

<p style="text-align: center;">The Basic Steps To Do An Initiative In Utah Statutes Only – Direct And Indirect Initiative Process</p>

Basic procedures: Persons wishing to circulate a statewide initiative petition must file an application and a copy of the proposed law with the Lieutenant Governor. The application requires five sponsors who are registered voters and have voted in regular general election in Utah in the last three years. The Lieutenant Governor then forwards it to the Attorney General who reviews it (which usually takes about 5 business days.) After the Attorney General reviews it, he sends it back to the Lieutenant Governor who notifies the proponents that they can begin circulating.

The Lieutenant Governor can reject an initiative petition application if the law proposed by the initiative is patently unconstitutional; the proposed law is nonsensical; or if the proposed law could not become a law if passed.

As soon as the signatures are verified and the Lieutenant Governor qualifies it for the ballot, the Lieutenant Governor transmits a copy of the petition to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel, which will prepare the ballot title within 15 days after its receipt. At least three of the sponsors may appeal the decision to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court will examine the measures and hear arguments, and, in its decision, certify to the lieutenant governor a ballot title.

Within 15 days after the lieutenant governor declares an initiative petition sufficient, the sponsors of the petition may deliver to the lieutenant governor an argument for the adoption of the measure. Any member of the legislature may request permission to submit an argument against the adoption of the measure. Each argument must not exceed 600 words and be delivered within the 15-day period. These arguments go in the state voter guide, along with the initiative text and a fiscal impact statement.

Date initiative language can be submitted to the state for 2002 election:
any time

Signatures are tied to vote of which office: Governor

Next Gubernatorial election: 2004

Votes Cast for Governor in last election: 761,810

Net number of signatures required: For direct initiatives statutes, proponents must gather signatures equal to 10% of the total votes cast in the last gubernatorial election (76,181 signatures), plus they must get 10% of the vote cast in at least 20 of the 29 counties. For indirect initiatives statutes, proponents must get 5% of the total votes cast in last gubernatorial election and 5% in at least 20 of 29 counties for the initiative

to be submitted to the legislature. If the legislature votes it down, proponents can then go out and get the remaining 5% to qualify it for the ballot. Utah has no provision for constitutional amendment initiatives.

Distribution requirement: For direct initiatives, proponents must gather 10% of the vote cast in at least 20 of the 29 counties. For indirect initiatives, proponents must gather 5% in at least 20 of 29 counties.

Circulation period: Unlimited

Do circulators have to be residents: Yes

Date when signatures are filed for certification: June 1, 2002 for direct initiatives. November 15, 2001 for in-direct initiatives.

Signature verification process: Petitions are verified by the county clerks, who will verify every signature.

Single-subject restriction: Utah has no single subject restrictions.

Legislative tampering: Initiatives that are approved by the voters treated as regular statutes and may be amended or repealed by the Legislature at any legislative session after the act or law has taken effect.