

Stefan,

Per your request, here is an answer from the Clerk of the Council.

Chris Barringer

Legislative Aide to Councilmember Reagan Dunn
King County Council - District Nine
(206) 296-1634
christopher.barringer@kingcounty.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Noris, Anne
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2007 3:34 PM
To: Barringer, Christopher
Cc: Alvine, Michael; Baker, Ross
Subject: RE: I-25

Chris, both Janet and I have researched this question. I feel confident in saying that the Council has never approved a statistical sampling method and that no ordinance asking for approval was transmitted. I also know that probably six or seven years ago, someone in Elections at the time told me the same thing.

If Stefan has talked with former superintendents of elections who did use statistical sampling, I wonder if they have any information about Council approval? I'm certainly willing to go back and re-research if there is more information.

By the way, I also wonder about Bobbie Eagan's statement that they examine petitions to 105% of the required certification. I can understand using that standard if they are sampling, but I wonder why they would do that if they have an exact number of qualified signatures. The charter is clear on what the number of signatures necessary for qualification is, and it doesn't include a 5% overcount.

Anne Noris

Clerk of the Council
W 1039 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104
206.296.0364 (telephone)
206.205.8165 (fax)

View King County legislation online at <http://mkcclegisearch.metrokc.gov>

NOTE: I have a new e-mail address: anne.noris@kingcounty.gov
Please make a change in your address book. Thanks

This email and any response to it constitute a public record and may be subject to public disclosure.

-----Original Message-----

From: Barringer, Christopher
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2007 8:10 AM
To: Noris, Anne
Cc: Alvine, Michael
Subject: FW: I-25

Anne,

Can you answer Mr. Sharkansky's question below? I don't recall ever hearing that we have to approve statistical sampling every single time it is going to be used by the elections office. Thanks.

Chris Barringer

Legislative Aide to Councilmember Reagan Dunn
King County Council - District Nine
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-----Original Message-----

From: Stefan Sharkansky
Sent: Tuesday, July 31, 2007 5:39 PM
To: Barringer, Christopher
Subject: Fwd: I-25

Chris,

Here's Bobbie Egan's response to my questions about checking the signatures for I-25.

Can you confirm whether any statistical sampling techniques have been approved by the council under King County Code 1.16.100? I believe they have as two different former election managers recall using statistical sampling in years past.

thanks!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Egan, Bobbie <Bobbie.Egan@metrokc.gov>
Date: Jul 31, 2007 11:28 AM
Subject: I-25

Stefan,

King County examines all petition signatures until it has reached 105 percent of the qualification threshold. In the case of both Initiative 24 and 25, that figure would be 54,732 +2,737 (5 percent) for a grand total of 57,469 valid signatures. This procedure ensures the highest degree of accuracy and integrity in the sufficiency determination. It is our procedure to complete initiatives in the order they are received by our office.

King County Elections is utilizing phone bank staff to conduct the signature verification process and will continue to monitor and assess staffing levels to ensure the process is completed in such a way to meet our internal deadlines and ensure it is transmitted to Council in a timely manner.

While King County Code 1.16.100 does allow King County Elections to use statistical sampling technique to verify signatures and validate the sufficiency of a petition, the statistical technique must first be approved by the King County Council.

Bobbie Egan

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***Please note my new e-mail address.*