

# Illinois: Citizen Initiated Public Question

Updated  
2/11/2010

Basic Elements		IL Constitution (IC), & Statutes (IS)
Signatures Requirements	Eight percent (8%) of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election. 8%=298,399 (70% target = 426,284). Next vote 2014.	IC: Article XI §3
Geographical Distribution Requirements	There are no specific geographical distribution requirements in Illinois.	
Circulation Period	There is an eighteen (18) month circulation period. Circulation for a petition can begin twenty-four (24) months prior to the election at which the question will be voted on, and the petitions must be turned in at least 78 days prior to the election at which the question will be voted on.	IC: Article XI §3
Submission Deadline	Petitions for the submission of a public question may be submitted not less than 78 days prior to a regular elections: August 18, 2014 (8/18/2014).	IC: Article XI §3; IS: Article 28 §10.20-9
Other Information	Not more than three questions can appear on the ballot at an election. The first three proponents that file an initiative with the Secretary of State will be placed on the ballot.	IS: Article 28 §10.28-1
Circulator Requirements/ Notary Requirements		
Circulation Requirements	The only circulator requirement is that a circulator must be a citizen of the United States.	IS: Article 28 §10.28-3  Krislov v Rednour, 7th Circuit Court of Appeals 99-3801, Sep. 5, 2000
Notary Requirements	Petitions require notary.	IS: Article 28 §10.28-3
Processing Procedures		
Address	Common abbreviations are acceptable.	IS: Article 28 §10.28-3
City, County, State, & Zip	City, State & Zip Code are required.	IS: Article 28 §10.28-3
PO Box	Not acceptable; although rural route numbers are.	IS: Article 28 §10.28-3
Black-marking	There is no regulation prohibiting black-marking.	