

Oversight and Enforcement

1. Are circulation companies prohibited from paying signature gatherers on the sole basis of the number of signatures they collect for, at minimum, the majority of their compensation?

No.

2. Does the state have specific penalties for violating wage and hour requirements when paying petition circulators?

No.

3. Does the state provide authority to an entity to exclude signatures and pursue legal action against a campaign committee that has collected signatures in violation of state law?

Yes, the county clerk can remove signatures collected in violation of state laws. See Utah Code 20A-7-206.

4. Are there specific statutory penalties for a campaign committee that has knowingly encouraged the violation of state signature gathering laws?

No.

5. Is there a clear process and expedited timeline for the state court system to review allegations of fraud?

Yes, a complaint may be filed with the Elections Office, who will forward it on to the attorney general's office or county attorney; or the opponents may go directly to Circuit Court. (Utah Lt. Governor (801) 538-1041)

Washington

Ballot Integrity Report Card

Higher Standards

1. Are proponents required to submit a reasonable amount of signatures to dissuade frivolous filings but still leave the process accessible to grassroots operations?

No, Washington does not require pre-circulation signatures.

2. Is there a process to create a clear, impartial ballot title?

Yes, the ballot title is drafted by the attorney general. See Washington Code 29A.72.060.

3. Does the ballot title process include an opportunity for public input?

No.

4. Is there a clear process for the public to challenge ambiguous, confusing, or misleading ballot titles?

Yes, any person, within five days of the filing of the ballot title, may appeal to the Superior Court of Thurston. See Washington Code 29A.72.080.

Greater Transparency

1. Are petition circulators required to register with the state? Does the state limit loopholes for the registration?

No.

2. Are petition circulating companies required to register with the state in all circumstances, including subcontractors?

No.

3. **Are circulators who have been convicted of recent fraud or forgery prohibited from circulating petitions?**
No.
4. **Are circulators required to witness signatures?**
No.

Accountability

1. **Are signature gatherers prohibited from filling in information on a petition for a voter other than themselves?¹**
No.
2. **Are petition sheets required to include an affidavit, signed by the circulator, attesting that all signatures were collected in accordance with state laws?**
No.
3. **Is that affidavit required to be notarized?**
No.
4. **Is there timely access to the petition sheets?**
Yes, advocates and opponents of the proposed measure may observe the verification of signatures by the secretary of state. See Washington Code 29A.72.230.
5. **Is there enough time for the public to review the signatures and challenge fraud?**
Yes, any citizen dissatisfied with the determination of the secretary of state may appeal the decision within five days to the Superior Court of Thurston County. See Washington Code 29A.72.240.

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2. **Does the state have specific penalties for violating wage and hour requirements when paying petition circulators?**
No.
3. **Does the state provide authority to an entity to exclude signatures and pursue legal action against a campaign committee that has collected signatures in violation of state law?**
Yes, the secretary of state can exclude signatures collected in violation of state law. See Washington Code 29A.72.170.
4. **Are there specific statutory penalties for a campaign committee that has knowingly encouraged the violation of state signature gathering laws?**
No.
5. **Is there a clear process and expedited timeline for the state court system to review allegations of fraud?**
Yes, any citizen dissatisfied with the determination of the secretary of state may appeal the decision within five days to the Superior Court of Thurston County. See Washington Code 29A.72.240.