



Jon Husted
Ohio Secretary of State

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DIRECTIVE 2013-12

June 11, 2013

To: Certain County Board of Elections

Re: Initial Petitions Filed re: Prospective Referendum Petition Against Substitute H.B. No. 7 (Sweepstakes) of the 130th General Assembly

SUMMARY

This Directive provides instructions to certain county board of elections on the examination, scanning, and certification of signatures on the petition that has been submitted to the Secretary of State to begin the referendum process against Sub. H.B. No. 7. Each board of elections must complete its examination and certification consistent with the instructions outlined below and return its certification and the part-petitions to the Secretary of State's Office no later than **4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 2013.**

INITIAL PETITION SUBMITTED

On June 10, 2013, the Secretary of State's Office received a petition, pursuant to R.C. 3519.01(B)(1), by a group of persons seeking to circulate a referendum petition against Sub. H.B. No. 7 of the 130th General Assembly. Enclosed please find those part-petitions containing signatures from your county. You must examine each part-petition in order to determine the number of qualified electors who signed.

CHECKING SIGNATURES ON THE PETITIONS

The board of elections must examine each part-petition in accordance with the instructions provided in [Directives 2011-17](#) and [2011-22](#).

Each person who signs a petition paper must be a qualified elector of the county in which the part-petition was circulated as of the date the part-petition is examined by the board of elections.¹ If the part-petition contains signatures from any other county, the part-petition is still valid, but only signatures from your county shall be counted. The signatures from outside your county are invalid.²

¹ R.C. 3519.15

² R.C. 3519.10

SCANNING THE PETITIONS

After you have completed checking the signatures on the part-petitions, you must electronically scan the relevant pages of each part-petition (including at least the cover page, the pages containing signatures, and the page containing the circulator statement). Burn the scanned images onto one or as many CDs or DVDs as may be necessary and send the CDs/DVDs to the Secretary of State's Office along with the part petitions and certification form. You should keep an electronic copy of the images you burned to the CDs/DVDs sent to the Secretary of State's Office.

RETURNING THE PETITIONS

As soon as you verify the signatures on the part-petitions, please return your completed certification, all part-petitions, and the CDs/DVDs containing the scanned images to the Secretary of State's Office, 180 E. Broad Street, 15th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215. You must return your certification and accompanying materials either in person or by a method that provides for tracking of delivery (e.g. certified U.S. Mail, Post Office Express Mail, UPS, or FedEx). **Your certification, the part-petitions, and CDs/DVDs must be received by the Secretary of State's Office no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, June 17, 2013.**

If you have any questions concerning this Directive, please contact the Secretary of State's elections counsel assigned to your county at (614) 466-2585.

Sincerely,



Jon Husted

CERTIFICATION FORM

Initial Petition Filing

Petition Filed June 10, 2013

Proposing a Referendum Election on Substitute House Bill 7

On behalf of the _____ County Board of Elections, I hereby certify that the board has examined the enclosed part-petitions. The numbers of valid and invalid signatures on the part-petitions for the proposed referendum are as follows:

	PETITIONS	SIGNATURES
1. Number of valid part-petitions.....	_____	
Number of valid signatures.....		_____
Number of invalid signatures		_____
2. Number of invalid part-petitions	_____	
Number of signatures on invalid part-petitions		_____
3. Total number of part-petitions received (valid and invalid).....	_____	
4. Total number of signatures on part-petitions (valid and invalid).....		_____

Signed: _____

Director

Date

Petitions must be received at SOS office no later than 4 p.m. on June 17, 2013

Please keep a copy of your completed Certification Form for your files.