

STOP FORCED ABORTION

PETITION CIRCULATION INSTRUCTIONS

Anyone over 18 is invited and encouraged to collect signatures for our petition initiative.

We encourage you to undertake this project with a small group of people within your church, club, or social service group. It is most efficient to collect signatures after a church service. If you plan ahead, your group of volunteers can work at several different churches on consecutive Sundays.

You may also work as a group to canvass a neighborhood walking door to door. You may also collect signatures outside any public building, such a library,

We only need to collect about 14,000 signatures per congressional district. If you and your group can collect 500 to 1000 signatures, that's a great contribution!

There are just six major steps: (1) Register with us, so we know you are helping out and can help you; (2) Prepare the petitions forms; (3) Have each circulator complete a registration form; (4) Collect signatures; (5) Have the circulator's signature witnessing the form notarized; (6) Turn the petitions in to your County or District Coordinator. These steps are more fully explained below.

Register with Us

The first thing to do is to simply go to www.stopforcedabortions.org and sign up for our email list / volunteer database. Be sure to indicate your county. Using the county information, we can then subsequently notify you when and how to turn in the petitions you have collected. The District Coordinator is the one to whom you will deliver your signed petitions. No need to wait, you can start collecting signatures right away.

Preparation of Petitions

1. Download the petition from www.stopforcedabortions.org.
2. It must be printed out on legal sized paper 8.5 x 14 inches. It must be printed on *both* sides. The signature page on one side and the initiative language on the other.
3. Before making copies, print the NAME OF YOUR COUNTY in the five blank places where your county name must be provided. They are indicated with an **X** and in **yellow** on the sample sheet below.
4. Make copies on legal sized paper 8.5 x 14 inches. Distribute copies to circulators on your team with the additional instructions below which must be followed by EACH petition circulator.
5. Do NOT number the pages. Numbering should only be done by County Coordinators.

Petition Circulators

1. Circulators are acting as *legal witnesses* of the fact that the signers signed the petition. Circulators must be at least 18 years old to circulate and witness a petition form.
2. Each Circulator must complete and return the “Circulator’s Registration Form.”
 - a. This form only needs to be completed once for each circulator.
 - b. It can be completed the day you are collecting signatures. This makes it easy to include last minute volunteers as Circulators, especially if a notary is on hand.
 - c. The circulator registration form should be turned in with the petitions to your local or county coordinator. Typically, it should be included as the top sheet along with any petition sheets collected.
 - d. The circulator registration form is attached to this document and can be found at our web site.
3. The name of the Circulator (witness) must be clearly printed on each petition sheet to be witnessed in the space provided immediately above the signature lines, where it says “I, _____ being first duly sworn.” (See the grey highlighted area in the sample below.) If you are going to work with other circulators at the back of your church, for example, distribute blank petition sheets to each circulator and instruct each circulator to print his or her name in the designated space each time a new sheet is started.
4. Do NOT number the pages. Numbering should only be done by County Coordinators.

Gather Signatures

Circulators Must Sign Completed Petitions in Presence of a Notary

1. After the signatures have been collected, in the presence of a notary public, each Circulator must sign and provide his or her address in the space provided at the bottom of *each* signature page he or she witnessed. The notary will also complete the bottom section.
2. It is a great idea to put a notice in your church bulletin asking for a member of your church who is a notary to be there the day you collect signatures. Then you can complete and have notarized all forms signed that day.
3. If you do not have a notary at the church, notary services are generally available without charge at most banks. In this case, each Circulator must have his or her signature notarized individually and then must return the notarized petition forms to the church, county, or district coordinator.

Local or County Coordinators Collect Completed Petitions and Circulator Forms

1. The coordinator should keep all Circulator Registration Forms in a separate folder.
2. ONLY the County coordinator should number the pages in the space provided in the upper right corner.
3. Pages should be kept in numbered order with no more than 100 sheets per folder.
4. County Coordinators will deliver the signed petitions to the Congressional District Coordinator or State Coordinator on dates to be specified.

Circulators must submit a registration form for each petition they circulate.



OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE
ROBIN CARNAHAN
Elections Division

**Registration Form for Initiative or Referendum
Petition Circulators**

Each petition circulator shall be at least eighteen years of age and registered with the Secretary of State. Signatures collected by any circulator who has not registered with the Secretary of State on or before 5:00 p.m. on the final day for filing petitions with the Secretary of State shall not be counted.

NAME OF PETITION (PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT CLEARLY)

Prevention of Coerced and Unsafe Abortions Act

NAME OF CIRCULATOR

CIRCULATOR'S RESIDENTIAL ADDRESS (INCLUDING STREET NUMBER, CITY, STATE AND ZIP)

MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE)

TELEPHONE NUMBER (OPTIONAL)

HAVE YOU BEEN OR DO YOU EXPECT TO BE PAID FOR SOLICITING SIGNATURES FOR THIS PETITION?

YES NO

IF YES, PROVIDE THE NAME OF THE PERSON OR ENTITY THAT YOU EXPECT TO RECEIVE PAYMENT FROM

I HEREBY SWEAR OR AFFIRM UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY THAT ALL STATEMENTS MADE BY ME ARE TRUE AND CORRECT.

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

ANY CIRCULATOR WHO FALSELY SWEARS TO A CIRCULATOR'S AFFIDAVIT KNOWING IT TO BE FALSE IS GUILTY OF A CLASS A MISDEMEANOR PUNISHABLE, NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 560.021, RSMo, TO THE CONTRARY, FOR A TERM OF IMPRISONMENT NOT TO EXCEED ONE YEAR IN THE COUNTY JAIL OR A FINE NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS OR BOTH. SECTION 116.080, RSMo

THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON MAY 4, 2008

MAIL OR DELIVER COMPLETED FORM TO:
ELECTIONS DIVISION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF MISSOURI
PO BOX 1767
JEFFERSON CITY, MO 65102-1767

§ 116.080, RSMo

(02/07)