

SIGNATURES

The gist of the proposition: This measure adds a new Article to the Oklahoma Constitution, intended primarily to prevent political gerrymandering. The Article creates a Citizens' Independent Redistricting Commission, and vests the power to redistrict the state's House, Senatorial, and federal Congressional districts in the Commission (rather than the Legislature). The 9-member Commission will consist of 3 members from each of 3 groups, determined by voter registration: those affiliated with the state's largest political party; those affiliated with its second-largest party; and those unaffiliated with either. Commissioners are not elected by voters but selected according to a detailed process set forth by the Article: in brief, a panel of retired judges and justices designated by the Chief Justice of the Oklahoma Supreme Court will choose pools of approximately 20 applicants from each group, then randomly select 3 Commissioners from each pool. The Article sets forth various qualifications for Commissioners, Special Master, and Secretary, intended to avoid conflicts of interest (*for example*, they cannot have changed party affiliation within a set period, and neither they nor their immediate family may have held or been nominated for partisan elective office or served as paid staff for a political party or as a registered lobbyist in the last five years). It also sets forth a process for the creation and approval of redistricting plans after each federal Decennial Census, including, among other things, a method for counting incarcerated persons, public notice, and open meeting requirements. In creating the plans, the Commission must comply with federal law, population equality, and contiguity requirements, and must seek to maximize respect for communities of interest, racial and ethnic fairness, political fairness, respect for political subdivision boundaries, and compactness (in order of priority), without considering the residence of any legislator or candidate or a population's political affiliation or voting history except as necessary for the above criteria. The Article creates a fallback mechanism by which the state Supreme Court, using a report from the Special Master, will select a plan if the Commission cannot reach the required level of consensus within a set timeframe. It also sets forth procedures for funding and judicial review, repeals existing constitutional provisions involving legislative districts, codifies the number of state House and Senatorial districts, and reserves powers to the Commission rather than the Legislature. Please review attached Petition for further details.

WARNING

IT IS A FELONY FOR ANYONE TO SIGN AN INITIATIVE OR REFERENDUM PETITION WITH ANY NAME OTHER THAN HIS OWN, OR KNOWINGLY TO SIGN HIS NAME MORE THAN ONCE FOR THE MEASURE, OR TO SIGN THE PETITION WHEN HE IS NOT A LEGAL VOTER.

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AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF OKLAHOMA)

) ss.

COUNTY OF _____)

I, _____, being first duly sworn, say:

That I am at least eighteen (18) years old and that all signatures on the signature sheet were signed in my presence. I believe that each signer has stated his or her name, mailing address, and residence correctly, and that each signer is a legal voter of the State of Oklahoma and the County of his residence as stated.

Circulator's Signature

Address

City Zip Code

Subscribed and sworn to before me this ____ day of _____, 20_____.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires:

Address

City Zip Code

My Commission Number:

PROPOSED BALLOT TITLE

This proposed amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution is intended to prevent political gerrymandering. It creates an independent redistricting Commission, and vests the power to redistrict the state's House, Senatorial, and federal Congressional districts in the Commission (rather than the Legislature). The Commission is composed of three members from each of three groups: the state's largest political party, its second-largest party, and those unaffiliated with either party. A panel of retired judges designated by the Chief Justice would select pools of applicants from each group, then choose by lot three Commissioners from each. The amendment establishes qualifications for Commissioners designed to avoid conflicts of interest (for example, neither they nor their immediate family may have been elected to partisan office or worked for a political party in the last five years). It establishes a process for redistricting after each decennial census, and establishes new redistricting criteria. The Commission may not consider candidates' residences or a population's political affiliation or voting history except as needed for these criteria. The Supreme Court would select a plan if the Commission cannot. The amendment provides for funding and judicial review, repeals constitutional provisions, and reserves powers to the Commission rather than the Legislature.

Shall the proposal be approved?

For the proposal - YES

Against the proposal - NO

A "YES" vote is a vote in favor of this measure. A "NO" vote is a vote against this measure.