



TAKE BACK ELECTIONS DRAFT LANGUAGE June 2017 - ADDITIONS/REVISIONS

Election Reform

Leveling the Playing Field:

Sweeping Comprehensive Election Reform

Together, these reforms are designed to ensure fair, transparent, secure, verifiable voting and elections.

This language is intended to be enacted via uniform amendments to the constitutions of all 50 states, as well as by an amendment to our federal constitution

Amendment Outline Draft

Part VII: Reform Intent

1. This language put forth is to replace all existing laws, statutes, language, constitutional language and constitutional amendments, policy and protocol regarding voting and our full election process state-by-state and eventually at federal.

2. This language establishes direct democracy rights to citizens in all 50 states, districts, and territories of the U.S. via the direct ballot initiative right, the right to ballot access for a ballot referendum and for ballot recall actions. Ballot Initiative, Referendum and Recall will become available, state-by-state for these voters and eventually all states, districts and territories via this language as a U.S. Federal Constitutional Amendment and shall follow these formulas:
 - a. Ballot Initiative(s)
Signatures will be required based on the number of voters in the last gubernatorial election.
State Statute changes will be at 4%
State Constitutional changes will be at 5%
These signatures will come from 40% of the number of districts*. In the case of an uneven number of districts, the district requirement will be fulfilled by rounding any partial district up.
- (Discuss districts!)
 - b. Referendum(s) on legislative action not pertinent or related to ballot language passed by the people, as an amendment or in statute, will follow the same rules as ballot initiatives for statutory language, but with a 180-day signature-gathering time frame. If any legislative language is related to any part of constitutional or statutory language passed by the people by direct democracy via ballot initiative or referendum the legislative language must immediately be placed on the next ballot, automatically, by the legislature making changes to any language passed by the people - via ballot initiative, referendum or recall - for a vote of the people, before those legislative changes can be enacted. This must be support by 68% of voters at the next up-coming election, or special election, required to approve any legislative change to any voter-approved language, with no action required by any voter(s) to place this on the ballot, but required, in this case, instead, automatically by the state legislature.



c. Signatures can be collected on Referendums on legislative language and actions other than on legislative actions towards a direct democracy, voter-passed ballot initiative. Guidelines: (Discuss/Add*)

d. Signatures can be collected on Ballot Initiatives after language submission to the Secretary of State office for the Secretary's office responsible write a 100 word descriptive summary of the ballot language, along with the State Budget office including up to 50 additional words estimating the language's cost or savings to the public. Once this is done by the Secretary of State office and State Budget office, signatures can then begin to be collected. This can happen any time from the day after the bi-annual statewide election in November of each even year up to 5 months before the next biannual, even-year, statewide election. These 2 offices will have 40 days from the date of voter submission of ballot language to get their tasks accomplished and the appropriate and approved paperwork back into the hands of the voters submitting this language for the ballot for their signature effort to begin.

e. Recall(s) questions shall be allowed on the ballot at all government levels and shall follow these steps: (Discuss/Add*)

3. Once this language is passed into state constitutions as an amendment, legislative attempts to change or remove this amendment will not be allowed. It can, then, only be altered, later by the voters at the ballot.

4. Consequences for breaking any part(s) this law, crafted as a constitutional amendment(s) at state and ultimately as a federal constitutional amendment will be strict, using immediate, expedited legal process with stiff, immediate fines and penalties, including but not limited to jail time. This law breaking will be immediately and strictly enforced, publicized widely by mainstream and other forms of media, as this is theft of democracy and must be handled sternly.

a. List/state range of penalties for different violations...?

5. General statement of intent for overall language here, and/or elsewhere in this language(?):

Together, these numerous reforms are intended to restore the general public's trust in our voting, campaign, and election process, to restore democracy via transparent, secure, verifiable, fair, highly participatory voting, campaign and election process in local, state and federal elections.