

(19-0009) Authorizes Electronic Signature Gathering for Initiative, Referendum, and Recall Petitions. Initiative Statute.

Circulator's Declaration Affidavit

I, _____, acknowledge that it is a misdemeanor under state law (Section 18650 of the Elections Code) to knowingly or willfully allow the signatures on an initiative petition to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the proposed measure for the ballot. I certify that I will not knowingly or willfully allow the signatures for this initiative to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the measure for the ballot.

Notice to all:

Criminal Penalties

The California Elections Code imposes certain criminal penalties for abuses related to the circulation of initiative petitions. It prohibits circulators from misrepresenting the purpose or contents of the petition to potential petition signers, intentionally making a false statement in response to a voter's inquiry as to whether the circulator is a paid signature gatherer or a volunteer, and from refusing to allow prospective signers to read the proposed initiative measure or petition or Attorney General's summary. (Elections Code §§ 18600 – 18602.) No person may offer or give payment or anything of value to another in exchange for signing an initiative petition. (Elections Code § 18603.) The code also makes circulators, signers, and others criminally liable for signing or soliciting to sign false, forged, fictitious, or ineligible signatures and names. (Elections Code §§ 18610-18614.) The law provides criminal penalties for persons, including public officials, who make false affidavits (for example, the circulator's declaration is an affidavit), returns, or certifications concerning any proposed initiative measure. (Elections Code §§ 18660, 18661.) Circulating petitions within 100 feet of a polling place or an elections official's office on election day is prohibited. (Elections Code § 18370(a).) The law prohibits any person from soliciting or obtaining money or anything of value to aid in unlawfully stopping circulation or the filing of a proposed initiative measure or for withdrawing a proposed initiative measure after filing it with an elections official. (Senate Bill 1253, Ch. 697, Statutes of 2014; Elections Code §§ 18620- 18622.) It also prohibits any person from stealing petitions and from threatening petition circulators or circulators' relatives with the intent to dissuade them from circulating the petition (Elections Code §§ 18630, 18631). Any person who is paid by the proponent(s) to obtain signatures on any initiative petition is subject to severe penalties for failing to surrender the petition to the proponent(s) for filing. (Elections Code § 18640.) 8 It should be noted that the petition or list of signatures may be used for no purpose other than the qualification of the initiative measure. (Elections Code § 18650.) This requirement prohibits using the names and addresses on petition sections for a mailing list for fundraising or other purposes.

*******There will be NO paid signature gathering fees and this agreement acknowledges you understand that you are accepting petitions as a volunteer signature gatherer only!**

I agree to the above affidavit statement and have read, and understand the regulations regarding Elections Code criminal penalties, and agree to abide by them, and have read the petition circulator's requirements as set for the by the proponent Mike F. Liddell, DC.

_____ **(Signature of Volunteer Signature Circulator)**

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20_____

Petition Circulator's Requirements for ALL Volunteers to use when Collecting Registered Voter Signatures for the Yes on the California Initiative, Referendum and Recall Reform Act Initiative Proposal Titled: (19-0009) Authorizes Electronic Signature Gathering for Initiative, Referendum, and Recall Petitions. Initiative Statute.

STEP 1

From Our Official Website: www.cirra.com

Download the petition

Print the petition (using 8.5x14 inch legal sized paper only, printing both sides of each sheet of paper with the Title, Summary and body of the proposal on the front and finishing with the signature section on the back.) Margins must be 1 inch from the top and printed material fit to match the 8.5 x 14 inch paper. The bottom will be approximately ½ inch and sides 3/8inch.

Circulate the petition (with the intent to get valid CA voter signatures and return them to the proponent.)

STEP 2

Circulating petitions requires these additional precautions and steps: **(No exceptions!)**

1. **NO Duplicate Signatures!!!!!!** Only one signature per registered voter and we must inform potential repeat signers that it is illegal for them to sign more than one petition. So if there is any uncertainty do not accept the signature! The best way to avoid multiple signatures is to collect signatures from people you know or are connected to someone you know! Also alphabetize the signatures collected according to name and this will help keep out duplicates as we put all of our petitions all together prior to turning them in.
2. **No P.O. Boxes Allowed!!!!!!** Address information is current residence and physical address only!
3. Signatures are **ONLY** collected from **Registered California Voters** who are certain of their voter registration information and are current with their residence address on file. No guessing please and simply move on to the next registered voter. It's more important that we get it right than to simply fill the spaces! Simply go online the California Secretary of State and have the voter check their information, it's easy!
4. We are **only** using **Blue or Black** ink pens to fill out petitions. **NO** fountain pens, felt, crayon, pencil, or any other colors will be allowed. It's a legal document and needs to be treated as such.
5. **Petition Circulators** must fill in the County they will be collecting signatures in on each petition at the time the voter's signature is collected. Please do not fill in the County until you are going to actually collect signatures on them! Once you fill in the County name, only signatures from that County are permitted to be placed on that petition! No exceptions, so please confirm with signer where they are in fact registered first!
6. Also, at the time the voter signs each petition, we require that you put the date in the "Declaration of Circulator" section at the end of each petition. Please do not put in this date until you are certain that you will be getting the voter signature filled out. You will fill out the rest when you are done getting the signature!
7. When circulating petitions and filling out the declaration section for voters, know that all signatures collected by a circulator must be observed, and its best to instruct the person signing to put the correct information in each of the spaces provided. For example: The first space is for them to legibly print their name. If this is not legible please confirm their name and spelling in the single open box space immediately to the left of where they signed! The open space to the right of each signature box is to be kept free and it's helpful to let each signer be aware of this. Do not write anything into the space designated for official use only. Going slightly over the other margins will not ruin the endorsement as long as everything is accurate but we still want to again stay organized so it is best to have as little overlap as possible so officials can clearly identify the information and validate our work easily.
8. If the signer makes a mistake and it is determined that starting over is necessary, please use a new petition. It is best to get it right and the single signature on each petition keeps voters from messing up other signatures. Submitting petitions with corrections is all that's needed to nullify it!
9. We want to avoid registering people to vote at the time of circulation because it simply adds extra steps to ensure that their signature counts. If you wish to do this, please ask for additional guidelines before providing voter registration services during this signature gathering effort. People can easily go online and register to vote but they will need confirmation they are in fact registered to vote first because if they sign and date a petition before voter registration is complete, the signature will not count. The date on the petition must be after they are already legally registered to vote.
10. Finalizing each petition requires the "Declaration of Circulator" section at the end of each petition to be filled out properly and completely by each petition circulator, (or by the voter if they are completing their own petition.) Otherwise, once you have collected your last signature on a petition, print your name and put your residence address, (P.O. Box is **not** acceptable.) Put in the date you got the signature and then put the date and place of signing that you are physically standing in at the time of signing the declaration. (For example: "El Dorado County" and use the same date because one signature is only capable of being signed on any given petition so that can only happen on the same date. Best to finalize the petitions as you go so that date matches the day it was collected.) Finish by signing your full legal name and middle initial if you have one!

STEP 3

You are now ready to return petitions to the P.O. Box address found only on the bottom of each petition. Designated collection points in each county may be assigned, but those will only be identified on our website, and only with proponent approval will any alternate collection be authorized. Please turn in all finalized petitions as you go to avoid loss, damage, or outside tampering.

Thank you to everyone willing to help modernize the CA political system by making electronic signature gathering legal for all initiative, referendum, and recall processes!