

2007 Statewide Referendum Process

- Sponsors file application with the lieutenant governor by March 5, 2007
- Sponsors obtain petition and signature sheet from lieutenant governor
- Sponsors prepare packets (bound: petition, bill, no more than 50 signature sheets, verification)
- Sponsors submit packets to lieutenant governor for numbering
- Lieutenant governor returns numbered packets within 5 working days
- Sponsors collect signatures (91,996 statewide and from at least 15 counties, 10% of the total votes cast in the county for all governor candidates)
- Sponsors submit signed and verified packets to the respective **county clerks** no later than April 9, 2007
- County clerks check names of those signing the petition
- County clerks report names of non-resident verifiers or verifiers under age 18 to county attorney and attorney general no later than April 24, 2007
- County clerk delivers all referendum packets to the lieutenant governor no later than April 24, 2007
- Lieutenant governor evaluates petition for sufficient number of certified signatures
- Lieutenant governor declares petition sufficient or insufficient no later than April 30, 2007 (60th day following the legislative session is a Sunday)
- Lieutenant governor notifies sponsors and governor of his findings
- If the lieutenant governor declares the petition sufficient, **governor** issues executive order directing that the referendum be submitted to the voters at the next regular general election (November 4, 2008) or at a special election (potential dates: June 26, 2007, November 6, 2007 or June 24, 2008). **The challenged law may not take effect unless and until the approved by a vote of the people**
- Lieutenant governor delivers a copy of the petition to Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel
- Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel** prepares ballot title within 15 days of receiving the petition from lieutenant governor
- Lieutenant governor mails a copy of the ballot title to one of the sponsors
- Sponsors may challenge the ballot title
- Legislators** who voted for and against the bill challenged by the referendum and appointed by the Speaker of the House and Senate President submit arguments for and against the bill to the lieutenant governor for the Voter Information Pamphlet by June 1, 2008 (presumes referendum will appear on the general election ballot)
- Legislators** submit rebuttal arguments to the lieutenant governor by June 30, 2008 (presumes referendum will appear on the general election ballot)
- Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel prepares impartial analysis of referendum for Voter Information Pamphlet no later than August 20, 2008 (presumes referendum will appear on general election ballot)
- Voters cast ballots
- State board of canvassers determines the number of votes cast
- Lieutenant governor certifies vote totals to the governor
- Governor proclaims vote totals and declares the effect of the vote