

Oklahoma

§34-9. Filing - Ballot title - Official ballot title - Review by Attorney General - Appeal.

A. When a referendum is ordered by petition of the people against any measure passed by the Legislature or when any measure is proposed by initiative petition, whether as an amendment to the Constitution or as a statute, it shall be the duty of the parties submitting the measure to prepare and file one copy of the measure with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.

B. The parties submitting the measure shall also submit a suggested ballot title to the Secretary of State which shall be filed on a separate sheet of paper and shall not be part of or printed on the petition. The suggested ballot title:

1. Shall not exceed two hundred words, or three hundred words if the proposed measure will have a fiscal impact on the state;
2. Shall explain in basic words, which can be easily found in dictionaries of general usage, the effect of the proposition;
3. Shall not contain any words which have a special meaning for a particular profession or trade not commonly known to the citizens of this state;
4. Shall not reflect partiality in its composition or contain any argument for or against the measure;
5. Shall contain language which clearly states that a "yes" vote is a vote in favor of the proposition and a "no" vote is a vote against the proposition;
6. Shall not contain language whereby a "yes" vote is, in fact, a vote against the proposition and a "no" vote is, in fact, a vote in favor of the proposition; and
7. Shall indicate if a proposed measure will have a fiscal impact on the state and if so, the potential source of funding including but not limited to federal funding or legislative appropriation which may require imposition of a new tax, increase of an existing tax or elimination of existing services.