

Ballot Title, Summary and Proposed Amendment – Citizen Initiatives

A. Introduction.

This Charter amendment would toll the one hundred and eighty (180) day time period for the gathering of petition signatures during the completion of the reviews and procedures required by Sec. 602.E. of the Charter. The intent is to give petitioners a full one hundred and eighty (180) days to gather the necessary signatures.

B. Ballot Proposal: The ballot title and question for Question #__ are as follows:

TOLLING TIME FOR GATHERING OF
PETITION SIGNATURES ON CITIZEN
INITIATIVES DURING MANDATORY REVIEWS
AND PROCEDURES

Shall the charter be amended by tolling the one hundred eighty (180) time period for gathering signatures during mandatory reviews and procedures specified under Sec. 602.E. of the Charter?

Comptroller estimated financial impact: _____.

_____ Yes

_____ No

C. Text Revisions: Article VI, Sec. 602.A. of the Orange County Charter is amended as follows:

(Underline text is added to the charter).

Sec. 602. - Procedure for initiative and referendum.

A. Initiation and overview of process. The sponsor of an initiative petition shall register as a political committee as required by general law, and shall, prior to obtaining any signatures, submit the text of the proposed petition to the supervisor of elections, with the form on which signatures will be affixed, and shall obtain the approval of the supervisor of elections of such form. The style and requirements of such form may be specified by ordinance. Concurrent with this submission, the sponsor of an initiative petition shall prepare and submit translations of the ballot title and ballot summary into those languages required by law for placement on the ballot. Within fifteen (15) days after the aforementioned submittals, the supervisor of elections shall render a determination on the form on which signatures will be affixed. Each initiative petition shall embrace but one (1) subject and matter directly

connected therewith. The beginning date of any petition drive shall commence upon the date of approval by the supervisor of elections of the form on which signatures will be affixed, and said drive shall terminate one hundred eighty (180) days after that date. The one hundred eighty day (180) period shall be tolled and shall not recommence until the completion of all reviews and procedures required by Sec. 602.E. (legal review, financial impact statement, revised petition, sufficiency determination by supervisor of elections and public hearing). In the event sufficient signatures are not submitted during that one-hundred-eighty-day period (as extended by any tolling of same during the reviews and procedures required by Sec. 602.E.), the petition drive shall be rendered null and void and none of the signatures may be carried over onto another petition. If sufficient signatures are obtained submitted during that one-hundred-eighty-day period, the supervisor of elections shall within thirty (30) days thereafter verify the signatures thereon and submit a written report to the board.

- D. Effective Date.** This amendment shall become effective upon passage, which is the date certified by the Supervisor of Elections and shall not require further enabling legislation by the Orange County Board of County Commissioners.

Financial Analysis and Impact:

Based on information provided by the Comptroller's Office, the cost of the proposed amendment is approximately _____, which represents _____.