



DAVE YOST
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

Constitutional Offices Section
Office 614-466-2872
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August 29, 2019

Ohio Secretary of State Frank LaRose
180 E. Broad St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Resubmitted Petition for Referendum on Am. Sub. H.B. 6

Dear Mr. LaRose,

On August 16, 2019, in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") Section 3519.01(B), I received a written petition containing (1) a copy of a referendum to repeal Am. Sub. H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly, and (2) a summary of the same measure.

It is my statutory duty to determine whether the submitted summary is a "fair and truthful statement of the measure to be referred." ORC Section 3519.01(B)(3). If I conclude that the summary is fair and truthful, I am to certify it as such within ten business days of receipt of the petition. In this instance, the tenth business day falls on Friday, August 30, 2019.

Having examined the submission, I conclude that the summary is a fair and truthful statement of the measure to be referred. I therefore submit the following certification to the Ohio Secretary of State:

Without passing on the advisability of the approval or rejection of the measure to be referred, but pursuant to the duties imposed upon the Attorney General's Office under Section 3519.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code, I hereby certify that the summary is a fair and truthful statement of the measure to be referred.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Yost".

Dave Yost
Ohio Attorney General

cc: Amanda Grandjean, Esq., Director of Elections (*by email*)
Patrick Piccininni, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel (*by email*)
Michael Grodhaus, Esq., Legal Counsel (*by email*)



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Via E-mail

Mr. Brandon Lynaugh
lynaugh@battlegroundstrategy.com

Re: Resubmitted Petition for Referendum on Am. Sub. H.B. 6

Dear Mr. Lynaugh,

On August 16, 2019, in accordance with the provisions of the Ohio Revised Code ("ORC") Section 3519.01(B), I received a written petition containing (1) a copy of a referendum to repeal Am. Sub. H.B. 6 of the 133rd General Assembly, and (2) a summary of the same measure.

It is my statutory duty to determine whether the submitted summary is a "fair and truthful statement of the measure to be referred." ORC Section 3519.01(B)(3). If I conclude that the summary is fair and truthful, I am to certify it as such within ten business days of receipt of the petition. In this instance, the tenth business day falls on Friday, August 30, 2019.

Having examined the submission, I conclude that the summary is a fair and truthful statement of H.B. 6. I therefore submitted the following certification to the Ohio Secretary of State:

Without passing on the advisability of the approval or rejection of the measure to be referred, but pursuant to the duties imposed upon the Attorney General's Office under Section 3519.01(B) of the Ohio Revised Code, I hereby certify that the summary is a fair and truthful statement of the measure to be referred.

This certification was issued after thorough consideration of the comments received from interested parties and in accordance with the overarching principle that "[t]he constitutional right of citizens to referendum is of paramount importance," *State ex rel. LetOhioVote.org v. Brunner*, 123 Ohio St.3d 322, ¶ 18 (2009), citing, *State ex rel. Ohio Gen. Assembly v. Brunner*, 115 Ohio St. 3d 103, ¶ 3 (2007), and "should be liberally construed to effectuate the rights reserved." *State ex rel. Hodges v. Taft*, 64 Ohio St.3d 1, 5 (1992); *Hilltop Realty, Inc. v. City of South Euclid*, 110 Ohio App. 535, syllabus ¶ 1 (8th Dist. 1960).

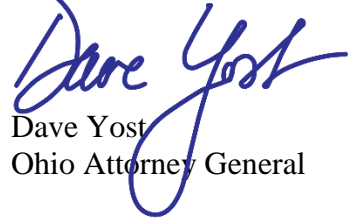
In that vein, this Office is mindful that a summary is just that, a summary. It need not, and in this and most cases does not, restate verbatim the entire contents of the Act subject to repeal. Such a requirement would subvert the right to referenda, a right that is guaranteed by the Ohio Constitution, Ohio Const. Art. II, § 1c, and that "is designed to give citizens a voice on questions of public policy." *LetOhioVote.org*, 123 Ohio St.3d 322, syllabus. Because the right to

Mr. Brandon Lynaugh
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referenda is to be liberally construed, *Taft*, 64 Ohio St.3d at 5, so as to give citizens that voice, I conclude that the relevant summary is fair and truthful.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Yost". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dave" and last name "Yost" clearly legible.

Dave Yost
Ohio Attorney General

Cc: Mr. David Langdon, Counsel for Petitioners (*by email*)