

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the amendment by striking out all of section 1 and inserting the following:

‘Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §901-A, sub-§2, as amended by PL 2009, c. 341, §5, is further amended to read:

2. Required statements; placement of information. ~~The~~ On each page of a petition that contains space intended for voter signatures, the Secretary of State shall include a space at the top right or left corner of each ~~petitionsuch page~~ page to be submitted to the voters, which must be filled in with the name of the circulator collecting signatures on that petition and a unique identifying number, and include the fiscal impact of the initiative as described in Title 1, section 353 directly below the following statement at the top of the petition in a type size of no less than 16 points:

"Freedom of Citizen Information: Before a registered voter signs any initiative petition, signature gatherers must offer the voter the opportunity to read the proposed initiative summary and fiscal impact statement prepared by the Secretary of State."

Amend the amendment in section 2 in the indented paragraph in the last line (page 1, line 25 in amendment) by striking out the following: "of the petition to the registrar." and inserting the following: 'the petition to the registrar. If the petitions submitted to the registrar are not signed and verified in accordance with this paragraph, the registrar may not certify the petitions and is required only to return the petitions.'

SUMMARY

This amendment does the following.

1. It removes language from Committee Amendment "A" requiring the circulator of a petition to affix a unique identifier to the top and bottom of each page of a petition, and instead amends existing law to require the Secretary of State to provide space on each petition page intended for signatures for the inclusion of a unique identifying number to accompany the name of the circulator.

2. It provides that if petitions are not signed and verified before being submitted to the registrar, the registrar is required only to return the petitions.