PROPOSITION 134 [SCR 1015 - 2023]

initiative; referendum; signatures; legislative districts

ANALYSIS BY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

The Arizona Constitution allows qualified electors in this state to place an initiative or referendum measure on the ballot by filing a petition containing the required number of signatures of qualified electors of this state with the Secretary of State. Under current law, the proponents may gather the required signatures from any geographical area or areas within the state.

Currently, the proponents of a statewide initiative must gather signatures from at least 15 percent of the qualified electors statewide for a constitutional amendment and from at least 10 percent of the qualified electors statewide for a statewide statutory measure. For a statewide referendum, the proponents must gather signatures from at least five percent of the qualified electors statewide. The number of "qualified electors" is calculated from the total number of votes cast for all candidates for governor in the most recent election for governor.

Proposition 134 retains the current total signature requirements for initiative and referendum measures, but would amend the Arizona Constitution to:

- 1. Require proponents of initiatives for constitutional amendments to gather signatures from at least 15 percent of the qualified electors in each of the 30 legislative districts in this state.
- 2. Require proponents of initiatives for statutory amendments to gather signatures from at least 10 percent of the qualified electors in each of the 30 legislative districts in this state.
- 3. Require proponents of referendums to gather signatures from at least five percent of the qualified electors in each of the 30 legislative districts in this state.