be presented. The~~
Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall prepare and adopt a
revised financial impact statement no later than 5 p.m. on the
15th day after the date of the court's opinion. The sponsor of
the initiative must refile the petition with the revised
financial impact statement with the Secretary of State as a new
petition.

~~2. If, by 5 p.m. on the 75th day before the election, the~~
~~Supreme Court has not issued an advisory opinion on the initial~~
~~financial impact statement prepared by the Financial Impact~~
~~Estimating Conference for an initiative amendment that otherwise~~
~~meets the legal requirements for ballot placement, the financial~~
~~impact statement shall be deemed approved for placement on the~~
~~ballot.~~

(f)3. In addition to the financial impact statement
required by this subsection, the Financial Impact Estimating
Conference shall draft an initiative financial information
statement. The initiative financial information statement should
describe in greater detail than the financial impact statement
any projected increase or decrease in revenues or costs that the
state or local governments would likely experience if the ballot
measure were approved. If appropriate, the initiative financial
information statement may include both estimated dollar amounts
and a description placing the estimated dollar amounts into
context. The initiative financial information statement must

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

704 include both a summary of not more than 500 words and additional
705 detailed information that includes the assumptions that were
706 made to develop the financial impacts, workpapers, and any other
707 information deemed relevant by the Financial Impact Estimating
708 Conference.

709 (g)4. The Department of State shall have printed, and
710 shall furnish to each supervisor of elections, a copy of the
711 summary from the initiative financial information statements.
712 The supervisors shall have the summary from the initiative
713 financial information statements available at each polling place
714 and at the main office of the supervisor of elections upon
715 request.

716 (h)5. The Secretary of State and the Office of Economic
717 and Demographic Research shall make available on the Internet
718 each initiative financial information statement in its entirety.
719 In addition, each supervisor of elections whose office has a
720 website shall post the summary from each initiative financial
721 information statement on the website. Each supervisor shall
722 include a copy of each summary from the initiative financial
723 information statements and the Internet addresses for the
724 information statements on the Secretary of State's and the
725 Office of Economic and Demographic Research's websites in the
726 publication or mailing required by s. 101.20.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

727 ~~(17)-(14)~~ The Department of State may adopt rules in
728 accordance with s. 120.54 to implement this section ~~carry out~~
729 ~~the provisions of subsections (1)-(14)~~.

730 ~~(18)-(15)~~ No provision of this code shall be deemed to
731 prohibit a private person exercising lawful control over
732 privately owned property, including property held open to the
733 public for the purposes of a commercial enterprise, from
734 excluding from such property persons seeking to engage in
735 activity supporting or opposing initiative amendments.

736 **Section 7.** (1) By July 1, 2025, the Department of State
737 shall update the forms as required by the amendments made to s.
738 100.371(3), Florida Statutes, for any proposed amendments
739 received before July 1, 2025.

740 (2) (a) By June 1, 2025, the Department of State shall make
741 available a new petition circulator application to incorporate
742 the amendments made to s. 100.371(4), Florida Statutes.

743 (b)1. Effective July 1, 2025, the registration of each
744 petition circulator expires.

745 2. No later than 7 days after this section becomes law,
746 the Department of State shall notify each petition circulator
747 that his or her registration expires on July 1, 2025, and that
748 he or she may reregister by completing a new application that
749 will be available before the current registration expires.

750 (c) By June 1, 2025, the Department of State shall develop
751 the training required by s. 100.371(4) (f), Florida Statutes.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

(3) No later than October 1, 2025, a supervisor of elections may increase the cost of signature verification pursuant to the amendments made to s. 100.371(14)(f), Florida Statutes. A supervisor shall post the cost of signature verification on his or her publicly available website as soon as such cost is determined.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 101.161, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (e) is added to that subsection, to read:

101.161 Referenda; ballots.—

(1) Whenever a constitutional amendment or other public measure is submitted to the vote of the people, a ballot summary of such amendment or other public measure shall be printed in clear and unambiguous language on the ballot after the list of candidates, followed by the word "yes" and also by the word "no," and shall be styled in such a manner that a "yes" vote will indicate approval of the proposal and a "no" vote will indicate rejection. The ballot summary of the amendment or other public measure and the ballot title to appear on the ballot shall be embodied in the constitutional revision commission proposal, constitutional convention proposal, taxation and budget reform commission proposal, or enabling resolution or ordinance. The ballot summary of the amendment or other public measure shall be an explanatory statement, not exceeding 75 words in length, of the chief purpose of the measure. In

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

addition, for every constitutional amendment proposed by initiative, the ballot shall include, following the ballot summary, in the following order:

(a) A separate financial impact statement concerning the measure prepared by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference in accordance with s. 100.371(16) ~~s. 100.371(13)~~.

(e) If the financial impact statement was not produced or if the Financial Impact Estimating Conference did not meet to produce the financial impact statement, the following statement in bold print:

THE FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THIS AMENDMENT, IF ANY, HAS NOT BEEN DETERMINED AT THIS TIME.

The ballot title shall consist of a caption, not exceeding 15 words in length, by which the measure is commonly referred to or spoken of. This subsection does not apply to constitutional amendments or revisions proposed by joint resolution.

Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

(2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 8 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 8 a.m. on the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office and

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

for each constitutional amendment. If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a typographical error occurred in the official returns of the county, the correction of which could result in a change in the outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours, and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and recertify the election returns as soon as practicable.

Section 10. Section 102.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.121 Elections Canvassing Commission to issue certificates.—The Elections Canvassing Commission shall make and sign separate certificates of the result of the election for federal officers, and state officers, and constitutional amendments, which certificates must ~~shall~~ be written and contain the total number of votes cast for and against each person for each office and the total number of votes cast for and against each constitutional amendment. The certificates, the one including the result of the election for presidential electors and representatives to Congress, and the other including the result of the election for state officers, shall be recorded in the Department of State in a book to be kept for that purpose.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

Section 11. Subsections (1), (3), and (4) of section 102.168, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

102.168 Contest of election.—

(1) Except as provided in s. 102.171, the certification of election or nomination of any person to office, or of the adoption of a constitutional amendment or the result on any question submitted by referendum, may be contested in the circuit court by any unsuccessful candidate for such office or nomination thereto or by any voter ~~elector~~ qualified to vote in the election related to such candidacy or constitutional amendment, or by any taxpayer, respectively.

(3) The complaint must ~~shall~~ set forth the grounds on which the contestant intends to establish his or her right to such office; or set aside the result of the election on a submitted referendum or constitutional amendment. The grounds for contesting an election or a constitutional amendment under this section are:

(a) Misconduct, fraud, or corruption on the part of any election official or any member of the canvassing board sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of the election.

(b) Ineligibility of the successful candidate for the nomination or office in dispute or of the proposed constitutional amendment for placement on the ballot.

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

(c) Receipt of a number of illegal votes or rejection of a number of legal votes sufficient to change or place in doubt the result of the election.

(d) Proof that any voter ~~elector~~, election official, or canvassing board member was given or offered a bribe or reward in money, property, or any other thing of value for the purpose of procuring the successful candidate's nomination or election or determining the result on any question ~~submitted~~ by referendum or constitutional amendment.

(4) The canvassing board responsible for canvassing the election is an indispensable party defendant in county and local elections. The Elections Canvassing Commission is an indispensable party defendant in federal, state, and multicounty elections, in elections for constitutional amendments, and in elections for justice of the Supreme Court, judge of a district court of appeal, and judge of a circuit court. The successful candidate is an indispensable party to any action brought to contest the election or nomination of a candidate. The sponsor of a constitutional amendment proposed by initiative petition, identified pursuant to s. 100.371, is an indispensable party to any action brought to contest such election.

Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 104.185, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.185 Petitions; knowingly signing more than once; signing another person's name or a fictitious name.—

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

(2) A person who signs another person's name or a fictitious name to any petition, or who fills in missing information on a signed petition, to secure ballot position for a candidate, a minor political party, or an issue commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 13. Section 104.186, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.186 Initiative petitions; violations.—A person who compensates a petition circulator as defined in s. 97.021 based on the number of petition forms gathered, as prohibited by s. 100.371(5), commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. This section does not prohibit employment relationships that do not base payment on the number of signatures collected.

Section 14. Section 104.187, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.187 Initiative petitions; registration.—A person who violates s. 100.371(4)(a) ~~s. 100.371(3)~~ commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 15. Effective July 1, 2025, section 104.188, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

104.188 Petition forms gathered from immediate family; violations.—

258567

Approved For Filing: 5/1/2025 4:19:17 PM

Amendment No.

900 (1) For the purposes of this section, the term "immediate
901 family" means a person's spouse or the parent, child,
902 grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the person or the
903 person's spouse.

904 (2) A person who collects, delivers, or otherwise
905 physically possesses more than 25 signed petition forms in

258567

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