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**INITIATIVES AND REFERENDA AMENDMENTS**  
2024 GENERAL SESSION  
STATE OF UTAH  
**Chief Sponsor: Jennifer Dailey-Provost**  
Senate Sponsor: Curtis S. Bramble

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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;
- ▶ in relation to the alternate procedure described in the preceding paragraph:
  - modifies certain forms to reflect the alternate procedure; and
  - makes it a crime to engage in certain fraudulent activity;
- ▶ 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 the signature-gatherer to attest that the individual understands the statement or law;

- 28       ▶ modifies the verification form for a signature packet;
- 29       ▶ modifies certain mailing requirements to permit other delivery methods;
- 30       ▶ requires a local clerk to provide petition sponsors with a copy of the voter information
- 31 pamphlet to be included in the signature packet; and
- 32       ▶ makes technical and conforming changes.

33 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

34       None

35 **Other Special Clauses:**

36       None

37 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

38 AMENDS:

- 39       **20A-1-1003**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116 and last amended by
- 40       Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116
- 41       **20A-7-101**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116
- 42       **20A-7-104**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapter 418
- 43       **20A-7-105**, as enacted by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 116
- 44       **20A-7-202.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 45       **20A-7-203**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 46       **20A-7-204**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 47       **20A-7-209**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107 and last amended by
- 48       Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 45
- 49       **20A-7-213**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116
- 50       **20A-7-215**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 51       **20A-7-216**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116
- 52       **20A-7-303**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 53       **20A-7-308**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107
- 54       **20A-7-312**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 55       **20A-7-313**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 56       **20A-7-314**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116
- 57       **20A-7-502.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 58       **20A-7-503**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 59       **20A-7-504**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 60       **20A-7-508**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107 and last amended by
- 61       Coordination Clause, Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 45

- 62 **20A-7-512**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 63 **20A-7-514**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 64 **20A-7-515**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116
- 65 **20A-7-602.5**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 66 **20A-7-603**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 67 **20A-7-604**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 68 **20A-7-608**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 45, 107
- 69 **20A-7-612**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 70 **20A-7-614**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapter 107
- 71 **20A-7-615**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2023, Chapters 107, 116

72 ENACTS:

73 **20A-7-106**, as Utah Code Annotated 1953

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

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

77 **20A-1-1003 . Signature removal -- Statement required.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

86 and

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

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

90 (b) Except as provided in Subsection [~~20A-7-216(5)(e), 20A-7-314(5)(e), 20A-7-515~~  
91 ~~(4)(d), or 20A-7-615(4)(d)~~] 20A-7-216(5)(a), 20A-7-314(5)(a), 20A-7-515(4)(b), or  
92 20A-7-615(4)(b), a voter may not submit a statement described in Subsection (1) by  
93 email or other electronic means.

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

96 law governing the petition.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

126 ~~[(d) if]~~

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

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

130           **20A-7-101 . Definitions.**

131           As used in this chapter:

- 132 (1) "Approved device" means a device described in Subsection 20A-21-201(4) used to  
133 gather signatures for the electronic initiative process, the electronic referendum process,  
134 or the electronic candidate qualification process.
- 135 (2) "Budget officer" means:
- 136 (a) for a county, the person designated as finance officer as defined in Section 17-36-3;  
137 (b) for a city, the person designated as budget officer in Subsection 10-6-106(4);  
138 (c) for a town, the town council; or  
139 (d) for a metro township, the person described in Subsection (2)(a) for the county in  
140 which the metro township is located.
- 141 (3) "Certified" means that the county clerk has acknowledged a signature as being the  
142 signature of a registered voter.
- 143 (4) "Circulation" means the process of submitting an initiative petition or a referendum  
144 petition to legal voters for their signature.
- 145 (5) "Electronic initiative process" means:
- 146 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-215  
147 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or  
148 (b) as it relates to a local initiative, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-514 and  
149 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.
- 150 (6) "Electronic referendum process" means:
- 151 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-313  
152 and 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures; or  
153 (b) as it relates to a local referendum, the process, described in Sections 20A-7-614 and  
154 20A-21-201, for gathering signatures.
- 155 (7) "Eligible voter" means a legal voter who resides in the jurisdiction of the county, city, or  
156 town that is holding an election on a ballot proposition.
- 157 (8) "Final fiscal impact statement" means a financial statement prepared after voters  
158 approve an initiative that contains the information required by Subsection 20A-7-202.5  
159 (2) or 20A-7-502.5(2).
- 160 (9) "Initial fiscal impact statement" means  
161 a financial statement prepared under Section 20A-7-202.5 after the filing of a statewide  
162 initiative application.
- 163 (10) "Initial fiscal impact and legal statement" means a financial and legal statement

- 164 prepared under Section 20A-7-502.5 or 20A-7-602.5 for a local initiative or a local  
165 referendum.
- 166 (11) "Initiative" means a new law proposed for adoption by the public as provided in this  
167 chapter.
- 168 (12) "Initiative application" means:
- 169 (a) for a statewide initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2) that  
170 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
171 required under Subsection 20A-7-202(2); or
- 172 (b) for a local initiative, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2) that  
173 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
174 required under Subsection 20A-7-502(2).
- 175 (13) "Initiative packet" means a copy of the initiative petition, a copy of the proposed law,  
176 and the signature sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.
- 177 (14) "Initiative petition":
- 178 (a) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 179 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(a), petitioning for  
180 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and
- 181 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
182 Subsection 20A-7-203(2)(b);
- 183 (b) as it relates to a statewide initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 184 (i) means the form described in Subsections 20A-7-215(2) and (3), petitioning for  
185 submission of the initiative to the Legislature or the legal voters; and
- 186 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
187 Subsection 20A-7-215(5)(b);
- 188 (c) as it relates to a local initiative, using the manual initiative process:
- 189 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(a), petitioning for  
190 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and
- 191 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
192 Subsection 20A-7-503(2)(b); or
- 193 (d) as it relates to a local initiative, using the electronic initiative process:
- 194 (i) means the form described in Subsection 20A-7-514(2)(a), petitioning for  
195 submission of the initiative to the legislative body or the legal voters; and
- 196 (ii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, includes the statement described in  
197 Subsection 20A-7-514(4)(a).

- 198 (15) (a) "Land use law" means a law of general applicability, enacted based on the  
199 weighing of broad, competing policy considerations, that relates to the use of land,  
200 including land use regulation, a general plan, a land use development code, an  
201 annexation ordinance, the rezoning of a single property or multiple properties, or a  
202 comprehensive zoning ordinance or resolution.
- 203 (b) "Land use law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-9a-103  
204 or 17-27a-103.
- 205 (16) "Legal signatures" means the number of signatures of legal voters that:  
206 (a) meet the numerical requirements of this chapter; and  
207 (b) have been obtained, certified, and verified as provided in this chapter.
- 208 (17) "Legal voter" means an individual who is registered to vote in Utah.
- 209 (18) "Legally referable to voters" means:  
210 (a) for a proposed local initiative, that the proposed local initiative is legally referable to  
211 voters under Section 20A-7-502.7; or  
212 (b) for a proposed local referendum, that the proposed local referendum is legally  
213 referable to voters under Section 20A-7-602.7.
- 214 (19) "Local attorney" means the county attorney, city attorney, or town attorney in whose  
215 jurisdiction a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 216 (20) "Local clerk" means the county clerk, city recorder, or town clerk in whose jurisdiction  
217 a local initiative or referendum petition is circulated.
- 218 (21) (a) "Local law" includes:  
219 (i) an ordinance;  
220 (ii) a resolution;  
221 (iii) a land use law;  
222 (iv) a land use regulation, as defined in Section 10-9a-103; or  
223 (v) other legislative action of a local legislative body.
- 224 (b) "Local law" does not include a land use decision, as defined in Section 10-9a-103.
- 225 (22) "Local legislative body" means the legislative body of a county, city, town, or metro  
226 township.
- 227 (23) "Local obligation law" means a local law passed by the local legislative body  
228 regarding a bond that was approved by a majority of qualified voters in an election.
- 229 (24) "Local tax law" means a law, passed by a political subdivision with an annual or  
230 biannual calendar fiscal year, that increases a tax or imposes a new tax.
- 231 (25) "Manual initiative process" means the process for gathering signatures for an initiative

- 232 using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 233 (26) "Manual referendum process" means the process for gathering signatures for a  
234 referendum using paper signature packets that a signer physically signs.
- 235 (27) "Measure" means a proposed constitutional amendment, an initiative, or referendum.
- 236 (28) "Referendum" means a process by which a law passed by the Legislature or by a local  
237 legislative body is submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection.
- 238 (29) "Referendum application" means:
- 239 (a) for a statewide referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2) that  
240 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
241 required under Subsection 20A-7-302(2); or
- 242 (b) for a local referendum, an application described in Subsection 20A-7-602(2) that  
243 includes all the information, statements, documents, and notarized signatures  
244 required under Subsection 20A-7-602(2).
- 245 (30) "Referendum packet" means a copy of the referendum petition, a copy of the law being  
246 submitted or referred to the voters for their approval or rejection, and the signature  
247 sheets, all of which have been bound together as a unit.
- 248 (31) "Referendum petition" means:
- 249 (a) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the manual referendum process, the  
250 form described in Subsection 20A-7-303(2)(a), petitioning for submission of a law  
251 passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or rejection;
- 252 (b) as it relates to a statewide referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the  
253 form described in Subsection 20A-7-313(2), petitioning for submission of a law  
254 passed by the Legislature to legal voters for their approval or rejection;
- 255 (c) as it relates to a local referendum, using the manual referendum process, the form  
256 described in Subsection 20A-7-603(2)(a), petitioning for submission of a local law to  
257 legal voters for their approval or rejection; or
- 258 (d) as it relates to a local referendum, using the electronic referendum process, the form  
259 described in Subsection 20A-7-614(2), petitioning for submission of a local law to  
260 legal voters for their approval or rejection.
- 261 (32) "Signature":
- 262 (a) for a statewide initiative:
- 263 (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature  
264 collected under Section 20A-7-215 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 265 (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:

- 266 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
267 described in Section 20A-7-203; [~~and~~]
- 268 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
269 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
270 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
271 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
272 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 273 [~~B~~] (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 274 (b) for a statewide referendum:
- 275 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature  
276 collected under Section 20A-7-313 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 277 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 278 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
279 described in Section 20A-7-303; [~~and~~]
- 280 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
281 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
282 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
283 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
284 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 285 [~~B~~] (C) does not include an electronic signature;
- 286 (c) for a local initiative:
- 287 (i) as it relates to the electronic initiative process, means an electronic signature  
288 collected under Section 20A-7-514 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 289 (ii) as it relates to the manual initiative process:
- 290 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet  
291 described in Section 20A-7-503; [~~and~~]
- 292 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the  
293 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to  
294 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's  
295 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in  
296 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 297 [~~B~~] (C) does not include an electronic signature; or
- 298 (d) for a local referendum:
- 299 (i) as it relates to the electronic referendum process, means an electronic signature

- 300 collected under Section 20A-7-614 and Subsection 20A-21-201(6)(c); or
- 301 (ii) as it relates to the manual referendum process:
- 302 (A) means a holographic signature collected physically on a signature sheet
- 303 described in Section 20A-7-603; ~~and~~
- 304 (B) as it relates to an individual who, due to a qualifying disability under the
- 305 Americans with Disabilities Act, is unable to fill out the signature sheet or to
- 306 sign the voter's name consistently, the initials "AV," indicating that the voter's
- 307 identity will be verified by an alternate verification process described in
- 308 Section 20A-7-106; and
- 309 ~~(B)~~ (C) does not include an electronic signature.
- 310 (33) "Signature sheets" means sheets in the form required by this chapter that are used
- 311 under the manual initiative process or the manual referendum process to collect
- 312 signatures in support of an initiative or referendum.
- 313 (34) "Special local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition that is not a standard
- 314 local ballot proposition.
- 315 (35) "Sponsors" means the legal voters who support the initiative or referendum and who
- 316 sign the initiative application or referendum application.
- 317 (36) (a) "Standard local ballot proposition" means a local ballot proposition for an
- 318 initiative or a referendum.
- 319 (b) "Standard local ballot proposition" does not include a property tax referendum
- 320 described in Section 20A-7-613.
- 321 (37) "Tax percentage difference" means the difference between the tax rate proposed by an
- 322 initiative or an initiative petition and the current tax rate.
- 323 (38) "Tax percentage increase" means a number calculated by dividing the tax percentage
- 324 difference by the current tax rate and rounding the result to the nearest thousandth.
- 325 (39) "Verified" means acknowledged by the person circulating the petition as required in
- 326 Section 20A-7-105.
- 327 Section 3. Section **20A-7-104** is amended to read:
- 328 **20A-7-104 . Signature gatherers -- Payments -- Badges -- Information --**
- 329 **Requirement to provide initiative or referendum for reading.**
- 330 (1) A person may not pay a person to gather signatures under this chapter based on a rate
- 331 per signature, on a rate per verified signature, or on the initiative or referendum
- 332 qualifying for the ballot.
- 333 (2) A person that pays a person to gather signatures under this section shall base the

- 334 payment solely on an hourly rate.
- 335 (3) A person may not accept payment made in violation of this section.
- 336 (4) An individual who is paid to gather signatures for a petition described in this chapter  
337 shall, while gathering signatures, wear a badge on the front of the individual's torso that  
338 complies with the following, ensuring that the information on the badge is clearly visible  
339 to the individual from whom a signature is sought:
- 340 (a) the badge shall be printed in black ink on white cardstock and laminated; and  
341 (b) the information on the badge shall be in at least 24-point type and include the  
342 following information:
- 343 (i) an identification number that is unique to the individual gathering signatures,  
344 assigned by:
- 345 (A) for a statewide initiative or referendum, the lieutenant governor; or  
346 (B) for a local initiative or referendum, the local clerk;
- 347 (ii) the title of the initiative or referendum;
- 348 (iii) the words "Paid Signature Gatherer"; and  
349 (iv) the name of the entity paying the signature gatherer.
- 350 (5) ~~[Except as provided in Subsection (6)(b), an]~~ An individual who gathers signatures  
351 under this chapter shall ~~[provide]~~ offer a paper document to each individual who signs  
352 the petition that:
- 353 (a) is printed in black ink on white paper, white cardstock, or a white sticker, in at least  
354 12-point type; and  
355 (b) (i) for an initiative, includes the name of the initiative and the following statement:  
356 "You may view the initiative, its fiscal impact, and information on removing your  
signature  
357 from the petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the information  
358 described in Section 20A-7-202.7 or 20A-7-502.6, as applicable]."; or  
359 (ii) for a referendum, includes the name of the referendum and the following statement:  
360 "You may view the referendum and information on removing your signature from the  
361 petition at [list a uniform resource locator that links directly to the information described in  
362 Section 20A-7-304.5 or 20A-7-604.5, as applicable]."
- 363 (6) An individual who gathers signatures under this chapter~~[: (a)]~~ shall, before collecting  
364 a signature from an individual, present to the individual a printed or digital copy of  
365 the initiative or referendum and wait for the individual to read the initiative or  
366 referendum~~[: and]~~ .

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

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

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

372 **20A-7-105 . Manual petition processes -- Obtaining signatures -- Verification --**  
 373 **Submitting the petition -- Certification of signatures -- Transfer to lieutenant**  
 374 **governor -- Removal of signature.**

375 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process and the manual referendum  
 376 process.

377 (2) As used in this section:

378 (a) "Local petition" means:

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

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

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

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

385 (d) "Statewide petition" means:

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

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

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

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

390 (i) is a legal voter; and

391 (ii) resides in the local jurisdiction.

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

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

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

397 (iii) is informed that each signer is required to read and understand:

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

399 (B) for a referendum petition, the law that the referendum seeks to overturn.

400 (b) An individual may not sign the verification printed on the last page of a packet if the

- 401 individual signed a signature sheet in the packet.
- 402 (5) (a) The sponsors, or an agent of the sponsors, shall submit a signed and verified  
403 packet to the county clerk of the county in which the packet was circulated before 5  
404 p.m. no later than the earlier of:
- 405 (i) for a statewide initiative:
- 406 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the initiative packet;  
407 (B) 316 days after the day on which the application for the initiative petition is  
408 filed; or  
409 (C) the February 15 immediately before the next regular general election  
410 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-202;
- 411 (ii) for a statewide referendum:
- 412 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the referendum  
413 packet; or  
414 (B) 40 days after the day on which the legislative session at which the law passed  
415 ends;
- 416 (iii) for a local initiative:
- 417 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the initiative packet;  
418 (B) 316 days after the day on which the application is filed;  
419 (C) the April 15 immediately before the next regular general election immediately  
420 after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local initiative is a  
421 county initiative; or  
422 (D) the April 15 immediately before the next municipal general election  
423 immediately after the application is filed under Section 20A-7-502, if the local  
424 initiative is a municipal initiative; or
- 425 (iv) for a local referendum:
- 426 (A) 30 days after the day on which the first individual signs the referendum  
427 packet; or  
428 (B) 45 days after the day on which the sponsors receive the items described in  
429 Subsection 20A-7-604(3) from the local clerk.
- 430 (b) A person may not submit a packet after the applicable deadline described in  
431 Subsection (5)(a).
- 432 (c) Before delivering an initiative packet to the county clerk under this Subsection (5),  
433 the sponsors shall send an email to each individual who provides a legible, valid  
434 email address on the signature sheet that includes the following:

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

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

438 "You signed a petition for the following initiative:

439 [insert title of initiative]

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

445 (d) When the sponsors submit the last initiative packet to the county clerk, the sponsors  
 446 shall submit to the county clerk:

447 (i) a list containing:

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

450 (B) the date the email was sent;

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

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

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

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

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

459 \_\_\_\_\_  
 460 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)".

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

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

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

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

- 470 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter;
- 471 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal
- 472 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's
- 473 website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and
- 474 (C) deliver the verified packet to the lieutenant governor;
- 475 (iii) for a local initiative or a local referendum:
- 476 (A) certify on the petition whether each name is that of a legal voter who is
- 477 registered in the jurisdiction to which the initiative or referendum relates;
- 478 (B) post the name, voter identification number, and date of signature of each legal
- 479 voter certified under Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(A) on the lieutenant governor's
- 480 website, in a conspicuous location designated by the lieutenant governor; and
- 481 (C) deliver the verified packet to the local clerk.
- 482 (b) For a local initiative or local referendum, the local clerk shall post a link in a
- 483 conspicuous location on the local government's website to the posting described in
- 484 Subsection (6)(a)(iii)(B):
- 485 (i) for a local initiative, during the period of time described in Subsection 20A-7-507
- 486 (3)(a); or
- 487 (ii) for a local referendum, during the period of time described in Subsection
- 488 20A-7-607(2)(a)(i).
- 489 (7) The county clerk may not certify a signature under Subsection (6):
- 490 (a) on a packet that is not verified in accordance with Subsection (4); or
- 491 (b) that does not have a date of signature next to the signature.
- 492 (8) (a) A voter who signs a statewide initiative petition may have the voter's signature
- 493 removed from the petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to
- 494 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed no later
- 495 than the earlier of:
- 496 (i) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk before December 1:
- 497 (A) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal
- 498 statement; or
- 499 (B) 90 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name
- 500 under Subsection 20A-7-207(2); or
- 501 (ii) for an initiative packet received by the county clerk on or after December 1:
- 502 (A) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal
- 503 statement; or

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

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

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

511 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name  
512 under Subsection 20A-7-307(2).

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

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

518 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under  
519 Subsection 20A-7-507(2);

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

521 (iv) (A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular  
522 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section  
523 20A-7-502; or

524 (B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal  
525 general election immediately after the application is filed under Section  
526 20A-7-502.

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

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

532 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under  
533 Subsection 20A-7-607(2)(a).

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

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

538 deadline described in this Subsection (8).  
 539 ~~[(g)]~~ (f) A county clerk shall analyze a signature, for purposes of removing a signature  
 540 from a petition, in accordance with Subsection 20A-1-1003(3).

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

- 544 (i) ensure that the voter's name, voter identification number, and date of signature are
- 545 not included in the posting described in Subsection (6)(a)(ii)(B) or (iii)(B); and
- 546 (ii) remove the voter's signature from the signature packets and signature packet
- 547 totals.

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

- 549 (i) the deadline described in Subsection (6)(a); or
- 550 (ii) two business days after the day on which the county clerk receives a statement
- 551 requesting signature removal under Subsection (8).

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

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

555 **20A-7-106 . Petition signature or removal for an individual with a disability.**

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

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

562 (b) direct the individual gathering signatures to:

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

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

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

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

571 (2) If a voter who desires to remove the voter's signature from a petition is, due to a

572 qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act, unable to sign the  
 573 voter's name consistently, the voter may, instead of signing the statement described in  
 574 Section 20A-1-1003:

575 (a) place the initials "AV" to indicate that the county clerk must use an alternate  
 576 verification process to verify the validity of the voter's signature; and  
 577 (b) include in the statement a phone number, email address, or other method that the  
 578 county clerk may use to contact the voter to verify the identity of the voter.

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

580 (a) the process described in Subsection 20A-3a-401(7)(b); or  
 581 (b) another process established by rule, made by the director of elections within the  
 582 Office of the Lieutenant Governor, in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah  
 583 Administrative Rulemaking Act.

584 Section 6. Section **20A-7-202.5** is amended to read:

585 **20A-7-202.5 . Initial fiscal impact statement -- Preparation of statement --**

586 **Challenge to statement.**

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

590 (2) (a) The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare an unbiased, good faith  
 591 initial fiscal impact statement for the proposed law, not exceeding 100 words plus  
 592 100 words per revenue source created or impacted by the proposed law, that contains:

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

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

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

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

- 606 (v) a dollar amount representing the estimated cost or savings, if any, to state or local  
607 government entities under the proposed law;
- 608 (vi) if the proposed law would increase costs to state government, a listing of all  
609 sources of funding for the estimated costs; and
- 610 (vii) a concise description and analysis titled "Funding Source," not to exceed 100  
611 words for each funding source, of the funding source information described in  
612 Subsection 20A-7-202(2)(e)(ii).
- 613 (b) If the proposed law is estimated to have no fiscal impact, the Office of the Legislative  
614 Fiscal Analyst shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact statement in  
615 substantially the following form:
- 616 "The Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst estimates that the law proposed by this  
617 initiative would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an increase or  
618 decrease in taxes or debt."
- 619 (3) Within 25 calendar days after the day on which the lieutenant governor delivers a copy  
620 of the initiative application, the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall:
- 621 (a) [~~deliver~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's  
622 office; and
- 623 (b) [~~mail~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact statement to the first five sponsors  
624 named in the initiative application.
- 625 (4) (a) (i) Three or more of the sponsors of the initiative petition may, within 20  
626 calendar days after the day on which the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
627 delivers the initial fiscal impact statement to the lieutenant governor's office, file a  
628 petition with the appropriate court, alleging that the initial fiscal impact statement,  
629 taken as a whole, is an inaccurate estimate of the fiscal impact of the initiative.
- 630 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
631 notice of the petition filed with the court to:
- 632 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument with the lieutenant governor's  
633 office for or against the initiative that is the subject of the challenge; and
- 634 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
635 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
636 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the person  
637 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the initiative.
- 638 (b) (i) There is a presumption that the initial fiscal impact statement prepared by the  
639 Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst is based upon reasonable assumptions,

640 uses reasonable data, and applies accepted analytical methods to present the  
641 estimated fiscal impact of the initiative.

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

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

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

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

653 **20A-7-203 . Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative petition and signature**  
654 **sheets.**

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

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

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

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

661 Each signer says:

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

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

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

668 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

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

670 NOTICE TO SIGNERS:

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

673 (b) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement shall appear, in at least

674 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a):  
675 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
676 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
677 increase in the current tax rate."

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

680 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

702 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
703 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;

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

705 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
706 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;

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

- 708 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;
- 709 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 710 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;
- 711 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 712 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 713 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;
- 714 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and
- 715 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,
- 716 and contain the following statement, "By signing this initiative petition, you are
- 717 stating that you have read and understand the law proposed by this initiative
- 718 petition." in 12-point type;
- 719 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at
- 720 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and
- 721 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include in the following order:
- 722 (i) the words "Fiscal Impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at least
- 723 12-point, bold type;
- 724 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (5), the initial fiscal impact statement issued by
- 725 the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst in accordance with Subsection
- 726 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in accordance with Subsection
- 727 20A-7-204.1(5), in not less than 12-point type;
- 728 (iii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:
- 729 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax
- 730 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent
- 731 increase in the current tax rate."; and
- 732 (iv) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not
- 733 less than eight-point type:
- 734 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name
- 735 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than
- 736 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows
- 737 that the individual is not a registered voter.
- 738 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with
- 739 voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be verified
- 740 as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified or if the
- 741 information you provide does not match your voter registration records."

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

744 Verification of signature collector  
 745 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_\_

746 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:  
 747 I am a resident of Utah and am at least 18 years old;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

767 I believe that each [~~individual has printed and signed the~~] individual's name [~~and written the~~  
 768 ~~individual's~~], post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer has read [  
 769 ~~and understands~~] the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is registered to vote in  
 770 Utah[~~-~~];

771 [~~Each individual who signed the initiative packet wrote the~~] The correct date of signature  
 772 appears next to [~~the~~] each individual's name[~~-~~]; and

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

775 \_\_\_\_\_

- | 776 | (Name)                                                                                          | (Residence Address) | (Date) |
|-----|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------|
| 777 | (5) If the initial fiscal impact statement described in Subsection (3)(f)(ii), as updated in    |                     |        |
| 778 | accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5), exceeds 200 words, the Office of the                 |                     |        |
| 779 | Legislative Fiscal Analyst shall prepare a shorter summary statement, for the purpose of        |                     |        |
| 780 | inclusion on an initiative signature sheet, that does not exceed 200 words.                     |                     |        |
| 781 | (6) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative petitions |                     |        |
| 782 | are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.                           |                     |        |
| 783 | (7) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in accordance     |                     |        |
| 784 | with Section 20A-2-105.                                                                         |                     |        |

785 Section 8. Section **20A-7-204** is amended to read:

786 **20A-7-204 . Manual initiative process -- Circulation requirements -- Lieutenant**  
 787 **governor to provide sponsors with materials.**

- 788 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.
- 789 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the sponsors  
 790 or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described in  
 791 Subsection (3), circulate initiative packets that meet the form requirements of this part.
- 792 (3) The lieutenant governor shall provide the sponsors with a copy of the initiative petition  
 793 and a signature sheet within three days after the day on which the following conditions  
 794 are fulfilled:
- 795 (a) the sponsors hold the final hearing required under Section 20A-7-204.1;
- 796 (b) the sponsors provide to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor the video tape, audio  
 797 tape, or comprehensive minutes described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(4) for each  
 798 public hearing described in Section 20A-7-204.1;
- 799 (c) (i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that  
 800 the sponsors waive the opportunity to change the text of the proposed law under  
 801 Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5);
- 802 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5)(a), for changing the text of  
 803 the proposed law passes without the sponsors filing an application addendum in  
 804 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(5); or
- 805 (iii) if the sponsors file an application addendum in accordance with Subsection  
 806 20A-7-204.1(5), the Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst provides to the Office  
 807 of the Lieutenant Governor:
- 808 (A) an updated initial fiscal impact statement, in accordance with Subsection  
 809 20A-7-204.1(5)(b); or

810 (B) a written notice indicating that no changes to the initial fiscal impact statement  
811 are necessary; [and]

812 (d) (i) the sponsors give written notice to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor that  
813 the sponsors waive the opportunity to:

814 (A) challenge the initial fiscal impact statement in court; and

815 (B) if applicable, challenge the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court;

816 (ii) the deadline, described in Subsection 20A-7-202.5(4)(a)(i), for:

817 (A) challenging the initial fiscal impact statement in court passes without the  
818 sponsors filing a petition to challenge; and

819 (B) if applicable, challenging the updated initial fiscal impact statement in court  
820 passes without the sponsors filing a petition to challenge; or

821 (iii) if the sponsors timely file a petition challenging the initial fiscal impact  
822 statement in court or, if applicable, the updated initial fiscal impact statement in  
823 court, and the court's decision becomes final; and

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

827 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

843 (ii) sign an agreement with the Office of the Lieutenant Governor, specifying the

844 range of numbers that the sponsors will use to number the initiative packets; and  
 845 (iii) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 846 provided by the lieutenant governor's office, starting with the lowest number in  
 847 the range.

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

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

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

853 Section 9. Section **20A-7-209** is amended to read:

854 **20A-7-209 . Short title and summary of initiative -- Duties of lieutenant governor**  
 855 **and Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.**

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

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

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

862 (ii) prepare for each initiative:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

- 878 (ii) the short title;
- 879 (iii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(e):
- 880 (A) the summary;
- 881 (B) the text of the proposed law; and
- 882 (C) a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may
- 883 review additional information relating to each initiative, including the
- 884 information described in Subsection 20A-7-202(2), the initial fiscal impact
- 885 statement described in Section 20A-7-202.5, as updated under Section
- 886 20A-7-204.1, and the arguments relating to the initiative that are included in
- 887 the voter information pamphlet; and
- 888 (iv) the initial fiscal impact statement prepared under Section 20A-7-202.5, as
- 889 updated under Section 20A-7-204.1.
- 890 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) is shown on the official
- 891 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition
- 892 insert that includes the short title and summary for each initiative on the ballot and a
- 893 link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review the
- 894 additional information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii)(C).
- 895 (f) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(d)(iii) for all initiatives on the
- 896 ballot, and the information described in Subsection 20A-7-308(2)(c)(iii) for all
- 897 referenda on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following
- 898 statement at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures,
- 899 "The ballot proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary
- 900 of each initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed
- 901 directly on the ballot."
- 902 (3) On or before June 27, the lieutenant governor shall [~~mail~~] send a copy of the short title
- 903 and summary to any sponsor of the petition.
- 904 (4) (a) (i) At least three of the sponsors of the petition may, on or before July 6,
- 905 challenge the wording of the short title and summary prepared by the Office of
- 906 Legislative Research and General Counsel to the appropriate court.
- 907 (ii) After receipt of the challenge, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to
- 908 send notice of the challenge to:
- 909 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument for or against the initiative that
- 910 is the subject of the challenge; or
- 911 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has

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

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

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

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

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

927 (c) The court shall:

928 (i) examine the short title and summary;

929 (ii) hear arguments; and

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

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

934 Section 10. Section **20A-7-213** is amended to read:

935 **20A-7-213 . Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**

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

937 (a) sign any name other than the individual's own to an initiative petition or a statement  
 938 described in Subsection 20A-7-105(8) or 20A-7-216(4);

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

941 (c) knowingly indicate that an individual who signed an initiative petition signed the  
 942 initiative petition on a date other than the date that the individual signed the initiative  
 943 petition;

944 (d) sign an initiative petition knowing the individual is not a legal voter; [or]

945 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter

946 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if  
 947 the individual:

- 948 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;  
 949 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give  
 950 the voter's direction or consent;  
 951 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose  
 952 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;  
 953 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or  
 954 consent of the voter; or  
 955 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or  
 956 statement; or

957 [~~(e)~~] (f) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.

958 (2) It is unlawful for an individual to sign the verification for an initiative packet, or to  
 959 electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(9),  
 960 knowing that:

- 961 (a) the individual does not meet the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105;  
 962 (b) the signature date associated with the individual's signature for the initiative petition  
 963 is not the date that the individual signed the initiative petition;  
 964 (c) the individual has not witnessed the signatures of those individuals whose signatures  
 965 the individual collects or submits; or  
 966 (d) one or more individuals who signed the initiative petition are not registered to vote in  
 967 Utah.

968 (3) It is unlawful for an individual to:

- 969 (a) pay an individual to sign an initiative petition;  
 970 (b) pay an individual to remove the individual's signature from an initiative petition;  
 971 (c) accept payment to sign an initiative petition; or  
 972 (d) accept payment to have the individual's name removed from an initiative petition.

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

974 Section 11. Section **20A-7-215** is amended to read:

975 **20A-7-215 . Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative petition --**

976 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

996       (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
997       at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
998       and understand the entire text of the proposed law."

999 (5) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
1000 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to  
1001 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement: "By clicking here, I  
1002 attest that I have read and understand the information presented on this screen.":

1003       (a) a description of all proposed sources of funding for the costs associated with the  
1004 proposed law, including the proposed percentage of total funding from each source;

1005       (b) (i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1006 initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
1007 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage  
1008 increase) percent increase in the current tax rate."; or

1009       (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1010 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";

1011       (c) the initial fiscal impact statement issued by the Office of the Legislative Fiscal  
1012 Analyst in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-202.5(2)(a), including any update in  
1013 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-204.1(6);

1014 (d) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition  
1015 may be paid for gathering signatures; and  
1016 (e) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":  
1017 "I have personally [reviewed] read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
1018 I am personally signing this initiative petition;  
1019 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
1020 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1021 accurate.

1022 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name other  
1023 than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for  
1024 the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows that the  
1025 individual is not a registered voter.

1026 WARNING

1027 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter identification  
1028 number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be made public.

1029 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

1030 (6) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1031 (5)(e), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your  
1032 time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1033 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1034 (5)(e), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
1035 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the initiative petition through the  
1036 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1037 Section 12. Section **20A-7-216** is amended to read:

1038 **20A-7-216 . Electronic initiative process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1039 **remove signature.**

1040 (1) This section applies to the electronic initiative process.

1041 (2) A Utah voter may sign an initiative petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1042 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from an  
1043 individual:

1044 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1045 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1046 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read and understand the law proposed by  
1047 the initiative.

1048 (4) A voter who signs an initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed from the  
 1049 initiative petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the county  
 1050 clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m. no later  
 1051 than the earlier of:

1052 (a) for an electronic signature gathered before December 1:

1053 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

1054 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the county clerk posts the voter's name under  
 1055 Subsection 20A-7-217(4); or

1056 (b) for an electronic signature gathered on or after December 1:

1057 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement; or

1058 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the county clerk posts the voter's name under  
 1059 Subsection 20A-7-217(4).

1060 [~~(5) (a) The statement described in Subsection (4) shall include:]~~

1061 [~~(i) the name of the voter;~~]

1062 [~~(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;~~]

1063 [~~(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~

1064 [~~(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (5)(a)(iii).]~~

1065 [~~(b) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed, the~~  
 1066 ~~statement described in Subsection (4) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~

1067 [~~(e) (5) (a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in~~

1068 Subsection (4) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor  
 1069 establishes a signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of  
 1070 this section and Section 20A-21-201.

1071 [~~(d) (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from an initiative petition in~~  
 1072 ~~accordance with this section.~~

1073 [~~(e) (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing~~  
 1074 ~~an electronic signature from an initiative petition, in accordance with Subsection~~  
 1075 ~~20A-1-1003(3).~~

1076 Section 13. Section **20A-7-303** is amended to read:

1077 **20A-7-303 . Manual referendum process -- Form of referendum petition and**  
 1078 **signature sheets.**

1079 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.

1080 (2) (a) Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1081 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, Lieutenant Governor:

1082 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that Senate (or House) Bill No.  
 1083 \_\_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set forth here  
 1084 the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the Legislature of the state of  
 1085 Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of Utah for their approval or rejection  
 1086 at a regular general election or a statewide special election;

1087 Each signer says:

1088 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
 1089 disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter  
 1090 the initials "AV" as my signature;

1091 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the  
 1092 referendum petition;

1093 I have personally [reviewed] read the entire statement included with this referendum packet;

1094 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1095 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name.".

1096 (b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
 1097 law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.

1098 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

1099 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1100 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above  
 1101 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1102 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
 1103 14-point, bold type;

1104 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch  
 1105 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

1106 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

1107 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
 1108 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

1109 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

1110 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

1111 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

1112 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1113 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
 1114 type;

1115 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

- 1116 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1117 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;
- 1118 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1119 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;
- 1120 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1121 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;
- 1122 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1123 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1124 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;
- 1125 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1126 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;
- 1127 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1128 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;
- 1129 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1130 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
 1131 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;
- 1132 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and
- 1133 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
 1134 and contain the following words "By signing this referendum petition, you are  
 1135 stating that you have read and understand the law that this referendum petition  
 1136 seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;
- 1137 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
 1138 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and
- 1139 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by  
 1140 the following statement in not less than eight-point type:
- 1141 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
 1142 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
 1143 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
 1144 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.
- 1145 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with  
 1146 voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be verified as  
 1147 a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified or if the  
 1148 information you provide does not match your voter registration records."
- 1149 (4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed

1150 statement:

1151 Verification of signature collector

1152 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_

1153 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1154 I am a Utah resident and am at least 18 years old;

1155 All the names that appear in this referendum packet were signed by individuals who  
1156 professed to be the individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed  
1157 the individual's name on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying  
1158 disability, I have signed this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of  
1159 the individual and in the individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's  
1160 signature;

1161 I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum  
1162 packet by the initials "AV":

1163 I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the referendum  
1164 petition on the individual's behalf;

1165 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the mental  
1166 capacity to give direction or consent;

1167 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not understand  
1168 the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's behalf;

1169 I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to, or  
1170 consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and

1171 I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature sheet;

1172 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition seeks  
1173 to overturn;

1174 I believe that each [~~individual has printed and signed the~~]individual's name[ ~~and written the~~  
1175 ~~individual's~~] , post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer has read [  
1176 ~~and understands~~]the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each signer is  
1177 registered to vote in Utah[-] ;

1178 [~~Each individual who signed the referendum packet wrote the~~] The correct date of signature  
1179 appears next to [~~the~~] each individual's name[-] ; and

1180 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
1181 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.

1182 \_\_\_\_\_  
1183 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date).

- 1184 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
1185 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.
- 1186 (6) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in accordance  
1187 with Section 20A-2-105.

1188 Section 14. Section **20A-7-308** is amended to read:

1189 **20A-7-308 . Short title and summary of referendum -- Duties of lieutenant**  
1190 **governor and Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.**

1191 (1) Whenever a referendum petition is declared sufficient for submission to a vote of the  
1192 people, the lieutenant governor shall deliver a copy of the referendum petition and the  
1193 law to which the referendum relates to the Office of Legislative Research and General  
1194 Counsel.

1195 (2) (a) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall:

1196 (i) entitle each statewide referendum that qualifies for the ballot "Proposition Number  
1197 \_\_\_" and assign a number to the referendum in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;

1198 (ii) prepare for each referendum:

1199 (A) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the  
1200 law to which the referendum relates; and

1201 (B) an impartial summary of the contents of the law to which the referendum  
1202 relates, not exceeding 125 words; and

1203 (iii) submit the short title and summary to the lieutenant governor within 15 days  
1204 after the day on which the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel  
1205 receives the petition under Subsection (1).

1206 (b) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the law that is the  
1207 subject of the referendum.

1208 (c) Subject to Subsection (4), for each statewide referendum, the official ballot shall  
1209 show, in the following order:

1210 (i) the number of the referendum, determined in accordance with Section 20A-6-107;

1211 (ii) the short title; and

1212 (iii) except as provided in Subsection (2)(d):

1213 (A) the summary;

1214 (B) a copy of the law; and

1215 (C) a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may  
1216 review additional information relating to each referendum, including the  
1217 information described in Subsection 20A-7-302(2) and the arguments relating

- 1218 to the referendum that are included in the voter information pamphlet.
- 1219 (d) Unless the information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii) is shown on the official  
1220 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition  
1221 insert that includes the short title and summary for each referendum on the ballot and  
1222 a link to a location on the lieutenant governor's website where a voter may review the  
1223 additional information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii)(C).
- 1224 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection 20A-7-209(2)(d)(iii) for all initiatives  
1225 on the ballot, and the information described in Subsection (2)(c)(iii) for all referenda  
1226 on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement  
1227 at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot  
1228 proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each  
1229 initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed directly on the  
1230 ballot."
- 1231 (3) Immediately after the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel submits the  
1232 short title and summary to the lieutenant governor, the lieutenant governor shall mail or  
1233 email a copy of the short title and summary to any of the sponsors of the referendum  
1234 petition.
- 1235 (4) (a) (i) At least three of the sponsors of the referendum petition may, within 15  
1236 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor [mails] sends the short title and  
1237 summary, challenge the wording of the short title and summary prepared by the  
1238 Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to the appropriate court.
- 1239 (ii) After receipt of the appeal, the court shall direct the lieutenant governor to send  
1240 notice of the appeal to:
- 1241 (A) any person or group that has filed an argument for or against the law to which  
1242 the referendum relates; and
- 1243 (B) any political issues committee established under Section 20A-11-801 that has  
1244 filed written or electronic notice with the lieutenant governor that identifies the  
1245 name, mailing or email address, and telephone number of the person  
1246 designated to receive notice about any issues relating to the referendum.
- 1247 (b) (i) There is a presumption that the short title prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1248 Research and General Counsel is an impartial description of the contents of the  
1249 referendum.
- 1250 (ii) The court may not revise the wording of the short title unless the plaintiffs rebut  
1251 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the short title is

- 1252 false or biased.
- 1253 (iii) There is a presumption that the summary prepared by the Office of Legislative  
1254 Research and General Counsel is an impartial summary of the contents of the law  
1255 to which the referendum relates.
- 1256 (iv) The court may not revise the wording of the summary unless the plaintiffs rebut  
1257 the presumption by clearly and convincingly establishing that the summary is  
1258 false or biased.
- 1259 (c) The court shall:
- 1260 (i) examine the short title and summary;
- 1261 (ii) hear arguments; and
- 1262 (iii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.
- 1263 (d) The lieutenant governor shall, in accordance with the court's order, certify the short  
1264 title and summary to the county clerks for inclusion in the ballot or ballot proposition  
1265 insert, as required by this section.

1266 Section 15. Section **20A-7-312** is amended to read:

1267 **20A-7-312 . Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**

- 1268 (1) It is unlawful for any person to:
- 1269 (a) sign any name other than the person's own to a referendum petition;
- 1270 (b) knowingly sign the person's name more than once for the same referendum petition  
1271 at one election;
- 1272 (c) knowingly indicate that a person who signed a referendum petition signed the  
1273 referendum petition on a date other than the date that the person signed the petition;
- 1274 (d) sign a referendum petition knowing the person is not a legal voter; or
- 1275 (e) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.
- 1276 (2) It is unlawful for any person to sign the verification for a referendum packet, or to  
1277 electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(9)  
1278 knowing that:
- 1279 (a) the person does not meet the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105;
- 1280 (b) the signature date associated with the person's signature for the referendum petition  
1281 is not the date that the person signed the referendum petition;
- 1282 (c) the person has not witnessed the signatures of those persons whose signatures the  
1283 person collects or submits; or
- 1284 (d) one or more individuals who sign the referendum petition are not registered to vote  
1285 in Utah.

- 1286 (3) It is unlawful for any person to:
- 1287 (a) pay a person to sign a referendum petition;
- 1288 (b) pay a person to remove the person's signature from a referendum petition;
- 1289 (c) accept payment to sign a referendum petition; ~~or~~
- 1290 (d) accept payment to have the person's name removed from a referendum petition[-] ; or
- 1291 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter
- 1292 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if
- 1293 the individual:
- 1294 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;
- 1295 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give
- 1296 the voter's direction or consent;
- 1297 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose
- 1298 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;
- 1299 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or
- 1300 consent of the voter; or
- 1301 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or
- 1302 statement.

1303 (4) Any person violating this section is guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

1304 Section 16. Section **20A-7-313** is amended to read:

1305 **20A-7-313 . Electronic referendum process -- Form of referendum petition --**

1306 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

1307 (1) This section applies only to the electronic referendum process.

1308 (2) (a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

1309 "This REFERENDUM PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_, Lieutenant

1310 Governor:

1311 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully order that Senate (or House) Bill

1312 No. \_\_\_\_, entitled (title of act, and, if the petition is against less than the whole act, set forth

1313 here the part or parts on which the referendum is sought), passed by the Legislature of the state

1314 of Utah during the \_\_\_\_ Session, be referred to the people of Utah for their approval or

1315 rejection at a regular general election or a statewide special election."

1316 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link

1317 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and

1318 understand the information presented on this screen."

1319 (3) (a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the entire text

1320 of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition.

1321 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
1322 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
1323 and understand the entire text of the law that is the subject of the referendum  
1324 petition."

1325 (4) (a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include a statement  
1326 indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum petition may be  
1327 paid for gathering signatures.

1328 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
1329 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and  
1330 understand the information presented on this screen."

1331 (5) The fourth screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement,  
1332 followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":

1333 "I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
1334 I am personally signing this referendum petition;  
1335 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
1336 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1337 accurate.

1338 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
1339 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1340 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
1341 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

1342 WARNING

1343 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter identification  
1344 number, and date of signature in relation to signing this referendum petition will be made  
1345 public.

1346 Do you wish to continue and sign this referendum petition?"

1347 (6) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1348 (5), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time.  
1349 Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1350 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection (5),  
1351 the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
1352 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the referendum petition through the  
1353 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1354 Section 17. Section **20A-7-314** is amended to read:

1355 **20A-7-314 . Electronic referendum process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
 1356 **remove signature.**

1357 (1) This section applies to the electronic referendum process.

1358 (2) A Utah voter may sign a referendum petition if the voter is a legal voter.

1359 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from an  
 1360 individual:

1361 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
 1362 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1363 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read and understand the law that is the  
 1364 subject of the referendum petition.

1365 (4) A voter who signs a referendum petition may have the voter's signature removed from  
 1366 the referendum petition by in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to the  
 1367 county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5 p.m.  
 1368 no later than the earlier of:

1369 (a) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the statement requesting removal; or

1370 (b) 45 days after the day on which the lieutenant governor posts the voter's name under  
 1371 Subsection 20A-7-315(4).

1372 [~~(5) (a) The statement described in Subsection (4) shall include:~~]

1373 [~~(i) the name of the voter;~~]

1374 [~~(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;~~]

1375 [~~(iii) the signature of the voter; and~~]

1376 [~~(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (5)(a)(iii).]~~]

1377 [~~(b) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed, the~~  
 1378 ~~statement described in Subsection (4) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~

1379 [~~(c)~~] (5) (a) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in

1380 Subsection (4) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor  
 1381 establishes a signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of  
 1382 this section and Section 20A-21-201.

1383 [~~(d)~~] (b) A person may only remove an electronic signature from a referendum petition in  
 1384 accordance with this section.

1385 [~~(e)~~] (c) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing  
 1386 an electronic signature from a referendum petition, in accordance with Subsection  
 1387 20A-1-1003(3).

1388 Section 18. Section **20A-7-502.5** is amended to read:

1389 **20A-7-502.5 . Initial fiscal and legal impact statement -- Preparation of statement.**

1390 (1) Within three business days after the day on which the local clerk receives an initiative  
1391 application, the local clerk shall submit a copy of the initiative application to the county,  
1392 city, or town's budget officer.

1393 (2) (a) The budget officer, together with legal counsel, shall prepare an unbiased, good  
1394 faith initial fiscal and legal impact statement for the proposed law that contains:

1395 (i) a dollar amount representing the total estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law;

1396 (ii) if the proposed law would increase or decrease taxes, a dollar amount  
1397 representing the total estimated increase or decrease for each type of tax affected  
1398 under the proposed law and a dollar amount representing the total estimated  
1399 increase or decrease in taxes under the proposed law;

1400 (iii) if the proposed law would increase taxes, the tax percentage difference and the  
1401 tax percentage increase;

1402 (iv) if the proposed law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of  
1403 bonds, notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total  
1404 estimated increase or decrease in public debt under the proposed law;

1405 (v) a listing of all sources of funding for the estimated costs associated with the  
1406 proposed law showing each source of funding and the percentage of total funding  
1407 provided from each source;

1408 (vi) a dollar amount representing the estimated costs or savings, if any, to state and  
1409 local government entities under the proposed law;

1410 (vii) the proposed law's legal impact, including:

1411 (A) any significant effects on a person's vested property rights;

1412 (B) any significant effects on other laws or ordinances;

1413 (C) any significant legal liability the city, county, or town may incur; and

1414 (D) any other significant legal impact as determined by the budget officer and the  
1415 legal counsel; and

1416 (viii) a concise explanation, not exceeding 100 words, of the information described in  
1417 this Subsection (2)(a) and of the estimated fiscal impact, if any, under the  
1418 proposed law.

1419 (b) (i) If the proposed law is estimated to have no fiscal impact, the local budget officer shall  
1420 include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in substantially the  
1421 following form:

1422 "The (title of the local budget officer) estimates that the law proposed by this initiative  
 1423 would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an increase or decrease  
 1424 in taxes or debt."

1425 (ii) If the proposed law is estimated to have a fiscal impact, the local budget officer shall  
 1426 include a summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in substantially the  
 1427 following form:

1428 "The (title of the local budget officer) estimates that the law proposed by this initiative  
 1429 would result in a total fiscal expense/savings of \$\_\_\_\_\_, which includes a (type of tax or  
 1430 taxes) tax increase/decrease of \$\_\_\_\_\_ and a \$\_\_\_\_\_ increase/decrease in public debt."

1431 (iii) If the estimated fiscal impact of the proposed law is highly variable or is  
 1432 otherwise difficult to reasonably express in a summary statement, the local budget  
 1433 officer may include in the summary statement a brief explanation that identifies  
 1434 those factors affecting the variability or difficulty of the estimate.

1435 (iv) If the proposed law would increase taxes, the local budget officer shall include a summary  
 1436 statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in substantially the following form:

1437 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 1438 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
 1439 increase in the current tax rate."

1440 (3) The budget officer shall prepare an unbiased, good faith estimate of the cost of printing  
 1441 and distributing information related to the initiative petition in the voter information  
 1442 pamphlet as required by Section 20A-7-402.

1443 (4) Within 20 calendar days after the day on which the local clerk submits a copy of the  
 1444 proposed law under Subsection (1), the budget officer shall:

1445 (a) [~~deliver~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the local clerk's  
 1446 office; and

1447 (b) [~~mail~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the first three  
 1448 sponsors named in the initiative application.

1449 Section 19. Section **20A-7-503** is amended to read:

1450 **20A-7-503 . Manual initiative process -- Form of initiative petition and signature**  
 1451 **sheet.**

1452 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1453 (2) (a) Each proposed initiative petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:

1454 "INITIATIVE PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City Recorder/Town  
 1455 Clerk:

1456 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully demand that the following proposed law  
 1457 be submitted to: the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next meeting; and the  
 1458 legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the proposed law or takes no  
 1459 action on it.

1460 Each signer says:

1461 I have personally signed this initiative petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
 1462 disability, I have signed this initiative petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter the  
 1463 initials "AV" as my signature;

1464 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the petition;

1465 I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entire statement included with this packet;

1466 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1467 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

1468 (b) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement shall appear, in at least  
 1469 14-point, bold type, immediately following the information described in Subsection (2)(a):

1470 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
 1471 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
 1472 increase in the current tax rate."

1473 (c) The sponsors of an initiative or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
 1474 proposed law to each initiative petition.

1475 (3) Each initiative signature sheet shall:

1476 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1477 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above  
 1478 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1479 (c) include the title of the initiative printed below the horizontal line, in at least 14-point,  
 1480 bold type;

1481 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the initiative, and beginning .5 inch  
 1482 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

1483 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

1484 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
 1485 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

1486 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

1487 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

1488 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

1489 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

- 1490 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
1491 type;
- 1492 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1493 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1494 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;
- 1495 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1496 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;
- 1497 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1498 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;
- 1499 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1500 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1501 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;
- 1502 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1503 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;
- 1504 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1505 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;
- 1506 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1507 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1508 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;
- 1509 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and
- 1510 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,  
1511 and contain the following words "By signing this initiative petition, you are  
1512 stating that you have read and understand the law proposed by this initiative  
1513 petition." in 12-point type;
- 1514 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at  
1515 the bottom of the sheet for the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and
- 1516 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include in the following order:
- 1517 (i) the words "Fiscal and legal impact of" followed by the title of the initiative, in at  
1518 least 12-point, bold type;
- 1519 (ii) the summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by  
1520 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost  
1521 estimate for printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition  
1522 in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3), in not less than 12-point, bold  
1523 type;

1524 (iii) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement in 12-point, bold type:

1525 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax  
1526 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1527 increase in the current tax rate."; and

1528 (iv) the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by the following statement in not  
1529 less than eight-point type:

1530 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name  
1531 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than  
1532 once for the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows  
1533 that the individual is not a registered voter.

1534 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with  
1535 voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be verified  
1536 as a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified or if the  
1537 information you provide does not match your voter registration records."

1538 (4) The final page of each initiative packet shall contain the following printed or typed  
1539 statement:

1540 "Verification of signature collector

1541 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_

1542 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:

1543 I am a resident of Utah and am at least 18 years old;

1544 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be the  
1545 individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's name  
1546 on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have signed  
1547 this initiative petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and in the  
1548 individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;

1549 \_\_\_\_\_ I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this initiative  
1550 packet by the initials "AV":

1551 \_\_\_\_\_ I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the initiative  
1552 petition on the individual's behalf;

1553 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the mental  
1554 capacity to give direction or consent;

1555 \_\_\_\_\_ I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not understand  
1556 the purpose or nature of my signing the initiative petition on the individual's behalf;

1557 \_\_\_\_\_ I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to, or

1558 consenting for me to, sign the initiative petition on the individual's behalf; and  
 1559 I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature sheet;  
 1560 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law proposed by the  
 1561 initiative; and  
 1562 I believe that each [~~individual has printed and signed the~~]individual's name[ ~~and written the~~  
 1563 ~~individual's~~] , post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer has read [  
 1564 ~~and understands~~]the law proposed by the initiative, and that each signer is registered to vote in  
 1565 Utah.

1566 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1568 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

1569 [~~Each individual who signed the packet wrote the~~] The correct date of signature appears  
 1570 next to [~~the~~] each individual's name.

1571 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this petition to  
 1572 encourage that individual to sign it.

1573 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1574 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)".

1575 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the initiative petitions  
 1576 are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.

1577 (6) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in accordance  
 1578 with Section 20A-2-105.

1579 Section 20. Section **20A-7-504** is amended to read:  
 1580 **20A-7-504 . Manual initiative process -- Circulation requirements -- Local clerk**  
 1581 **to provide sponsors with materials.**

1582 (1) This section applies only to the manual initiative process.

1583 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the sponsors  
 1584 or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described in  
 1585 Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate initiative packets that meet the form  
 1586 requirements of this part.

1587 (3) Within five days after the day on which a county, city, town, metro township, or court  
 1588 determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-502.7, that a law proposed in an initiative  
 1589 petition is legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide to the sponsors:

1590 (a) a copy of the initiative petition; [~~and~~]

- 1591 (b) a signature sheet[-] ; and  
1592 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
1593 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 1594 (4) The sponsors of the initiative shall:
- 1595 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the initiative  
1596 packets; and
- 1597 (b) ensure that the initiative packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
1598 meet the requirements of this part.
- 1599 (5) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the initiative packets for  
1600 circulation by creating multiple initiative packets.
- 1601 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create initiative packets by binding a  
1602 copy of the initiative petition with the text of the proposed law and no more than 50  
1603 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that the initiative packets may be  
1604 conveniently opened for signing.
- 1605 (c) An initiative packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.
- 1606 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each initiative packet, a  
1607 copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
1608 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 1609 (6) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:
- 1610 (i) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use  
1611 to number initiative packets; and
- 1612 (ii) number each initiative packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers provided  
1613 by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.
- 1614 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:
- 1615 (i) number an initiative packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or  
1616 (ii) circulate or submit an initiative packet that is not numbered in the manner  
1617 directed by the county clerk.
- 1618 (c) The county clerk shall keep a record of the number range provided under Subsection  
1619 (6)(a).
- 1620 Section 21. Section **20A-7-508** is amended to read:
- 1621 **20A-7-508 . Short title and summary of initiative -- Duties of local clerk and local**  
1622 **attorney.**
- 1623 (1) Upon receipt of an initiative petition, the local clerk shall deliver a copy of the initiative  
1624 petition and the proposed law to the local attorney.

- 1625 (2) The local attorney shall:
- 1626 (a) entitle each county or municipal initiative that has qualified for the ballot
- 1627 "Proposition Number \_\_\_" and give it a number as assigned under Section 20A-6-107;
- 1628 (b) prepare for each initiative:
- 1629 (i) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the
- 1630 subject of the initiative; and
- 1631 (ii) an impartial summary of the contents of the initiative, not exceeding 125 words;
- 1632 (c) file the proposed short title, summary, and the numbered initiative titles with the
- 1633 local clerk within 20 days after the day on which an eligible voter submits the
- 1634 initiative petition to the local clerk; and
- 1635 (d) promptly provide notice of the filing of the proposed short title and summary to:
- 1636 (i) the sponsors of the initiative; and
- 1637 (ii) the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the initiative petition was
- 1638 circulated.
- 1639 (3) (a) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the proposed law.
- 1640 (b) In preparing a short title, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's
- 1641 ability, give a true and impartial description of the subject of the initiative.
- 1642 (c) In preparing a summary, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's
- 1643 ability, give a true and impartial summary of the contents of the initiative.
- 1644 (d) The short title and summary may not intentionally be an argument, or likely to create
- 1645 prejudice, for or against the initiative.
- 1646 (e) If the initiative proposes a tax increase, the local attorney shall include the following
- 1647 statement, in bold, in the summary:
- 1648 "This initiative seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax
- 1649 percentage difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent
- 1650 increase in the current tax rate."
- 1651 (4) (a) Within five calendar days after the date the local attorney files a proposed short
- 1652 title and summary under Subsection (2)(c), the local legislative body for the
- 1653 jurisdiction where the initiative petition was circulated and the sponsors of the
- 1654 initiative may file written comments in response to the proposed short title and
- 1655 summary with the local clerk.
- 1656 (b) Within five calendar days after the last date to submit written comments under
- 1657 Subsection (4)(a), the local attorney shall:
- 1658 (i) review any written comments filed in accordance with Subsection (4)(a);

- 1659 (ii) prepare a final short title and summary that meets the requirements of Subsection  
1660 (3); and
- 1661 (iii) return the initiative petition and file the short title and summary with the local  
1662 clerk.
- 1663 (c) Subject to Subsection (6), for each county or municipal initiative, the following shall  
1664 be printed on the official ballot:
- 1665 (i) the short title; and
- 1666 (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4)(d):
- 1667 (A) the summary;
- 1668 (B) a copy of the proposed law; and
- 1669 (C) a link to a location on the election officer's website where a voter may review  
1670 additional information relating to each initiative, including the information  
1671 described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2), the initial fiscal impact and legal  
1672 statement described in Section 20A-7-502.5, as updated, and the arguments  
1673 relating to the initiative that are included in the local voter information  
1674 pamphlet.
- 1675 (d) Unless the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) is printed on the official  
1676 ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition  
1677 insert that includes the short title and summary for each initiative on the ballot and a  
1678 link to a location on the election officer's website where a voter may review the  
1679 additional information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii)(C).
- 1680 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) for all initiatives on the  
1681 ballot, and the information described in Subsection 20A-7-608(4)(c)(ii) for all  
1682 referenda on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following  
1683 statement at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures,  
1684 "The ballot proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary  
1685 of each initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed  
1686 directly on the ballot."
- 1687 (5) Immediately after the local attorney files a copy of the short title and summary with the  
1688 local clerk, the local clerk shall [~~serve~~] send a copy of the short title and summary [~~by~~  
1689 ~~mail upon~~] to the sponsors of the initiative and the local legislative body for the  
1690 jurisdiction where the initiative petition was circulated.
- 1691 (6) (a) If the short title or summary furnished by the local attorney is unsatisfactory or  
1692 does not comply with the requirements of this section, the decision of the local

1693 attorney may be appealed to the appropriate court by:

1694 (i) at least three sponsors of the initiative; or

1695 (ii) a majority of the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the initiative  
1696 petition was circulated.

1697 (b) The court:

1698 (i) shall examine the short title and summary and consider arguments; and

1699 (ii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.

1700 (c) The local clerk shall include the short title and summary in the ballot or ballot  
1701 proposition insert, as required by this section.

1702 Section 22. Section **20A-7-512** is amended to read:

1703 **20A-7-512 . Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**

1704 (1) It is unlawful for any individual to:

1705 (a) sign any name other than the individual's own name to an initiative petition or a  
1706 statement described in Subsection 20A-7-505(4) or 20A-7-515(4);

1707 (b) knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for the same initiative at one  
1708 election;

1709 (c) knowingly indicate that an individual who signed an initiative petition signed the  
1710 initiative petition on a date other than the date that the individual signed the initiative  
1711 petition;

1712 (d) sign an initiative petition knowing the individual is not a legal voter; or

1713 (e) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.

1714 (2) It is unlawful for an individual to sign the verification for an initiative packet, or to  
1715 electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(9),  
1716 knowing that:

1717 (a) the individual does not meet the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105;

1718 (b) the signature date associated with the individual's signature for the initiative petition  
1719 is not the date that the individual signed the initiative petition;

1720 (c) the individual has not witnessed the signatures of the individuals whose signatures  
1721 the individual collects or submits; or

1722 (d) one or more individuals who signed the initiative petition are not registered to vote in  
1723 Utah.

1724 (3) It is unlawful for an individual to:

1725 (a) pay an individual to sign an initiative petition;

1726 (b) pay an individual to remove the individual's signature from an initiative petition;

- 1727 (c) accept payment to sign an initiative petition; [~~or~~]  
 1728 (d) accept payment to have the individual's name removed from an initiative petition[-] ;  
 1729 or  
 1730 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter  
 1731 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if  
 1732 the individual:  
 1733 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;  
 1734 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give  
 1735 the voter's direction or consent;  
 1736 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose  
 1737 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;  
 1738 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or  
 1739 consent of the voter; or  
 1740 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or  
 1741 statement.

1742 (4) A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.

1743 Section 23. Section **20A-7-514** is amended to read:

1744 **20A-7-514 . Electronic initiative process -- Form of initiative petition --**

1745 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

1746 (1) This section applies only to the electronic initiative process.

1747 (2) (a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

1748 "This INITIATIVE PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City  
 1749 Recorder/Town Clerk:

1750 The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully demand that the following proposed  
 1751 law be submitted to: the legislative body for its approval or rejection at its next meeting; and  
 1752 the legal voters of the county/city/town, if the legislative body rejects the proposed law or  
 1753 takes no action on it."

1754 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link  
 1755 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and  
 1756 understand the information presented on this screen."

1757 (3) (a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the title of  
 1758 proposed law, described in Subsection 20A-7-502(2)(d)(i), followed by the entire text  
 1759 of the proposed law.

1760 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at

- 1761 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
1762 and understand the entire text of the proposed law."
- 1763 (4) Subsequent screens shall be presented on the device in the following order, with the  
1764 individual viewing the device being required, before advancing to the next screen, to  
1765 click a link at the bottom of the screen with the following statement, "By clicking here, I  
1766 attest that I have read and understand the information presented on this screen.":
- 1767 (a) (i) if the initiative proposes a tax increase, the following statement, "This initiative  
1768 seeks to increase the current (insert name of tax) rate by (insert the tax percentage  
1769 difference) percent, resulting in a(n) (insert the tax percentage increase) percent  
1770 increase in the current tax rate."; or
- 1771 (ii) if the initiative does not propose a tax increase, the following statement, "This  
1772 initiative does not propose a tax increase.";
- 1773 (b) the summary statement from the initial fiscal impact and legal statement issued by  
1774 the budget officer in accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(2)(b) and the cost  
1775 estimate for printing and distributing information related to the initiative petition in  
1776 accordance with Subsection 20A-7-502.5(3);
- 1777 (c) a statement indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the initiative petition  
1778 may be paid for gathering signatures; and
- 1779 (d) the following statement, followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":  
1780 "I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
1781 I am personally signing this petition;  
1782 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
1783 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
1784 accurate.

1785 It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign an initiative petition with a name other  
1786 than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for  
1787 the same initiative petition, or to sign an initiative petition when the individual knows that the  
1788 individual is not a registered voter.

1789 **WARNING**

1790 Even if your voter registration record is classified as private, your name, voter identification  
1791 number, and date of signature in relation to signing this initiative petition will be made public.

1792 Do you wish to continue and sign this initiative petition?"

- 1793 (5) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1794 (4)(d), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your

1795 time. Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

1796 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection  
1797 (4)(d), the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
1798 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the petition through the signature  
1799 process described in Section 20A-21-201.

1800 Section 24. Section **20A-7-515** is amended to read:

1801 **20A-7-515 . Electronic initiative process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
1802 **remove signature.**

1803 (1) This section applies to the electronic initiative process.

1804 (2) A Utah voter may sign a local initiative petition if the voter is a legal voter and resides  
1805 in the local jurisdiction.

1806 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from an  
1807 individual:

1808 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
1809 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

1810 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read and understand the law proposed by  
1811 the initiative.

1812 (4) (a) A voter who signs an initiative petition may have the voter's signature removed  
1813 from the initiative petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting to  
1814 the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed before 5  
1815 p.m. no later than the earlier of:

1816 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the signature removal statement;

1817 (ii) 90 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under  
1818 Subsection 20A-7-516(4);

1819 (iii) 316 days after the day on which the initiative application is filed; or

1820 (iv) (A) for a county initiative, April 15 immediately before the next regular  
1821 general election immediately after the initiative application is filed under  
1822 Section 20A-7-502; or

1823 (B) for a municipal initiative, April 15 immediately before the next municipal  
1824 general election immediately after the initiative application is filed under  
1825 Section 20A-7-502.

1826 [~~(b) The statement described in Subsection (4)(a) shall include:~~]

1827 [~~(i) the name of the voter;~~]

1828 [~~(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;~~]

- 1829           ~~[(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~
- 1830           ~~[(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (4)(b)(iii).]~~
- 1831           ~~[(e) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed, the~~
- 1832           ~~statement described in Subsection (4)(a) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~
- 1833           ~~[(d)] (b) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection~~
- 1834           (4)(a) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a
- 1835           signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and
- 1836           Section 20A-21-201.
- 1837           ~~[(e)] (c) A person may only remove an electronic signature from an initiative petition in~~
- 1838           accordance with this section.
- 1839           ~~[(f)] (d) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing~~
- 1840           an electronic signature from an initiative petition, in accordance with Subsection
- 1841           20A-1-1003(3).
- 1842           Section 25. Section **20A-7-602.5** is amended to read:
- 1843           **20A-7-602.5 . Initial fiscal and legal impact statement -- Preparation of statement.**
- 1844           (1) Within three business days after the day on which the local clerk receives a referendum
- 1845           application, the local clerk shall submit a copy of the referendum application to the
- 1846           county, city, or town's budget officer.
- 1847           (2) (a) The budget officer, together with legal counsel, shall prepare an unbiased, good
- 1848           faith initial fiscal and legal impact statement for repealing the law the referendum
- 1849           proposes to repeal that contains:
- 1850           (i) a dollar amount representing the total estimated fiscal impact of repealing the law;
- 1851           (ii) if repealing the law would increase or decrease taxes, a dollar amount
- 1852           representing the total estimated increase or decrease for each type of tax that
- 1853           would be impacted by the law's repeal and a dollar amount representing the total
- 1854           estimated increase or decrease in taxes that would result from the law's repeal;
- 1855           (iii) if repealing the law would result in the issuance or a change in the status of
- 1856           bonds, notes, or other debt instruments, a dollar amount representing the total
- 1857           estimated increase or decrease in public debt that would result;
- 1858           (iv) a listing of all sources of funding for the estimated costs that would be associated
- 1859           with the law's repeal, showing each source of funding and the percentage of total
- 1860           funding that would be provided from each source;
- 1861           (v) a dollar amount representing the estimated costs or savings, if any, to state and
- 1862           local government entities if the law were repealed;

- 1863 (vi) the legal impacts that would result from repealing the law, including:
- 1864 (A) any significant effects on a person's vested property rights;
- 1865 (B) any significant effects on other laws or ordinances;
- 1866 (C) any significant legal liability the city, county, or town may incur; and
- 1867 (D) any other significant legal impact as determined by the budget officer and the
- 1868 legal counsel; and
- 1869 (vii) a concise explanation, not exceeding 100 words, of the information described in
- 1870 this Subsection (2)(a) and of the estimated fiscal impact, if any, if the law were
- 1871 repealed.
- 1872 (b) (i) If repealing the law would have no fiscal impact, the local budget officer shall include a
- 1873 summary statement in the initial fiscal impact and legal statement in substantially the
- 1874 following form:
- 1875 "The (title of the local budget officer) estimates that repealing the law this referendum
- 1876 proposes to repeal would have no significant fiscal impact and would not result in either an
- 1877 increase or decrease in taxes or debt."
- 1878 (ii) If repealing the law is estimated to have a fiscal impact, the local budget officer
- 1879 shall include a summary statement in the initial fiscal and legal impact statement
- 1880 describing the fiscal impact.
- 1881 (iii) If the estimated fiscal impact of repealing the law is highly variable or is
- 1882 otherwise difficult to reasonably express in a summary statement, the local budget
- 1883 officer may include in the summary statement a brief explanation that identifies
- 1884 those factors impacting the variability or difficulty of the estimate.
- 1885 (3) Within 20 calendar days after the day on which the local clerk submits a copy of the
- 1886 application under Subsection (1), the budget officer shall:
- 1887 (a) [~~deliver~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the local clerk's
- 1888 office; and
- 1889 (b) [~~mail~~] send a copy of the initial fiscal impact and legal statement to the first three
- 1890 sponsors named in the referendum application.
- 1891 Section 26. Section **20A-7-603** is amended to read:
- 1892 **20A-7-603 . Manual referendum process -- Form of referendum petition and**
- 1893 **signature sheet.**
- 1894 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.
- 1895 (2) (a) Each proposed referendum petition shall be printed in substantially the following form:
- 1896 "REFERENDUM PETITION To the Honorable \_\_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City Recorder/Town

1897 Clerk:

1898 We, the undersigned citizens of Utah, respectfully order that (description of local law or  
1899 portion of local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
1900 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
1901 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year);

1902 Each signer says:

1903 I have personally signed this referendum petition or, if I am an individual with a qualifying  
1904 disability, I have signed this referendum petition by directing the signature gatherer to enter  
1905 the initials "AV" as my signature;

1906 The date next to my signature correctly reflects the date that I actually signed the petition;

1907 I have personally [~~reviewed~~] read the entire statement included with this packet;

1908 I am registered to vote in Utah; and

1909 My residence and post office address are written correctly after my name."

1910 (b) The sponsors of a referendum or an agent of the sponsors shall attach a copy of the  
1911 law that is the subject of the referendum to each referendum petition.

1912 (3) Each referendum signature sheet shall:

1913 (a) be printed on sheets of paper 8-1/2 inches long and 11 inches wide;

1914 (b) be ruled with a horizontal line three-fourths inch from the top, with the space above  
1915 that line blank for the purpose of binding;

1916 (c) include the title of the referendum printed below the horizontal line, in at least  
1917 14-point type;

1918 (d) include a table immediately below the title of the referendum, and beginning .5 inch  
1919 from the left side of the paper, as follows:

1920 (i) the first column shall be .5 inch wide and include three rows;

1921 (ii) the first row of the first column shall be .85 inch tall and contain the words "For  
1922 Office Use Only" in 10-point type;

1923 (iii) the second row of the first column shall be .35 inch tall;

1924 (iv) the third row of the first column shall be .5 inch tall;

1925 (v) the second column shall be 2.75 inches wide;

1926 (vi) the first row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words  
1927 "Registered Voter's Printed Name (must be legible to be counted)" in 10-point  
1928 type;

1929 (vii) the second row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;

1930 (viii) the third row of the second column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words

- 1931 "Street Address, City, Zip Code" in 10-point type;
- 1932 (ix) the fourth row of the second column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1933 (x) the third column shall be 2.75 inches wide;
- 1934 (xi) the first row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1935 "Signature of Registered Voter" in 10-point type;
- 1936 (xii) the second row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1937 (xiii) the third row of the third column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1938 "Email Address (optional, to receive additional information)" in 10-point type;
- 1939 (xiv) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1940 (xv) the fourth column shall be one inch wide;
- 1941 (xvi) the first row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1942 "Date Signed" in 10-point type;
- 1943 (xvii) the second row of the fourth column shall be .5 inch tall;
- 1944 (xviii) the third row of the fourth column shall be .35 inch tall and contain the words
- 1945 "Birth Date or Age (optional)" in 10-point type;
- 1946 (xix) the fourth row of the third column shall be .5 inch tall; and
- 1947 (xx) the fifth row of the entire table shall be the width of the entire table, .4 inch tall,
- 1948 and contain the following words, "By signing this referendum petition, you are
- 1949 stating that you have read and understand the law that this referendum petition
- 1950 seeks to overturn." in 12-point type;
- 1951 (e) the table described in Subsection (3)(d) shall be repeated, leaving sufficient room at
- 1952 the bottom of the sheet or the information described in Subsection (3)(f); and
- 1953 (f) at the bottom of the sheet, include the word "Warning," in 12-point, bold type, followed by
- 1954 the following statement in not less than eight-point type:
- 1955 "It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name
- 1956 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than
- 1957 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual
- 1958 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.
- 1959 Birth date or age information is not required, but it may be used to verify your identity with
- 1960 voter registration records. If you choose not to provide it, your signature may not be verified as
- 1961 a valid signature if you change your address before petition signatures are verified or if the
- 1962 information you provide does not match your voter registration records."
- 1963 (4) The final page of each referendum packet shall contain the following printed or typed
- 1964 statement:

1965 "Verification of signature collector  
 1966 State of Utah, County of \_\_\_\_  
 1967 I, \_\_\_\_\_, of \_\_\_\_\_, hereby state, under penalty of perjury, that:  
 1968 I am a resident of Utah and am at least 18 years old;  
 1969 All the names that appear in this packet were signed by individuals who professed to be the  
 1970 individuals whose names appear in it, and each of the individuals signed the individual's name  
 1971 on it in my presence or, in the case of an individual with a qualifying disability, I have signed  
 1972 this referendum petition on the individual's behalf, at the direction of the individual and in the  
 1973 individual's presence, by entering the initials "AV" as the individual's signature;  
 1974 I certify that, for each individual whose signature is represented in this referendum  
 1975 packet by the initials "AV":  
 1976 I obtained the individual's voluntary direction or consent to sign the referendum  
 1977 petition on the individual's behalf;  
 1978 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual lacked the mental  
 1979 capacity to give direction or consent;  
 1980 I do not believe, or have reason to believe, that the individual did not understand  
 1981 the purpose or nature of my signing the referendum petition on the individual's behalf;  
 1982 I did not intentionally or knowingly deceive the individual into directing me to, or  
 1983 consenting for me to, sign the referendum petition on the individual's behalf; and  
 1984 I did not intentionally or knowingly enter false information on the signature sheet;  
 1985 I did not knowingly make a misrepresentation of fact concerning the law this petition seeks  
 1986 to overturn; and  
 1987 I believe that each [~~individual has printed and signed the~~]individual's name[~~and written the~~  
 1988 ~~individual's~~] , post office address, and residence is written correctly, that each signer has read [  
 1989 ~~and understands~~]the law that the referendum seeks to overturn, and that each signer is  
 1990 registered to vote in Utah.

1991 \_\_\_\_\_  
 1992 (Name) (Residence Address) (Date)

1994 [~~Each individual who signed the packet wrote the~~] The correct date of signature appears  
 1995 next to [~~the~~] each individual's name.  
 1996 I have not paid or given anything of value to any individual who signed this referendum  
 1997 packet to encourage that individual to sign it.  
 1998 \_\_\_\_\_

- 1999 (Name)  
 (Residence Address) (Date)".
- 2000 (5) If the forms described in this section are substantially followed, the referendum  
 2001 petitions are sufficient, notwithstanding clerical and merely technical errors.
- 2002 (6) An individual's status as a resident, under Subsection (4), is determined in accordance  
 2003 with Section 20A-2-105.
- 2004 Section 27. Section **20A-7-604** is amended to read:  
 2005 **20A-7-604 . Manual referendum process -- Circulation requirements -- Local**  
 2006 **clerk to provide sponsors with materials.**
- 2007 (1) This section applies only to the manual referendum process.
- 2008 (2) In order to obtain the necessary number of signatures required by this part, the sponsors  
 2009 or an agent of the sponsors shall, after the sponsors receive the documents described in  
 2010 Subsections (3) and 20A-7-401.5(4)(b), circulate referendum packets that meet the form  
 2011 requirements of this part.
- 2012 (3) Within five days after the day on which a county, city, town, metro township, or court  
 2013 determines, in accordance with Section 20A-7-602.7, that a proposed referendum is  
 2014 legally referable to voters, the local clerk shall provide the sponsors with~~[a copy of the~~  
 2015 ~~referendum petition and a signature sheet.]~~ ;
- 2016 (a) a copy of the referendum petition;  
 2017 (b) a signature sheet; and  
 2018 (c) a copy of the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under  
 2019 Subsection 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2020 (4) The sponsors of the referendum petition shall:  
 2021 (a) arrange and pay for the printing of all documents that are part of the referendum  
 2022 packets; and  
 2023 (b) ensure that the referendum packets and the documents described in Subsection (4)(a)  
 2024 meet the form requirements of this section.
- 2025 (5) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may prepare the referendum packets for  
 2026 circulation by creating multiple referendum packets.  
 2027 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall create referendum packets by binding  
 2028 a copy of the referendum petition with the text of the law that is the subject of the  
 2029 referendum and no more than 50 signature sheets together at the top in a manner that  
 2030 the referendum packets may be conveniently opened for signing.  
 2031 (c) A referendum packet is not required to have a uniform number of signature sheets.

- 2032 (d) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall include, with each packet, a copy of  
 2033 the proposition information pamphlet provided to the sponsors under Subsection  
 2034 20A-7-401.5(4)(b).
- 2035 (6) (a) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors shall, before gathering signatures:  
 2036 (i) contact the county clerk to receive a range of numbers that the sponsors may use  
 2037 to number referendum packets;  
 2038 (ii) sign an agreement with the local clerk, specifying the range of numbers that the  
 2039 sponsor will use to number the referendum packets; and  
 2040 (iii) number each referendum packet, sequentially, within the range of numbers  
 2041 provided by the county clerk, starting with the lowest number in the range.
- 2042 (b) The sponsors or an agent of the sponsors may not:  
 2043 (i) number a referendum packet in a manner not directed by the county clerk; or  
 2044 (ii) circulate or submit a referendum packet that is not numbered in the manner  
 2045 directed by the county clerk.

2046 Section 28. Section **20A-7-608** is amended to read:

2047 **20A-7-608 . Short title and summary of referendum -- Duties of local clerk and**  
 2048 **local attorney.**

- 2049 (1) Upon receipt of a referendum petition, the local clerk shall deliver a copy of the  
 2050 referendum petition and the law to which the referendum relates to the local attorney.
- 2051 (2) The local attorney shall:  
 2052 (a) entitle each county or municipal referendum that qualifies for the ballot "Proposition  
 2053 Number \_\_" and give the referendum a number assigned in accordance with Section  
 2054 20A-6-107;  
 2055 (b) prepare for the referendum:  
 2056 (i) an impartial short title, not exceeding 25 words, that generally describes the  
 2057 subject of the law to which the referendum relates; and  
 2058 (ii) an impartial summary of the contents of the law to which the referendum relates,  
 2059 not exceeding 125 words;  
 2060 (c) file the proposed short title, summary, and the numbered referendum title with the  
 2061 local clerk within 20 days after the day on which an eligible voter submits the  
 2062 referendum petition to the local clerk; and  
 2063 (d) promptly provide notice of the filing of the proposed short title and summary to:  
 2064 (i) the sponsors of the petition; and  
 2065 (ii) the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the referendum petition was

- 2066                   circulated.
- 2067   (3) (a) The short title and summary may be distinct from the title of the law that is the  
2068       subject of the referendum petition.
- 2069       (b) In preparing a short title, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's  
2070       ability, give a true and impartial description of the subject of the referendum.
- 2071       (c) In preparing a summary, the local attorney shall, to the best of the local attorney's  
2072       ability, give a true and impartial summary of the contents of the referendum.
- 2073       (d) The short title and summary may not intentionally be an argument, or likely to create  
2074       prejudice, for or against the referendum.
- 2075   (4) (a) Within five calendar days after the day on which the local attorney files a  
2076       proposed short title and summary under Subsection (2)(c), the local legislative body  
2077       for the jurisdiction where the referendum petition was circulated and the sponsors of  
2078       the referendum petition may file written comments in response to the proposed short  
2079       title and summary with the local clerk.
- 2080       (b) Within five calendar days after the last date to submit written comments under  
2081       Subsection (4)(a), the local attorney shall:
- 2082           (i) review any written comments filed in accordance with Subsection (4)(a);
- 2083           (ii) prepare a final short title and summary that meets the requirements of Subsection  
2084           (3); and
- 2085           (iii) return the referendum petition and file the short title and summary with the local  
2086           clerk.
- 2087       (c) Subject to Subsection (6), for each county or municipal referendum, the following  
2088       shall be printed on the official ballot:
- 2089           (i) the short title; and
- 2090           (ii) except as provided in Subsection (4)(d):
- 2091               (A) the summary;
- 2092               (B) a copy of the ordinance, resolution, or written description of the local law; and
- 2093               (C) a link to a location on the election officer's website where a voter may review  
2094               additional information relating to each referendum, including the information  
2095               described in Subsection 20A-7-602(2) and the arguments relating to the  
2096               referendum that are included in the local voter information pamphlet.
- 2097       (d) Unless the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) is printed on the official  
2098       ballot, the election officer shall include with the ballot a separate ballot proposition  
2099       insert that includes the short title and summary for each referendum on the ballot and

- 2100 a link to a location on the election officer's website where a voter may review the  
2101 additional information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii)(C).
- 2102 (e) Unless the information described in Subsection 20A-7-508(4)(c)(ii) for all initiatives  
2103 on the ballot, and the information described in Subsection (4)(c)(ii) for all referenda  
2104 on the ballot, is printed on the ballot, the ballot shall include the following statement  
2105 at the beginning of the portion of the ballot that includes ballot measures, "The ballot  
2106 proposition sheet included with this ballot contains an impartial summary of each  
2107 initiative and referendum on this ballot, unless the summary is printed directly on the  
2108 ballot."
- 2109 (5) Immediately after the local attorney files a copy of the short title and summary with the  
2110 local clerk, the local clerk shall [~~serve~~] send a copy of the short title and summary [~~by~~  
2111 ~~mail upon~~] to the sponsors of the referendum petition and the local legislative body for  
2112 the jurisdiction where the referendum petition was circulated.
- 2113 (6) (a) If the short title or summary provided by the local attorney is unsatisfactory or  
2114 does not comply with the requirements of this section, the decision of the local  
2115 attorney may be appealed to the appropriate court by:
- 2116 (i) at least three sponsors of the referendum petition; or  
2117 (ii) a majority of the local legislative body for the jurisdiction where the referendum  
2118 petition was circulated.
- 2119 (b) The court:
- 2120 (i) shall examine the short title and summary and consider the arguments; and  
2121 (ii) enter an order consistent with the requirements of this section.
- 2122 (c) The local clerk shall include the short title and summary in the ballot or ballot  
2123 proposition insert, as required by this section.
- 2124 Section 29. Section **20A-7-612** is amended to read:
- 2125 **20A-7-612 . Misconduct of electors and officers -- Penalty.**
- 2126 (1) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 2127 (a) sign a name other than the individual's own name to any referendum petition;  
2128 (b) knowingly sign the individual's name more than once for the same referendum at one  
2129 election;  
2130 (c) knowingly indicate that an individual who signed a referendum petition signed the  
2131 referendum petition on a date other than the date that the individual signed the  
2132 referendum petition;  
2133 (d) sign a referendum petition knowing that the individual is not a legal voter;

- 2134 (e) in connection with circulating a referendum petition, represent that a document is an  
 2135 official government document if the individual knows or has reason to know that the  
 2136 document is not an official government document; or
- 2137 (f) knowingly and willfully violate any provision of this part.
- 2138 (2) It is unlawful for an individual to sign the verification for a referendum packet, or to  
 2139 electronically sign the verification for a signature under Subsection 20A-21-201(9),  
 2140 knowing that:
- 2141 (a) the individual does not meet the residency requirements of Section 20A-2-105;
- 2142 (b) the signature date associated with the individual's signature for the referendum  
 2143 petition is not the date that the individual signed the referendum petition;
- 2144 (c) the individual has not witnessed the signatures the individual collects or submits; or
- 2145 (d) one or more individuals whose signatures appear in the referendum packet is not  
 2146 registered to vote in Utah.
- 2147 (3) It is unlawful for an individual to:
- 2148 (a) pay an individual to sign a referendum petition;
- 2149 (b) pay an individual to remove the individual's signature from a referendum petition;
- 2150 (c) accept payment to sign a referendum petition; ~~or~~
- 2151 (d) accept payment to have the individual's name removed from a referendum petition~~[-]~~ ;  
 2152 or
- 2153 (e) on behalf of a voter described in Section 20A-7-106, place the initials "AV" or enter  
 2154 any information on a signature sheet or statement described in Section 20A-7-106, if  
 2155 the individual:
- 2156 (i) does not obtain the voluntary direction or consent of the voter;
- 2157 (ii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter lacks the mental capacity to give  
 2158 the voter's direction or consent;
- 2159 (iii) believes or has reason to believe that the voter does not understand the purpose  
 2160 or nature of the action taken by the individual on behalf of the voter;
- 2161 (iv) intentionally or knowingly deceives the voter into providing the direction or  
 2162 consent of the voter; or
- 2163 (v) intentionally or knowingly enters false information on the signature sheet or  
 2164 statement.
- 2165 (4) A violation of this section is a class A misdemeanor.
- 2166 (5) The county attorney or municipal attorney shall prosecute any violation of this section.
- 2167 Section 30. Section **20A-7-614** is amended to read:

2168           **20A-7-614 . Electronic referendum process -- Form of referendum petition --**  
2169 **Circulation requirements -- Signature collection.**

2170 (1) This section applies only to the electronic referendum process.

2171 (2) (a) The first screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement:

2172            "This REFERENDUM PETITION is addressed to the Honorable \_\_\_\_, County Clerk/City  
2173 Recorder/Town Clerk:

2174            The citizens of Utah who sign this petition respectfully order that (description of local law  
2175 or portion of local law being challenged), passed by the \_\_\_\_ be referred to the voters for their  
2176 approval or rejection at the regular/municipal general election to be held on  
2177 \_\_\_\_\_(month\day\year)."

2178 (b) An individual may not advance to the second screen until the individual clicks a link  
2179 at the bottom of the first screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read and  
2180 understand the information presented on this screen."

2181 (3) (a) The second screen presented on the approved device shall include the entire text  
2182 of the law that is the subject of the referendum petition.

2183 (b) An individual may not advance to the third screen until the individual clicks a link at  
2184 the bottom of the second screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
2185 and understand the entire text of the law that is the subject of the referendum  
2186 petition."

2187 (4) (a) The third screen presented on the approved device shall include a statement  
2188 indicating whether persons gathering signatures for the referendum petition may be  
2189 paid for gathering signatures.

2190 (b) An individual may not advance to the fourth screen until the individual clicks a link  
2191 at the bottom of the third screen stating, "By clicking here, I attest that I have read  
2192 and understand the information presented on this screen."

2193 (5) The fourth screen presented on the approved device shall include the following statement,  
2194 followed by links where the individual may click "yes" or "no":

2195            "I have personally [reviewed] read the entirety of each statement presented on this device;  
2196 I am personally signing this referendum petition;  
2197 I am registered to vote in Utah; and  
2198 All information I enter on this device, including my residence and post office address, is  
2199 accurate.

2200            It is a class A misdemeanor for an individual to sign a referendum petition with a name  
2201 other than the individual's own name, or to knowingly sign the individual's name more than

2202 once for the same referendum petition, or to sign a referendum petition when the individual  
 2203 knows that the individual is not a registered voter.

2204 Do you wish to continue and sign this referendum petition?"

2205 (6) (a) If the individual clicks "no" in response to the question described in Subsection  
 2206 (5), the next screen shall include the following statement, "Thank you for your time.  
 2207 Please return this device to the signature-gatherer."

2208 (b) If the individual clicks "yes" in response to the question described in Subsection (5),  
 2209 the website, or the application that accesses the website, shall take the  
 2210 signature-gatherer and the individual signing the referendum petition through the  
 2211 signature process described in Section 20A-21-201.

2212 Section 31. Section **20A-7-615** is amended to read:

2213 **20A-7-615 . Electronic referendum process -- Obtaining signatures -- Request to**  
 2214 **remove signature.**

2215 (1) This section applies to the electronic referendum process described in Section  
 2216 20A-21-201.

2217 (2) A Utah voter may sign a local referendum petition if the voter is a legal voter and  
 2218 resides in the local jurisdiction.

2219 (3) The sponsors shall ensure that the signature-gatherer who collects a signature from an  
 2220 individual:

2221 (a) verifies that the individual is at least 18 years old and meets the residency  
 2222 requirements of Section 20A-2-105; and

2223 (b) is informed that each signer is required to read and understand the law that is the  
 2224 subject of the referendum petition.

2225 (4) (a) A voter who signs a referendum petition may have the voter's signature removed  
 2226 from the referendum petition by, in accordance with Section 20A-1-1003, submitting  
 2227 to the county clerk a statement requesting that the voter's signature be removed  
 2228 before 5 p.m. no later than the earlier of:

2229 (i) 30 days after the day on which the voter signs the statement requesting removal; or

2230 (ii) 45 days after the day on which the local clerk posts the voter's name under  
 2231 Subsection 20A-7-616(3).

2232 ~~[(b) The statement described in Subsection (4)(a) shall include:]~~

2233 ~~[(i) the name of the voter;]~~

2234 ~~[(ii) the resident address at which the voter is registered to vote;]~~

2235 ~~[(iii) the signature of the voter; and]~~

2236           ~~[(iv) the date of the signature described in Subsection (4)(b)(iii).]~~  
2237           ~~[(e) To increase the likelihood of the voter's signature being identified and removed, the~~  
2238           ~~statement described in Subsection (4)(a) may include the voter's birth date or age.]~~  
2239           ~~[(d)] (b) A voter may not submit a signature removal statement described in Subsection~~  
2240           (4)(a) by email or other electronic means, unless the lieutenant governor establishes a  
2241           signature removal process that is consistent with the requirements of this section and  
2242           Section 20A-21-201.  
2243           ~~[(e)] (c) A person may only remove an electronic signature from a referendum petition in~~  
2244           accordance with this section.  
2245           ~~[(f)] (d) A county clerk shall analyze a holographic signature, for purposes of removing~~  
2246           an electronic signature from a referendum petition, in accordance with Subsection  
2247           20A-1-1003(3).  
2248           Section 32. **Effective date.**  
2249           This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.