

People's Veto Training

Goal: 80,000 signatures by 5:00 p.m. on September 18th for the June 2020 election. 64,602 is 10% of last gubernatorial election actually needed. However, some signatures will get disqualified.

Step 1: Get your petitions and your Certificate of Registration for Veto Circulators, If you don't know where to get petitions, call Mike McClellan at 329-6148 or e-mail him at policy@cclmaine.org.

Step 2: Take your **Certificate of Registration for Veto Circulators to your town clerk, they will sign it and give it back. Keep this document, these need to be turned in to Mike McClellan with your petitions.**

Step 3: Collect signatures!

- Remember it can only be one town per sheet
- Ask signers if they are registered to vote in Maine
- Ask signers to provide the address where they are registered to vote (NO PO Boxes)
- Make sure you witness all signatures in blue or black ink only. (Red is reserved for town and state officials only)
- Ensure a uniform date format (MM/DD/YY). Easier for certifiers
- You need their signature, but you can fill in the remainder of their information
- Do not write on the petition anywhere except the town name in the upper right corner

Step 4: Sign the Circulators Oath (located on the bottom left of the petition)!

- Oath must be signed for each petition sheet in front of a notary
- Do NOT sign the circulator's oath until you have finished collecting signatures on that petition. Date signed must be on or after the date of your last signature.
- Most banks and town halls will notarize for free for their customers. Call ahead to make sure.
- We help you find a notary if you cannot find one
- A Maine bar certified lawyer is also valid
- The notary MUST NOT BE a family member of yours

Step 5: Drop off your petition sheets to the appropriate town clerk for verification!

- The Deputy clerk can also verify
- Make sure you tell the clerk that only you (or another person you indicate) are authorized to pick them up in person
- Scan or take a picture of the petitions with your cell phone before you drop them I for your own records! **Get a receipt**
- Clerks have 5 days to verify the petitions; so, if you have a deadline then you need to make sure you get them in 5 days before
- KINDNESS! Clerks hold a lot of power

Step 6: Pick up your verified signatures from the town clerk!

- Double check that all of your signatures have been verified
- Double check the Town Clerk's section is filled out ___# of submitted, valid and invalid signatures, signed and dated! Crucial for the signatures to count
- Make sure Town Clerk invalidated all blank spaces by crossing through them

Step 7: Get your verified petition sheets to your Field Rep or the Volunteer Coordinator! If you don't know who that is, contact Mike McClellan at 329-6148 or e-mail him at policy@cclmaine.org .

Then get some more petition sheets and start again at Step 1.

What to know and take with you when going door-to-door for signatures:

- Don't go before 10:00 A.M
- Between 3:00 P.M. and sunset is best
- Bring someone with you. A driver can be very helpful
- Respect "no trespassing" signs
- Park your car out of the way. There's Nothing more annoying for a property owner to pull in and not get his parking place
- **Bring phone to every door**
- You will find several children, even young, alone. Do NOT ask if parents are home and do NOT ask if they are alone. Just say you'll be back another time.

- Long visits equal fewer signatures. Don't socialize and don't debate
- Avoid apartment complexes. They are usually locked, and most aren't voters anyway
- Use the front door, not the side door.
- Take dog treats. It will save you dog bites. However, ask permission to give as some dogs have allergies.
- Town voter list may be helpful. See political party leaders for availability

What to know when they answer the door:

- Be kind
- Tell your name – ask for their help getting the issue on the ballot
- Make sure you print in the printed column and SIGN in the signature column.
- Thank them for their time.

Places to gather signatures:

- Personal network
- Door-to-door
- Festivals and events
- Workshops
- Post Office
- Business parks
- Town dump

Sample Scripts

Ask:

“Hi, you're a registered Maine voter, right? Could I get your help with signing a petition to repeal tax-funded abortions?”

“Hi, you're registered to vote in the State of Maine, right? Could I get your help with signing a petition to repeal physicians-assisted suicide?”

“Hello, my name is _____. I'm getting signatures for a people's veto. The legislature passed a bill this last session to legalize physician-assisted suicide. We are

getting signatures to overturn that bill. Would you be willing to sign to get this on the ballot?”

Talking Points for LD-820:

- We already pay for elective abortions for MaineCare patients if health or life is in danger for the patient, OR for hardship cases in which the pregnancy was a result of rape or incest.
- Recent polls show 62% of Mainers oppose taxpayer-funded abortions according to the Tarrance Group.
- Planned Parenthood gets \$1.5 million every day from American taxpayers - \$500 million/year
- Only 17 states allow tax-funded abortions; Maine will be an outlier
- L.D. 820 will cost \$600,000 over the next two years
- Taxpayers should not be providing funding for killing pre-born children and wounding their mothers. This is not good policy.
- Recent polling indicates that the majority of women are opposed to taxpayer-funded abortions
- Abortion is not healthcare
- Lawmakers should be enacting laws that enrich life, not destroying it

What you will need at the training:

- Clipboard
- Pens
- Identification
- Cell phone
- Blank paper for questions to be asked at the end if there's time

Contact people's names and contact information:

- Mike McClellan * (207) 329-6148 * policy@cclmaine.org
- Penny Morrell * (207) 465-6015 * director@maine.cwfa.org