Secretary of State Krebs Announces Plan to Expand Rights for Crime Victims

Pierre, SD – Today, Secretary of State Shantel Krebs announced that an Initiated Amendment to the South Dakota Constitution to Expand Rights for Crime Victims was validated and certified to be on the November 2016 general election ballot as a ballot measure that the citizens will vote on. The sponsor turned in 53,687 signatures to the Secretary of state's office. An Initiated Amendment to the Constitution required a minimum of 27,741 signatures from South Dakota registered voters. Once the signatures were delivered to the Secretary of State's office, a 5% random sampling was conducted. It was determined that 64% of signatures were in good standing.

Secretary Krebs stated that "South Dakota has a long and rich history of citizens taking issues directly to the voters. After serving 10 years in the legislature it is an enjoyable role for me to act as an impartial official in the initiated measure process and ensure that the citizens of South Dakota have a chance to voice their concern in regards to the ballot measures that meet the signature threshold."

Video link and Audio attachment update from Secretary Krebs: https://www.dropbox.com/s/irv81f-fl39a361k/Marcy's%20Law%20Krebs%20Video%20Update.MOV?oref=e&n=167349120

For Audio please see attachment.

This is the first initiated measure to be approved by Secretary of State. A total of 8 measures were submitted for review. This office will continue the signature validation process of the remaining 7 measures in the order they were submitted to the Secretary of State. A total of 275,000 signatures were submitted among all petitions.

Those looking to challenge the Secretary of State's certification of a ballot measure have 30 days from the date they are certified.

Challenges to all statewide initiatives and referendums must be brought within 30 days after the petition has been validated and filed by the Secretary of State (SDCL 12-1-13)

1. When does the 30 days start to run?

The 30 days starts to run once the petition is officially filed with the Secretary of State's Office; the petition is only filed after the Office goes through the petition validation process and determines that the petition contains a sufficient number of signatures to be filed.

2. How will potential challengers know when their 30 days begins to run?

Once the Office makes a determination that there are a sufficient number of signatures such to file the petition, the Secretary of State's Office will make that information publically available through social media, including twitter updates that are available on the Secretary of State's website.

3. How is each petition labeled or marked? How should challengers make arrangements to review the petitions?

The Secretary of State's Office runs each self-contained petition through a scanner, which places the date, time and a sequential number on each petition. Challengers seeking to "research" the signatures pursuant to SDCL 12-1-13 should contact Kea Warne at the Secretary of State's Office (605) 773-5003 to make the necessary arrangements.

4. How much does it cost for copies of the petition sheet?

The Secretary of State is required by state law to charge $1.00 per page for copies. Copies of petitions are two pages due to the petition being printed front and back side which would calculate to a copy fee of $2.00 per petition. This fee applies to both paper and electronic copies.

5. What order do you process the petitions in?

The Secretary of State's office will process each petition one at a time, and in the order in which they are received.

6. The petitions are not public documents until after the Secretary of State's Office has completed the validation process and either filed or rejected the petition. No copies can be purchased until this process is completed for the particular petition of which copies are being requested.

SOS Website: https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/general-information/2016-ballot-questions.aspx

Vermillion Labor and Regulation Office Moving to New Location

PIERRE – The Department of Labor and Regulation's (DLR) office in Vermillion is moving to 904 E. Cherry St. This new location is in the same strip mall as the Vermillion alternative school and walking distance from the University of South Dakota campus.
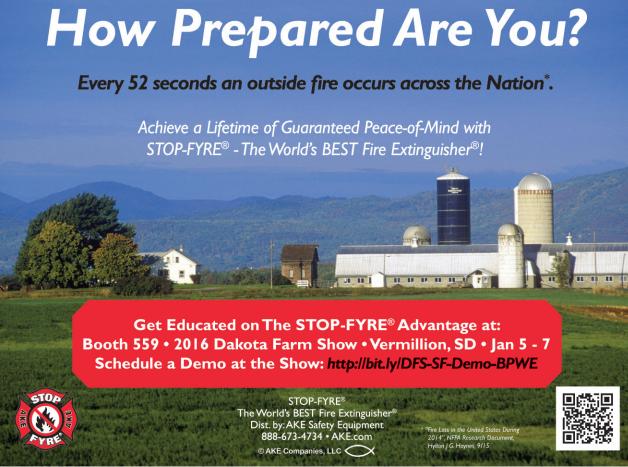
The office is currently located at 1024 W. Cherry St. It will be closed to the public on Jan. 4 for the move. Normal services will resume at the new location on Jan. 5 at 8 a.m.

DLR provides job seeker services such as employment searches, resume and cover letter assistance, mock interviews and workforce training. Businesses can receive worker recruitment services. The new location has resource and interview rooms available.

For more information about DLR, call 605-677-6900 or visit www.sdjobs.org. The Vermillion office is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.