

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 652

BY WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE

AN ACT

1 RELATING TO ELECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 34-1802, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE
2 PROVISIONS REGARDING SIGNATURES FOR INITIATIVE PETITIONS; AMENDING
3 SECTION 34-1803B, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING THE RE-
4 MOVAL OF SIGNATURES FROM INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS AND TO
5 MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY AND PROVIDING AN
6 EFFECTIVE DATE.
7

8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

9 SECTION 1. That Section 34-1802, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
10 amended to read as follows:

11 34-1802. INITIATIVE PETITIONS -- TIME FOR GATHERING SIGNATURES --
12 TIME FOR SUBMISSION OF SIGNATURES TO THE COUNTY CLERK -- TIME FOR FILING. (1)
13 Except as provided in section 34-1804, Idaho Code, petitions for an initia-
14 tive shall be circulated and signatures obtained beginning upon the date
15 that the petitioners receive both the fiscal impact statement and the offi-
16 cial ballot title from the secretary of state and extending eighteen (18)
17 months from that date, or ~~April 30~~ March 31 of the year of the next general
18 election, whichever occurs earlier. The last day for circulating petitions
19 and obtaining signatures shall be the last day of ~~April~~ March in the year an
20 election on the initiative will be held.

21 (2) The person or persons or organization or organizations under whose
22 authority the measure is to be initiated shall submit the petitions contain-
23 ing signatures to the county clerk for verification pursuant to the provi-
24 sions of section 34-1807, Idaho Code. The signatures ~~required~~ shall be sub-
25 mitted to the county clerk ~~not later than~~ on a monthly basis no later than the
26 second Tuesday of the month for any signature obtained in the previous month.
27 No signatures shall be submitted after the close of business on the first day
28 of ~~May~~ April in the year an election on the initiative will be held, or eigh-
29 teen (18) months from the date the petitioner receives the official ballot
30 title from the secretary of state, whichever is earlier.

31 (3) The county clerk shall, within ~~sixty (60)~~ ninety (90) calendar days
32 of the deadline for the submission of the final required signatures, verify
33 the signatures contained in the petitions, but in no event shall the time ex-
34 tend beyond the last day of June in the year an election on the initiative
35 will be held.

36 (4) Initiative petitions with the requisite number of signatures at-
37 tached shall be filed with the secretary of state not less than four (4)
38 months before the election at which they are to be voted upon.

39 (5) Upon receipt of initiative petitions with the requisite number of
40 signatures attached, the secretary of state shall provide a public review
41 period of not less than sixty (60) days.

1 SECTION 2. That Section 34-1803B, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby
2 amended to read as follows:

3 34-1803B. INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS -- REMOVAL OF SIGNA-
4 TURES. (1) The signer of any initiative or referendum petition may remove his
5 or her own name from the petition by crossing out, obliterating or otherwise
6 defacing his or her own signature at any time prior to the time when the peti-
7 tion is presented to the county clerk for signature verification.

8 (2) The signer of any initiative or referendum petition may have his or
9 her name removed from the petition at any time after presentation of the pe-
10 tition to the county clerk ~~but prior to verification of the signature, but~~
11 prior to the end of the public review period, by presenting in writing or
12 submitting electronically to the county clerk a signed statement that the
13 signer desires to have his or her name removed from the petition. The state-
14 ment shall contain sufficient information to clearly identify the signer.
15 The county clerk shall immediately strike the signer's name from the peti-
16 tion, and adjust the total of certified signatures on the petition accord-
17 ingly. The statement shall be attached to, and become a part of the initia-
18 tive or referendum petition. If the petition is filed with the secretary of
19 state, the county clerk shall transmit such signed statement to the secre-
20 tary of state. The secretary of state shall immediately strike the name and
21 adjust the total of certified signatures prior to the end of the public re-
22 view period.

23 (3) Each signature page of an initiative or referendum petition shall
24 state that any person signing a petition may remove his or her signature pur-
25 suant to this section.

26 SECTION 3. An emergency existing therefor, which emergency is hereby
27 declared to exist, this act shall be in full force and effect on and after
28 July 1, 2024.