

# SENATE BILL 673

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CF HB 493

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By: **Senators Conway and Raskin**

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Referendum Integrity Act**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a petition signature page to contain a certain  
4 notification and be completed on a certain form; altering the information an  
5 individual must provide to sign a petition; establishing certain requirements for  
6 an online petition system; establishing certain requirements for petition  
7 circulators; requiring that a certain determination of whether a petition has a  
8 sufficient number of signatures be made in a certain manner; providing that a  
9 petition may not be certified if certain campaign finance reports have not been  
10 filed; repealing a requirement that a certain petition fund report be filed with a  
11 petition; providing that contributions or expenditures to support the collection  
12 of signatures for certain petitions are campaign finance activity; prohibiting a  
13 person from collecting signatures for certain petitions until the person  
14 establishes a ballot issue committee; providing that a ballot issue committee  
15 may make expenditures relating only to a single petition or ballot issue;  
16 requiring a ballot issue committee established to support the collection of  
17 signatures for certain petitions to file campaign finance reports on certain dates;  
18 requiring a ballot issue committee to terminate and file a final campaign  
19 finance report by a certain date; prohibiting a person from providing  
20 compensation to a petition circulator based on the number of signatures  
21 collected; prohibiting a petition circulator from accepting compensation based on  
22 the number of signatures collected; prohibiting a person from using information  
23 provided on a petition for commercial solicitation; prohibiting the use of a  
24 petition to update a voter's registration record; altering certain definitions;  
25 making conforming changes; and generally relating to requirements of the  
26 petition process.

27 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

28 Article – Election Law

29 Section 1–101(f), (o), (aa), and (ff), 3–502(b), 6–201, 6–203, 6–204, 6–206, 6–208,  
30 7–104(c), 13–202, 13–208(c), 13–309, and 16–401

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 Annotated Code of Maryland  
2 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

3 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,  
4 Article – Election Law  
5 Section 6–103 and 13–208(a) and (b)  
6 Annotated Code of Maryland  
7 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

8 BY adding to  
9 Article – Election Law  
10 Section 13–245.1 and 13–310.1  
11 Annotated Code of Maryland  
12 (2010 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
14 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Election Law**

16 1–101.

17 (f) “Ballot issue committee” means a political committee that is formed to:

18 **(1) SUPPORT THE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION**  
19 **UNDER ARTICLE XI–A, ARTICLE XI–F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND**  
20 **CONSTITUTION; OR**

21 **(2)** promote the success or defeat of a question to be submitted to a  
22 vote at an election.

23 (o) (1) “Contribution” means the gift or transfer, or promise of gift or  
24 transfer, of money or other thing of value to a campaign finance entity to promote or  
25 assist in the promotion of the success or defeat of a candidate, political party, or  
26 question **OR TO SUPPORT THE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION**  
27 **UNDER ARTICLE XI–A, ARTICLE XI–F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND**  
28 **CONSTITUTION.**

29 (2) “Contribution” includes proceeds from the sale of tickets to a  
30 campaign fund–raising event.

31 (aa) “Expenditure” means a gift, transfer, disbursement, or promise of money  
32 or a thing of value by or on behalf of a campaign finance entity to:

33 (1) promote or assist in the promotion of the success or defeat of a  
34 candidate, political party, or question at an election; [or]

1           **(2) SUPPORT THE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION**  
2 **UNDER ARTICLE XI-A, ARTICLE XI-F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND**  
3 **CONSTITUTION; OR**

4           **[(2)] (3)** pay for the publication expense of a legislative newsletter  
5 under Title 13, Subtitle 4 of this article.

6           (ff) “Political action committee” means a political committee that is not:

7           (1) a political party;

8           (2) a central committee;

9           (3) a slate;

10           (4) a political committee organized and operated solely to support or  
11 oppose a single candidate; [or]

12           (5) a political committee organized and operated solely to support or  
13 oppose a ballot issue; **OR**

14           **(6) A POLITICAL COMMITTEE ORGANIZED AND OPERATED SOLELY**  
15 **TO SUPPORT THE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION UNDER**  
16 **ARTICLE XI-A, ARTICLE XI-F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND**  
17 **CONSTITUTION.**

18 3-502.

19           (b) **(1) [Upon] SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,**  
20 **UPON** receiving any information that a voter currently registered in the State has  
21 moved to a different address within the State, the appropriate election official shall  
22 change the voter’s record and send the voter a confirmation notice.

23           **(2) AN ADDRESS THAT A REGISTERED VOTER PROVIDES ON A**  
24 **PETITION GOVERNED BY TITLE 6 OF THIS ARTICLE MAY NOT BE USED TO**  
25 **UPDATE THE VOTER’S REGISTRATION RECORD.**

26 6-103.

27           (a) (1) The State Board shall adopt regulations, consistent with this title,  
28 to carry out the provisions of this title.

29           (2) The regulations shall:

30           (i) prescribe the form and content of petitions;

1 (ii) specify procedures for the circulation of petitions for  
2 signatures;

3 (iii) specify procedures for the verification and counting of  
4 signatures; and

5 (iv) provide any other procedural or technical requirements that  
6 the State Board considers appropriate.

7 (b) (1) The State Board shall:

8 (i) prepare guidelines and instructions relating to the petition  
9 process; and

10 (ii) design and arrange to have printed sample forms  
11 conforming to this subtitle for each purpose for which a petition is authorized by law.

12 (2) The guidelines, instructions, and forms shall be provided to the  
13 public, on request, without charge.

14 6–201.

15 (a) A petition shall contain:

16 (1) an information page; and

17 (2) signature pages containing not less than the total number of  
18 signatures required by law to be filed.

19 (b) The information page shall contain:

20 (1) a description of the subject and purpose of the petition, conforming  
21 to the requirements of regulations;

22 (2) identification of the sponsor and, if the sponsor is an organization,  
23 of the individual designated to receive notices under this subtitle;

24 (3) the required information relating to the signatures contained in  
25 the petition;

26 (4) the required affidavit made and executed by the sponsor or, if the  
27 sponsor is an organization, by an individual responsible to and designated by the  
28 organization; and

29 (5) any other information required by regulation.

1 (c) Each signature page shall contain:

2 (1) a description of the subject and purpose of the petition, conforming  
3 to the requirements of regulations;

4 (2) if the petition seeks to place a question on the ballot, either:

5 (i) a fair and accurate summary of the substantive provisions of  
6 the proposal; or

7 (ii) the full text of the proposal;

8 (3) a statement, to which each signer subscribes, that:

9 (i) the signer supports the purpose of that petition process; and

10 (ii) based on the signer's information and belief, the signer is a  
11 registered voter in the county specified on the page and is eligible to have his or her  
12 signature counted;

13 (4) spaces for signatures and the required information relating to the  
14 signers;

15 (5) a space for the name of the county in which each of the signers of  
16 that page is a registered voter;

17 (6) a space for the required affidavit made and executed by the  
18 circulator; [and]

19 **(7) A STATEMENT NOTIFYING SIGNERS THAT INFORMATION**  
20 **PROVIDED ON A PETITION IS SUBJECT TO PUBLIC DISCLOSURE; AND**

21 **[(7)] (8)** any other information required by regulation.

22 (d) If the petition seeks to place a question on the ballot and the sponsor  
23 elects to print a summary of the proposal on each signature page as provided in  
24 subsection (c)(2)(i) of this section:

25 (1) the circulator shall have the full text of the proposal present at the  
26 time and place that each signature is affixed to the page; and

27 (2) the signature page shall state that the full text is available from  
28 the circulator.

29 (e) A signature page shall satisfy the requirements of subsections (c) and  
30 (d)(2) of this section before any signature is affixed to it and at all relevant times  
31 thereafter.

1           **(F) A SIGNATURE PAGE SHALL BE COMPLETED ON THE FORM DESIGNED**  
2 **BY THE STATE BOARD.**

3 6–203.

4           (a) To sign a petition, an individual shall:

5                   (1) sign the individual’s name as it appears on the statewide voter  
6 registration list or the individual’s surname of registration and at least one full given  
7 name and the initials of any other names; and

8                   (2) include the following information, printed or typed, in the spaces  
9 provided:

10                           (i) the signer’s name as it was signed;

11                           (ii) the signer’s address **AS THE ADDRESS APPEARS ON THE**  
12 **STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION LIST;**

13                           (iii) the date of signing; [and]

14                           **(IV) THE SIGNER’S DATE OF BIRTH; AND**

15                           [(iv)] **(V) other information required by regulations adopted by**  
16 **the State Board.**

17           **(B) (1) IN THIS SUBSECTION, “ONLINE PETITION SYSTEM” MEANS A**  
18 **WEB SITE ON WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL MAY ENTER PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION**  
19 **INFORMATION OF A REGISTERED VOTER THAT THE SYSTEM USES TO GENERATE**  
20 **A PREPOPULATED SIGNATURE PAGE FOR THAT VOTER.**

21                   **(2) BEFORE A PREPOPULATED SIGNATURE PAGE IS GENERATED**  
22 **FOR A REGISTERED VOTER, AN ONLINE PETITION SYSTEM SHALL REQUIRE THAT**  
23 **THE REGISTERED VOTER’S:**

24                           **(I) NAME BE ENTERED IN THE MANNER SPECIFIED IN**  
25 **SUBSECTION (A)(1) OF THIS SECTION; AND**

26                           **(II) ADDRESS AND DATE OF BIRTH BE ENTERED AS THEY**  
27 **APPEAR ON THE STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION LIST.**

28                   **(3) AN ONLINE PETITION SYSTEM MAY GENERATE A**  
29 **PREPOPULATED SIGNATURE PAGE ONLY FOR A REGISTERED VOTER WHOSE**

1 **PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION IS ENTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH**  
2 **PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION.**

3 (b) The signature of an individual shall be validated and counted if:

4 (1) the requirements of subsection (a) of this section have been  
5 satisfied;

6 (2) the individual is a registered voter assigned to the county specified  
7 on the signature page and, if applicable, in a particular geographic area of the county;

8 (3) the individual has not previously signed the same petition;

9 (4) the signature is attested by an affidavit appearing on the page on  
10 which the signature appears;

11 (5) the date accompanying the signature is not later than the date of  
12 the affidavit on the page; and

13 (6) if applicable, the signature was affixed within the requisite period  
14 of time, as specified by law.

15 (c) (1) A signature may be removed:

16 (i) by the signer upon written application to the election  
17 authority with which the petition will be filed if the application is received by the  
18 election authority prior to the filing of that signature; or

19 (ii) prior to the filing of that signature, by the circulator who  
20 attested to that signature or by the sponsor of the petition, if it is concluded that the  
21 signature does not satisfy the requirements of this title.

22 (2) A signature removed pursuant to paragraph (1)(ii) of this  
23 subsection may not be included in the number of signatures stated on the information  
24 page included in the petition.

25 6–204.

26 (a) Each signature page shall contain an affidavit made and executed by the  
27 individual in whose presence all of the signatures on that page were affixed and who  
28 observed each of those signatures being affixed.

29 (b) The affidavit shall contain the statements, required by regulation,  
30 designed to assure the validity of the signatures and the fairness of the petition  
31 process.

1           **(C) THE CIRCULATOR SHALL WRITE THE CIRCULATOR'S INITIALS**  
2 **BESIDE EACH SIGNATURE ON A PAGE AT THE TIME THAT THE SIGNATURE IS**  
3 **AFFIXED TO AFFIRM THAT THE CIRCULATOR WITNESSED THE SIGNATURE BEING**  
4 **AFFIXED.**

5           **[(c)] (D)** A circulator must be at least 18 years old at the time any of the  
6 signatures covered by the affidavit are affixed.

7           **(E) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT SIGN A SIGNATURE PAGE AS BOTH THE**  
8 **CIRCULATOR AND A PETITIONER.**

9           **(F) BEFORE ACTING AS A CIRCULATOR, AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL**  
10 **COMPLETE AN ONLINE TRAINING COURSE DEVELOPED BY THE STATE BOARD**  
11 **THAT PROVIDES INSTRUCTION ON STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS GOVERNING**  
12 **THE PROCESS OF CIRCULATING PETITIONS.**

13 6-206.

14           (a) Promptly upon the filing of a petition with an election authority, the chief  
15 election official of the election authority shall review the petition.

16           (b) Unless a determination of deficiency is made under subsection (c) of this  
17 section, the chief election official shall:

18                   (1) make a determination that the petition, as to matters other than  
19 the validity of signatures, is sufficient; or

20                   (2) defer a determination of sufficiency pending further review.

21           (c) The chief election official shall declare that the petition is deficient if the  
22 chief election official determines that:

23                   (1) the petition was not timely filed;

24                   (2) after providing the sponsor an opportunity to correct any clerical  
25 errors, the information provided by the sponsor indicates that the petition does not  
26 satisfy any requirements of law for the number or geographic distribution of  
27 signatures;

28                   (3) an examination of unverified signatures indicates that the petition  
29 does not satisfy any requirements of law for the number or geographic distribution of  
30 signatures;

31                   (4) the requirements relating to the form of the petition have not been  
32 satisfied;



1           (5) based on the advice of the legal authority:

2                   (i) the use of a petition for the subject matter of the petition is  
3 not authorized by law; or

4                   (ii) the petition seeks:

5                           1. the enactment of a law that would be unconstitutional  
6 or the election or nomination of an individual to an office for which that individual is  
7 not legally qualified to be a candidate; or

8                           2. a result that is otherwise prohibited by law; or

9           (6) the petition has failed to satisfy some other requirement  
10 established by law.

11           **(D) WHEN MAKING ANY DETERMINATION WHETHER A PETITION THAT**  
12 **SEEKS TO PLACE A QUESTION ON THE BALLOT SATISFIES ANY REQUIREMENTS**  
13 **OF LAW FOR THE NUMBER OR GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF SIGNATURES, THE**  
14 **CHIEF ELECTION OFFICIAL SHALL CONSIDER ONLY THE MAXIMUM CUMULATIVE**  
15 **NUMBER OF SIGNATURES AFFIXED TO PAGES THAT CONTAIN IDENTICAL**  
16 **LANGUAGE PROVIDING EITHER:**

17                   **(1) A FAIR AND ACCURATE SUMMARY OF THE SUBSTANTIVE**  
18 **PROVISIONS OF THE PROPOSAL; OR**

19                   **(2) THE FULL TEXT OF THE PROPOSAL.**

20           **[(d)] (E)** A determination under this section may not be inconsistent with  
21 an advance determination made under § 6–202 of this subtitle.

22           **[(e)] (F)** Notice of a determination under this section shall be provided in  
23 accordance with § 6–210 of this subtitle.

24 6–208.

25           (a) At the conclusion of the verification and counting processes, the chief  
26 election official of the election authority shall:

27                   (1) determine whether the validated signatures contained in the  
28 petition are sufficient to satisfy all requirements established by law relating to the  
29 number and geographical distribution of signatures; and

30                   (2) if it has not done so previously, determine whether the petition has  
31 satisfied all other requirements established by law for that petition and immediately  
32 notify the sponsor of that determination, including any specific deficiencies found.

1           **(B) IF A PETITION SPONSOR'S BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE HAS FAILED**  
2 **TO FILE ANY OF THE REPORTS REQUIRED UNDER § 13-309(D) OF THIS ARTICLE,**  
3 **THE CHIEF ELECTION OFFICIAL MAY NOT CERTIFY A PETITION.**

4           **[(b)] (C)** If the chief election official determines that a petition has satisfied  
5 all requirements established by law relating to that petition, the chief election official  
6 shall certify that the petition process has been completed and shall:

7                   (1) with respect to a petition seeking to place the name of an  
8 individual or a question on the ballot, certify that the name or question has qualified  
9 to be placed on the ballot;

10                   (2) with respect to a petition seeking to create a new political party,  
11 certify the sufficiency of the petition to the chairman of the governing body of the  
12 partisan organization; and

13                   (3) with respect to the creation of a charter board under Article XI-A,  
14 § 1A of the Maryland Constitution, certify that the petition is sufficient.

15           **[(c)] (D)** Notice of a determination under this section shall be provided in  
16 accordance with § 6-210 of this subtitle.

17 7-104.

18           (c) (1) **[At the time of filing a petition under the provisions of Article XI-A**  
19 **or Article XVI of the Maryland Constitution, the person who files the petition shall**  
20 **also file a signed statement, under penalty of perjury, showing the contributions and**  
21 **expenditures for the petition including:**

22                           (i) the name and post office address of every contributor to the  
23 expense of the petition;

24                           (ii) the amount contributed by each contributor; and

25                           (iii) the name and address of each person to whom any money  
26 was paid or promised for providing a service related to the petition.

27                   (2) If the statement under paragraph (1) of this subsection is not filed  
28 with the petition, the petition may not be certified under § 6-208 of this article.

29                   (3) (i) The individual who signed the statement required under  
30 paragraph (1) of this subsection] **THE RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS OF A PETITION**  
31 **SPONSOR'S BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE** shall be a party to any proceeding to test  
32 the validity of the petition.

1                    **[(ii)](2)**        The proceeding shall be filed in the county where the  
2 **[person or association] PETITION SPONSOR** resides or maintains its principal place of  
3 business.

4 13-202.

5            (a)        Unless otherwise expressly authorized by law, all campaign finance  
6 activity for an election under this article shall be conducted through a campaign  
7 finance entity.

8            **(B) (1) CONTRIBUTIONS OR EXPENDITURES TO SUPPORT THE**  
9 **COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION UNDER ARTICLE XI-A, ARTICLE**  
10 **XI-F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION IS CAMPAIGN**  
11 **FINANCE ACTIVITY.**

12            **(2) A PERSON MAY NOT COLLECT SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION**  
13 **UNDER ARTICLE XI-A, ARTICLE XI-F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND**  
14 **CONSTITUTION UNTIL THE PERSON ESTABLISHES, OR CAUSES TO BE**  
15 **ESTABLISHED, A BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE.**

16            **[(b)](C)**        An individual may not file a certificate of candidacy until the  
17 individual establishes, or causes to be established, an authorized political committee.

18 13-208.

19            (a)        This section applies to a political committee other than a political club.

20            (b)        A political committee shall provide, with the filing required by §  
21 13-207(c) of this subtitle, a statement of organization that includes its name and a  
22 statement of purpose.

23            (c)        The statement of purpose shall specify:

24                    (1)        each candidate **[or]**, ballot question, **OR PETITION**, if any, that the  
25 political committee was formed to promote or defeat;

26                    (2)        the identity of each special interest, including any business or  
27 occupation, that the organizers of or contributors to the political committee have in  
28 common; and

29                    (3)        whether the political committee will participate in presidential,  
30 gubernatorial, Baltimore City, or multiple elections.

31 **13-245.1.**

32            **A BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE MAY MAKE EXPENDITURES ONLY TO:**

1           **(1) SUPPORT THE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A SINGLE**  
2 **PETITION UNDER ARTICLE XI-A, ARTICLE XI-F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE**  
3 **MARYLAND CONSTITUTION; OR**

4           **(2) PROMOTE THE SUCCESS OR DEFEAT OF A SINGLE QUESTION**  
5 **TO BE SUBMITTED TO A VOTE AT AN ELECTION.**

6 13-309.

7           (a) Subject to other provisions of this subtitle, a campaign finance entity  
8 shall file campaign finance reports as follows:

9           (1) except for a ballot issue committee, on or before the fourth Tuesday  
10 immediately preceding each primary election except a presidential primary election;

11           (2) except for a ballot issue committee, on or before the second Friday  
12 immediately preceding a primary election;

13           (3) for a ballot issue committee only, on or before the fourth Friday  
14 immediately preceding a general election;

15           (4) on or before the second Friday immediately preceding a general  
16 election; and

17           (5) on or before the third Tuesday after a general election.

18           (b) (1) A campaign finance entity is subject to subsection (a) of this  
19 section and this subsection only as to the election in which the entity designates that it  
20 will participate.

21           (2) In addition to the campaign finance reports required under  
22 subsection (a) of this section, but subject to paragraph (4) of this subsection, a  
23 campaign finance entity shall file campaign finance reports on the third Wednesday in  
24 January.

25           (3) (i) If subsequent to the filing of its declaration under §  
26 13-208(c)(3) of this title, a campaign finance entity participates in an election in which  
27 it was not designated to participate, the campaign finance entity shall file all  
28 campaign **FINANCE** reports prescribed under subsection (a) of this section for that  
29 election.

30           (ii) A violation of subparagraph (i) of this paragraph constitutes  
31 a failure to file by the campaign finance entity, and the responsible officer is guilty of a  
32 misdemeanor and on conviction is subject to the penalties prescribed under Part VII of  
33 this subtitle.

1           (4) If a campaign finance entity has neither a cash balance nor an  
2 outstanding obligation at the end of a reporting period, a campaign finance report for  
3 that period, clearly marked as “final”, shall be filed on or before the due date, and no  
4 further report is required.

5           (c) In addition to the campaign FINANCE reports required under subsection  
6 (a) of this section, a continuing political committee shall file a campaign finance report  
7 on the third Wednesday in January of each year the committee is in existence.

8           **(D) (1) THIS SUBSECTION APPLIES TO A BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE**  
9 **ESTABLISHED TO SUPPORT THE COLLECTION OF SIGNATURES FOR A PETITION**  
10 **UNDER ARTICLE XI-A, ARTICLE XI-F, OR ARTICLE XVI OF THE MARYLAND**  
11 **CONSTITUTION.**

12           **(2) DURING THE PERIOD WHEN SIGNATURES ARE AUTHORIZED**  
13 **BY LAW TO BE COLLECTED, THE BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE:**

14                   **(I) SHALL FILE A CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT ON THE**  
15 **FIRST DAY OF EACH MONTH; AND**

16                   **(II) IS NOT REQUIRED TO FILE ANY OTHER CAMPAIGN**  
17 **FINANCE REPORTS.**

18 **13-310.1.**

19           **A BALLOT ISSUE COMMITTEE SHALL TERMINATE AND FILE A FINAL**  
20 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORT:**

21                   **(1) WITHIN 1 YEAR OF THE ELECTION AT WHICH THE BALLOT**  
22 **ISSUE APPEARS ON THE BALLOT; OR**

23                   **(2) IF THE BALLOT ISSUE DOES NOT APPEAR ON THE BALLOT,**  
24 **WITHIN 1 YEAR OF THE FINAL DATE ESTABLISHED BY LAW FOR THE FILING OF**  
25 **PETITIONS RELATING TO THE ISSUE.**

26 **16-401.**

27           (a) A person may not willfully and knowingly:

28                   (1) give, transfer, promise, or offer anything of value for the purpose of  
29 inducing another person to sign or not sign any petition;

30                   (2) request, receive, or agree to receive, anything of value as an  
31 inducement to sign or not to sign any petition;

1           (3)    misrepresent any fact for the purpose of inducing another person to  
2 sign or not to sign any petition;

3           (4)    sign the name of any other person to a petition;

4           (5)    falsify any signature or purported signature to a petition;

5           (6)    obtain, or attempt to obtain, any signature to a petition by fraud,  
6 duress, or force;

7           (7)    circulate, cause to be circulated, or file with an election authority a  
8 petition that contains any false, forged, or fictitious signatures;

9           (8)    sign a petition that the person is not legally qualified to sign;

10          (9)    sign a petition more than once; [or]

11          (10)   alter any petition after it is filed with the election authority;

12               **(11) GIVE, PROMISE, OR OFFER A PETITION CIRCULATOR ANY**  
13 **FORM OF COMPENSATION, INCLUDING A BONUS, THAT IS BASED ON THE**  
14 **NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES COLLECTED; OR**

15               **(12) USE INFORMATION PROVIDED ON A PETITION FOR PURPOSES**  
16 **OF COMMERCIAL SOLICITATION.**

17               **(B) A PETITION CIRCULATOR MAY NOT WILLFULLY AND KNOWINGLY**  
18 **RECEIVE OR AGREE TO RECEIVE ANY FORM OF COMPENSATION, INCLUDING A**  
19 **BONUS, THAT IS BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES COLLECTED.**

20           **[(b)] (C)**    Each violation of this section shall be considered a separate  
21 offense.

22           **[(c)] (D)**    A person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and  
23 is subject to the penalties provided in Subtitle 10 of this title.

24               **SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED,** That this Act shall take effect  
25 June 1, 2013.