ballot initiatives

a legislative perspective

the steps in the ballot initiative process

- 1. proponent submits material to the SOS -13-27-218(1)
- 2. SOS forwards material to LSD -13-27-218(1)
- LSD reviews for clarity, consistency, bill draft formatting, and other factors ordinarily considered in bill drafting, and may recommend changes to the proponent – 13-27-218(2); 13-27-225
- 4. Proponent submits a final version to the SOS 13-27-218(3)
- 5. SOS sends the final version to the budget director and AG 13-27-218(4)
- 6. AG reviews for legal sufficiency 13-27-218(6); 13-27-226
 - Determination of legal sufficiency or determination of legal deficiency proponent files challenge in the supreme court 13-27-605(1)

the steps in the ballot initiative process

- 7. if the initiative is determined legally sufficient by AG or Supreme Court, SOS forwards it to LSD executive director this starts a 14 day clock 13-27-228(1), (3)(b)
- 8. LSD executive director assigns the ballot initiative to the relevant interim committee 13-27-228(1)
- 9. the interim committee "shall meet and hold a public hearing after receiving the information and vote to either support or not support the placement of the proposed statewide initiative text on the ballot"
- 13-27-228(2)
- 10. staff informs the SOS of the vote count -13-27-228(3)(a)

the steps in the ballot initiative process

- 11. SOS sends a sample petition form to the proponent 13-27-233
- 12. For constitutional initiatives, proponents try to gather signatures from 10% of the voters of 40 house districts, and 10% of the total number of qualified electors of the state 13-27-241(1)(a); Art. XIV, Section 9(1)

what will the vote result look like?

Voters are advised that either an interim committee or an administrative committee of the legislature in accordance with <u>5-5-215</u> or <u>5-11-105</u> reviewed the content of this constitutional initiative and [did] or [did not] support the placement of the proposed text of this initiative on the ballot. The outcome of the vote was [x] in favor of placing the measure on the ballot and [x] against placing the measure on the ballot.

Motion Example: "I move that the committee support the placement of the proposed statewide initiative text on the ballot."