



Lieutenant Governor Nancy Dahlstrom  
STATE OF ALASKA

September 1, 2023

Ed Flanagan  
15360 Glacier Hwy  
Juneau, AK 99801

Mr. Flanagan:

On July 5, 2023, I received your application for the following initiative that you entitled:

***"An Act increasing the Alaska minimum wage to \$13.00 per hour effective July 1, 2025, to \$14.00 per hour effective July 1, 2026, to \$15.00 per hour July 1, 2027 and to thereafter be adjusted annually for inflation; providing employees the ability to accrue up to 56 hours of paid sick leave per year if their employers have 15 employees or more; providing employees the ability to accrue up to 40 hours of paid sick leave if their employers have under 15 employees; and to prohibit employers from compelling employees to attend meetings regarding religious or political matters that are unrelated to their work."***

I forwarded the application to the Division of Elections for verification of signatures and to the Department of Law for legal review.

The Division of Elections determined that 138 of the 149 signatures submitted were those of qualified voters. Therefore, the application has a sufficient number of sponsors to qualify for circulation of a petition under AS 15.45.030. The petition statistics report prepared by the Division of Elections is enclosed.

The Department of Law concluded that the proposed bill is in the proper form and therefore recommends that I certify this initiative application. A copy of the Department of Law opinion regarding the application is enclosed.

Consequently, I hereby certify your initiative application under Article XI of the Alaska Constitution and under the provisions of AS 15.45. I further certify that the proposed bill to be initiated is in the required form, that the application is substantially in the required form, and that there are a sufficient number of qualified sponsors. Your official certificate is enclosed.

The Division of Elections will prepare and print sequentially numbered petition booklets to allow full circulation throughout the state. Each petition will contain (1) a copy of the proposed bill; (2) an impartial summary of the subject matter of the bill; (3) a statement of minimum costs to the state associated with certification of the initiative application and review of the initiative petition; (4) an estimate of the cost to the state of implementing the proposed law; (5) the statement of warning prescribed in AS 15.45.100; (6) sufficient space for the personal information and signatures of each person signing the petition; and (7) other specifications that I decide would ensure proper handling and control. As soon as the booklets are

available, they will be delivered to the Division of Elections office of your choice. You will also be provided with instructions and training for booklet distribution and accounting. These instructions must be followed.

The initiative petition must be filed within one year from the date notice is given that the petition booklets are ready for delivery. The petition must be signed by qualified voters (1) equal in number to 10 percent of those who voted in the preceding general election; (2) resident in at least three-fourths of the house districts of the state; and (3) who, in each of those house districts, are equal in number to at least seven percent of those who voted in the preceding general election in the house district. Based on the 2022 General Election, you will need to gather a total of 26,705 signatures from qualified voters consistent with the foregoing requirements.

If you have questions or comments about the ongoing initiative process, please contact April Simpson in my office at (907) 465-4081.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nancy Dahlstrom", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Nancy Dahlstrom  
Lieutenant Governor

Enclosures

cc: Treg Taylor, Attorney General  
Thomas Flynn, Assistant Attorney General  
Carol Beecher, Director of Elections  
Scott Kendall, Attorney, Cashion Gilmore & Lindemuth