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ADVISORY 2013-03

June 21, 2013

To: All County Boards of Elections

Re: Additional Process for Filing Referendum or Initiative Petition

This Advisory notifies boards of elections of specific changes in the statewide referendum and initiative process resulting from the General Assembly's recent passage of Substitute Senate Bill Number 47, which became effective today. (For more information about Substitute Senate Bill Number 47 see Advisory 2013-02.)

To comply with the new requirements in R.C. 3519.05 and R.C. 3519.16, in addition to the other requirements provided in Ohio statute and the Ohio Constitution, petition committees, and the Secretary of State must do the following:

A. Submission of Referendum or Initiative Petition

1. When filing a referendum or initiative petition, the petition committee must provide the Secretary of State's Office with the name, address, phone number, and email of the chairperson of the committee and contact information for a designated representative of the committee; and
2. The petition committee must also submit a blank, electronic copy of a part-petition.

B. Insufficient Petitions

If the Secretary of State determines that the signatures on the petition are insufficient, the Secretary of State will simultaneously:

1. Post the electronic version of the supplemental petition on the Secretary of State's website;
2. Notify the chairperson of the petition committee of the insufficiency and provide an electronic and paper form of the supplemental petition form; and
3. Transmit the supplemental petition form to boards of elections. Boards of elections must provide a paper or electronic copy of the form to any person upon request.¹

¹ R.C.3519.05(D), 3519.16(F)

C. Additional Signatures

If the committee, or any person acting on behalf of the committee, submits additional signatures, the signatures must be on the supplemental petition form provided by the Secretary of State and only signatures that were signed and collected during the ten-day period to collect and submit additional signatures may be submitted.²

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

Sincerely,



Jon Husted

² R.C. 3519.05 (F)