

Popular Name:

AN AMENDMENT TO AMEND THE INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PROCESS

Ballot Title:

Providing that the General Assembly may not amend or repeal a constitutional amendment approved by a vote of the people; Providing that prior to a petition on a state-wide measure being circulated, the measure, the popular name and exact title to be used on the ballot shall be submitted to the Attorney General for approval and certification. Within ten calendar days, the Attorney General shall either certify that the popular name and ballot title submitted are not misleading, and that the title is an honest and impartial summary of the proposed measure that gives the voter a fair and reasonable understanding of the issues in the measure, or reject the popular name and/or title if it determines that they do not meet the requirements of this section. To reject a proposed popular name or title, the Attorney General shall provide a written statement clearly explaining all the reasons for rejection and provide a substituted popular name and/or title that makes only such changes to the proposed popular name and/or title as is necessary to meet the requirements of this section and then certify the approved popular name and title to be used on the ballot. Failure by the Attorney General to either approve the popular name and/or title or to substitute a popular name and/or title within ten calendar days shall be considered acceptance and certification of the proposed popular name and title. The sponsor may challenge the Attorney General's substitution of the popular name and/or title within 30 calendar days of receiving it by filing a complaint with the Arkansas Supreme Court which shall have original jurisdiction and who shall expedite the matter. No additional challenges to the approved popular name and/or ballot title shall be allowed;. Providing that the ballot title for any state-wide referendum petition shall be the title of the Act as assigned by the General Assembly and the name shall be the subtitle as assigned by the General Assembly; Providing that each part of any petition shall have attached thereto the declaration under penalty of perjury of the person circulating the same, that all signatures thereon were made in the presence of the declarant, and that to the best of the declarant's knowledge and belief each signature is genuine, and that the person signing is a legal voter and no other affidavit, declaration, or verification shall be required to establish the genuineness of such signatures; Providing that any vote on an emergency clause must occur at least 24 hours after passage of the measure; Providing that no constitutional amendment which either explicitly or by implication specifically bestows power, privileges, or authority upon a specific individual, or a private business entity or corporation, or creates a monopoly for a private business entity or corporation shall be allowed however stating that this prohibition does not apply to any constitutional amendment approved prior to January 1, 2025; Providing that this section may only be amended by a constitutional amendment initiated by the people pursuant to the terms of this amendment and not by an amendment referred by the General Assembly pursuant to Article 19, Section 22.