



# Ballot Initiative STRATEGY CENTER

## 2010 Ballot Initiative Requirements

State	Statutory Initiative	# of sigs needed to qualify a statute	Con. Amendment	Language Deadline	# of sigs needed to qualify an amendment	Signature Deadline	Deadline for SoS to declare qualification	Geographic Distributions	Circ. Period	First Day You Can File a Petition	State Control	Gov	State House	State Senate	Gubernatorial Election in 2010	US Senate Races in 2010
Alaska	Yes	32,734	No	N/A	N/A	During the convening of the 2010 legislature	60 days after submission to SoS	10% of the total vote in 3/4 of the state house districts	1 year	Anytime	R	R	R	T	Palin - R	Murkowski - R
Arizona	Yes	153,365	Yes	N/A	230,047	July 1, 2010	July 21, 2010	none	2 years or less	Nov. 5, 2008	R	R	R	R	Brewer - R	McCain - R
Arkansas	Yes	61,974	Yes	N/A	77,468	July 2, 2010	August 2, 2010	Constitutional: 5% in 15 of 75 counties; Statutory: 4% of 75 counties	Unlimited	Anytime	D	D	D	D	Beebe - D	Lincoln - D
California	Yes	433,971	Yes	N/A	694,354	Late February 2010 (It is possible to submit signatures by late April 2010 if you can qualify by random sample which is 110% of required signatures)	June 25, 2010	None	150 days	Anytime	Split	R	D	D	Open Seat	Boxer - D
Colorado	Yes	76,047	Yes	April 23, 2010	76,047	August 2, 2010	September 1, 2010	None	6 months	Anytime, but it is recommended that one file Jan. of the year before election	D	D	D	D	Ritter - D	M. Bennet - D
District of Columbia	Yes	21,338	No	N/A	N/A	July 2, 2010	Not available at this time	5% of the registered voters in at least five of the eight wards	180 days						N/A	N/A
Florida	No	N/A	Yes	N/A	676,811	Feb. 1, 2010	April 1, 2010	Collect and have verified at 67,683 signatures obtained from voters residing in at least 7 Congressional Districts in Florida. Also requires that petitioners obtain signatures from 10% of the voters required by Article XI, Section 3, Florida Constitution, and from at least 25% of the Congressional Districts	4 years	Anytime	R	R	R	R	Crist - R	Open Seat



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Idaho	Yes	51,712	Relating to Legislative Procedure (referred only)	N/A	N/A	April 30, 2010	May 1st, 2010	None	18 months	Anytime	R	R	R	R	Otter - R	Crapo - R
Illinois	Advisory Only	279,039	Relating to Legislative Procedure	When signatures are due	279,039	May 3, 2010	Not available at this time	5% in 15 of 75 counties	Unlimited	Anytime (language does not need to be approved before signatures are collected)	D	D	D	D	Quinn - D	Burris - D
Maine	Yes	55,087	No	N/A	N/A	late Jan. 2010	Late Feb. 2010 (one month after sig deadline)	None	1 year	Anytime	D	D	D	D	Open Seat	
Mass.	Yes	66,593	Yes	N/A	66,593	August 5, 2009	First deadline: end of November 2009. If it isn't approved by the Legislature, proponents submit more signatures and the SoS will announce at the the end of July of 2010.	No more than 25% can come from one county	64 days	Must be filed first to the AG by August 5, 2009. Once approved, one has until late Nov. to submit signatures. Then goes to the Legislature and from there, circulators gather more signatures and then gets on the 2010 ballot. For constitutional amendments, needs to go through the Legislature twice with 25% approval	D	D	D	D	Patrick - D	
Michigan	Yes	304,101	Yes	N/A	380,126	Initiative: May 26, 2010; Amendment: July 5, 2010	September 2, 2010	None	180 days	Anytime, but recommended to go for an informational meeting with SoS to help draft legal language	Split	D	D	R	Open Seat	
Mississippi	No	N/A	Yes	N/A	89,285	Oct. 5, 2009	Not available at this time	Equally divided between the congressional seats	1 year	Anytime	Split	R	D	D		
Missouri	Yes	Approx. 100,000	Yes	N/A	Approx: 150,000	May 2, 2010	July 27, 2010	Statutory: 5% in 6 of 9 congr. districts. Constitutional: 8% in 6 of 9 congr. districts	18 months	November 5, 2008	R	R	R	R		Open Seat



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Montana	Yes	24,337	Yes	June 18, 2010	48,674	June 18, 2010	June 18, 2010	5% for statutory initiatives in 34 legislative districts; for constitutional initiative 10% in 40 Legislative districts.	1 year	June 18, 2009	Split	D	T	R		
Nebraska	Yes	Approx: 81,205	Yes	N/A	approx: 116,007	July 2, 2010	August 10, 2010	5% in 38 of 93 counties	2 years	Anytime	Split	R	n/a	n/a	Open Seat	
Nevada	Yes	97,002	Yes	N/A	97,002	Statute: Nov. '09 Constitutional: May 17, 2010	Aug 2, 2010	None	10/11 months	Statutory: no earlier than Jan. 1, 2010; Constitutional: no earlier than Sept. 1, 2009	Split	R	D	D	Gibbons - R	Reid - D
North Dakota	Yes	12,844	Yes	N/A	25,688	August 2, 2010	September 5, 2010	None	1 year	August 2, 2009	R	R	R	R		Dorgan - D
Ohio	Yes	125,523	Yes	N/A	418,408	Statutory: Dec. 23, 2009 Constitutional: June 30, 2010	July 19, 2010	44 of 88 counties must be represented	Unlimited	Anytime	Split	D	D	R	Strickland - D	Open Seat
Oklahoma	Yes	117,013	Yes	N/A	219,400	90 days after filing with the SoS but no later than Sept. 2010	N/A	None	90 days	Anytime, but best to file as soon as possible because OK SoS can hold up for 18 mo.	Split	D	R	R	Open Seat	Coburn - R
Oregon	Yes	82,769	Yes	N/A	110,358	July 2, 2010	September 1, 2010	None	2 years	Anytime after the previous even- year election	D	D	D	D	Open Seat	Wyden - D
South Dakota	Yes	16,776	Yes	N/A	33,551	Statute: April 6, 2010 Constitutional: Nov. 2, 2009	N/A	None	1 year	Constitutional: 24 months prior to election; Statutory: 18 mo prior	R	R	R	R	Open Seat	Thune - R



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Utah	Yes	approx: 95,000	No	N/A	N/A	April 15, 2010	May 1st, 2010	10% of votes cast for last Governor election in 26 of 29 State Senate districts	1 year	Anytime after the previous even-year general election	R	R	R	R		Bennett - R
Washington	Yes	241,153	No	N/A	N/A	July 2, 2010	N/A	None	6 months	10 months prior to the election for the initiatives	D	D	D	D		Murray - D
Wyoming	Yes	38,406	No	N/A	N/A	Feb. 8, 2010	April 8, 2010	15% of voters in 2/3 of the counties	18 months	Anytime	Split	D	R	R	Open Seat	