



REQUIREMENTS & RECOMMENDED TIMELINES FOR 2012 BALLOT MEASURE QUALIFICATION

LEGEND

First Steps	Filing	Ballot Title Process	Signature Gathering
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Each state has its own specific petition requirements and deadlines. It's critical that you allow enough time to successfully complete each step of the qualification process.

- *First Steps** During this period you should be refining your ideas, drafting language, polling variations, and building coalitions.
- *Filing** You should be filing your initial paperwork with state agencies at this point.
- *Ballot Title** Once your initiative has been filed an official measure summary is prepared. This process is usually not determined by specific dates and may be impacted by the actions of your opposition.
- *Signature Gathering** Once the timeline becomes solid red, you should be actively circulating the petition. In most cases we recommend leaving at least 90 days for this phase.

Most states, even those without a statewide initiative process, allow measures on a city or county level.

Democracy Resources can help your ballot measure campaign during each step of the process from initial planning to election day victory. Please contact us for more information regarding a particular state in which you may be considering a ballot measure campaign. This graph is sole property of Democracy Resources and may only be distributed in its entirety.

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July 2011	August 2011	September 2011	October 2011	November 2011	December 2011	January 2012	February 2012	March 2012	April 2012	May 2012	June 2012	July 2012	August 2012.....November 2012
Alaska January 16, 2012													
Constitutional: N/A Statutory: 25,875 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 10% of voters in previous general election including 7% in ¼ of Congressional Districts Maximum Per-Signature Pay: \$1.00													
Arizona July 5, 2012													
Constitutional: 259,212 Statutory: 172,808 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 15% of voters in previous gubernatorial election for constitutional measures, 10% for statutory measures													
Arkansas July 6, 2012													
Constitutional: 78,133 Statutory: 62,507 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election with 5% from 15 counties for constitutional measures, 8% statewide with 4% from 15 counties for statutory measures													
California April 20, 2012													
Constitutional: 807,615 Statutory: 504,760 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 8% of voters in previous gubernatorial election for constitutional measures, 5% for statutory measures Filing Deadline: 09/30/11													
Colorado August 6, 2012													
Constitutional: 86,105 Statutory: 86,105 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 5% of voters in the last election for Secretary of State													
Florida January 1, 2012													
Constitutional: 676,811 Statutory: N/A Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 8% of voters in the last presidential election, including 8% in ½ of Congressional Districts Submission Deadline: 02/02/12 with a recommended submission of 01/01/12 to allow the maximum 31 days for verification													
Idaho April 30, 2012													
Constitutional: N/A Statutory: 47,432 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 6% of qualified electors at last general election													
Illinois May 7, 2012													
Constitutional: 298,399 Statutory: N/A Signature Sort: City or County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 8% of voters in previous gubernatorial election													
Maine January 1, 2012													
Constitutional: N/A Statutory: 57,277 Signature Sort: Municipality Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election Submission Deadline: 01/30/12, but signatures must have already been verified by municipalities													
Massachusetts August 1, 2012													
Constitutional: 68,911 Statutory: 68,911 Signature Sort: Municipality Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 3% of voters in previous gubernatorial election, no more than ¼ of which can come from any single county													
Michigan May 30, 2012 July 9, 2012													
Constitutional: 322,609 Statutory: 258,087 Signature Sort: Municipality Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election for constitutional amendments, 8% for statutory measures													
Mississippi October 6, 2011													
Constitutional: 89,285 Statutory: N/A Signature Sort: Congressional Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 12% of voters in previous gubernatorial election with no more than 1/5 coming from each of 5 Congressional Districts													
Missouri May 6, 2012													
Constitutional: 146,907 Statutory: 91,818 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 8% of voters in previous gubernatorial election from 2/3 of Congressional Districts for constitutional amendment, 5% from 2/3 of Congressional Districts for statutory measures - signature totals above represent a minimum													
Montana June 22, 2012													
Constitutional: 48,674 Statutory: 24,337 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: Yes Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election including 10% from 40 Congressional Districts for constitutional, 5% including 5% from 34 Congressional Districts for statutory measures Submission Deadlines: 06/22/12 to counties, 07/20/12 to Secretary of State													
Nebraska July 6, 2012													
Constitutional: 58,558 Statutory: 40,990 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: Yes Threshold: 10% for constitutional, 7% for statutory measures - both include 5% from 38 different counties - Requirements are based on total registered voters at the official filing deadline and so may change													
North Dakota August 8, 2012													
Constitutional: 26,904 Statutory: 13,452 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: Yes Threshold: 4% of residents for constitutional, 2% of residents for statutory measures													
Ohio December 23, 2011 July 4, 2012													
Constitutional: 385,247 Statutory: 115,574 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election including 5% from ½ of counties for constitutional, 3% including 1.5% from ½ of counties for statutory measures													
Oklahoma September 7, 2012													
Constitutional: 155,216 Statutory: 82,782 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 15% of voters in for the office that received the most votes in the previous general election for constitutional, 8% for statutory measures Submission Deadline: Within 90 days of initial filing													
Oregon July 6, 2012													
Constitutional: 116,284 Statutory: 87,213 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: Yes Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election for constitutional, 8% for statutory measures													
South Dakota November 1, 2011													
Constitutional: 31,708 Statutory: 15,854 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: Yes Pay-Per-Signature Ban: Yes Threshold: 10% of voters in previous gubernatorial election for constitutional, 5% for statutory measures													
Utah April 15, 2012													
Constitutional: N/A Statutory: 97,119 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 10% of voters in the previous presidential election, including 5% in 26 of 29 State Senate Districts													
Washington July 6, 2012													
Constitutional: N/A Statutory: 240,229 Signature Sort: None Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: No Threshold: 8% of voters in previous gubernatorial election													
Wyoming December 12, 2011													
Constitutional: N/A Statutory: 28,623 Signature Sort: County Notarization Required: No Pay-Per-Signature Ban: Yes Threshold: 15% of votes cast in the previous general election including 15% from 2/3 of counties													