



# Wyoming Secretary of State

**Chuck Gray**  
Secretary of State

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Deputy Secretary of State

July 29, 2024

*Via U.S. Mail and Email*

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Dear Committee of Applicants:

It is with **sincere congratulations** that I share the results of our office's review of the first submittal of petition signatures for the "People's Initiative to Limit Property Tax in Wyoming through a Homeowner's Property Exemption," submitted to our office for review on May 30, 2024, and reviewed in accordance with Wyoming law. As discussed further below, although the first submittal did not quite reach the required statewide threshold of required signatures, it did achieve the required number of signatures by county and there is still an opportunity for future supplementary submittals.

## I. OVERVIEW

The Wyoming Constitution and Wyoming Statute require valid signatures equal to 15% of those who voted in the preceding general election, and valid signatures equal in number to 15% of those resident in at least two-thirds of the counties in the state, as determined by those who voted the preceding general election in that county. The preceding general election, the 2022 General Election, determined that the total signatures required by law were 29,730. As outlined in the attached *Petition Processing Statistics Report*, the overall statewide results from the Committee's first submission were as follows:

<b>Total Signatures Required by Law:</b>	<b>29,730</b>
<b>Total Signatures Accepted as Valid:</b>	<b>28,700</b>

Although the first submittal did not quite achieve 15% of those who voted in the preceding general election, the Committee's first submittal did achieve 15% of those resident in at least two-thirds of the counties in the state. *See Petition Statistics by County.*



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While its first submittal has come up short of the number of signatures required at the state level, I want to note that in merely seven months of circulation, the Committee's work on this petition has been extraordinary. As this circulation period does not end until April 13, 2025 (although the threshold likely will change after the 2024 General Election), there is still plenty of time for a second submittal prior to the end of the circulation period.

Below please find a detailed analysis outlining the acceptance and rejection rate of the Committee's first submittal, as well as ways the Committee may supplement its submittal in accordance with our Election Procedures rules governing petitions and Wyoming Supreme Court precedent.

## II. ANALYSIS OF SUBMITTAL 1

In accordance with W.S. 22-24-316, our Election Division thoroughly reviewed petition packets, and cross-checked signatures against Wyoming's Statewide Voter Registration System. The details of this process are outlined in the processing summary of the attached *Petition Processing Statistics Report*. The acceptance rate of signatures processed by our office was 70%, and the rejection rate of signatures processed was 30%. It should be noted that the Committee's acceptance rate is higher than other petitions received and processed by our office (for example, the acceptance rate of the No Labels Petition, submitted on January 17, 2024, was 61%).

Reasons for rejection of individual signature lines included that the voter record could not be determined because the address listed on the petition did not match what was on their voter record, the signature fell outside the date sequence of petition circulation, the line was too illegible to read, the line did not match a valid voter registration record, the line gave a P.O. Box, the line reflected a duplicate or triplicate signature, the signature did not match the signature on their voter record, or the line corresponded with an individual who was not registered to vote at the time they signed.

In addition, some petition packets were deemed insufficient, and were therefore not processed by our office in accordance with W.S. 22-24-310 and 22-24-314(b). The following petition packets were set aside for insufficiency pursuant to W.S. 22-24-314(b)(i), because they were not properly verified due to errors or omissions on the circulator verification pages (Note: these petition packets may be processed upon a future submittal if errors or omissions on the verification pages are corrected):





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83	316	466
182	317	471
184	346	492
204	356	528
206	359	537
253	361	557
255	386	621
258	412	628
312	427	638

In addition, the following petition packets were rejected and set aside for insufficiency in accordance with W.S. 22-24-314(b)(ii) because they were not circulated by a qualified circulator pursuant to W.S. 22-24-312 prior to circulation (Note: these petition packets cannot be cured):

114	266	648
133	273	653
135	276	663
193	358	
201	564	

Finally, Petition Packet No. 268 has been rejected because it was disassembled during the circulation period. Because this packet was disassembled, it cannot be cured through a second submission.

### III. SECOND SUBMITTAL

Although the Committee's first submittal did not achieve the number of required signatures, Wyoming law allows the Committee to cure with a subsequent submittal prior to the end of the circulation date on April 13, 2025. Chapter 24, Section 4 of the Secretary of State's Election Procedures states that a petition may be cured if the petitioner submits additional valid signatures before the last date for filing.

The Committee may submit additional petition packets with new signatures, which will be reviewed by our office in accordance with Wyoming law. In addition, the Committee may



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also choose to correct errors or omissions made on notarized verification pages through the submittal of amended circulator verification pages reflecting corrections to the dates or notary sections. Amendments should clearly set forth the grounds for correction, and indicate the correct dates of circulation for the petition selected, if applicable. In accordance with W.S. 32-3-114, amendments to notarized verification pages should be notarized by the same notarial officer who notarized the original verification page. Please note that submittal of cured petition packet verification pages does not automatically mean all signatures in that petition packet will be accepted. Resubmitted petition packets with corrected verification pages will be subject to individual signature review in accordance with Wyoming law.

Should the Committee choose to supplement its first submittal and submit corrected verification pages and/or new petition packets through a subsequent submission, I would note a few additional things. First, a supplemental submission means there is a new submission date subject to a new 60-day review by our office. Second, should your final submission of signatures occur after election day on November 5, 2024, the required number of signatures for the initiative to appear on the ballot will reflect the total number of votes in the 2024 general election, not the 2022 general election. Based on historical data, there is a high likelihood the General Election turnout will increase the threshold of required signatures for any submission made after the 2024 General Election. Third, the last day to submit signatures for this petition is April 13, 2025.

Again, I want to commend the Committee on this incredible achievement, and would encourage the Committee to supplement its first submittal. Property tax reform is a very important issue facing our state, and I am a strong believer in the right of the people to enact laws by initiative. I want to congratulate the Committee for its hard work on this issue so far and I look forward to continuing to work with you. Should the Committee have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chuck Gray".

Chuck Gray  
Wyoming Secretary of State



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Enc.: *Initiative and Referendum Signature Requirements*  
*Petition Processing Statistics Report*  
*Petition Statistics by County*

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**2024  
Initiative & Referendum Signature  
Requirements**

**Initiative Signatures Required: 29,730**

*15% of total votes cast in 2022 general election:  
198,198 x .15 = 29,730*

***Distribution requirement:** 15% of those voting in  
2022 general election in at least two-thirds (2/3rds)  
of counties = 16 counties*

County	Total Ballots Cast 2022 General	15% Threshold
Albany	12,811	1,922
Big Horn	4,322	648
Campbell	12,734	1,910
Carbon	4,789	718
Converse	5,153	773
Crook	3,362	504
Fremont	13,734	2,060
Goshen	4,936	740
Hot Springs	2,213	332
Johnson	3,980	597
Laramie	30,211	4,532
Lincoln	7,626	1,144
Natrona	22,955	3,443
Niobrara	1,101	165
Park	12,977	1,947
Platte	4,043	606
Sheridan	12,421	1,863
Sublette	3,605	541
Sweetwater	12,161	1,824
Teton	10,356	1,553
Uinta	6,739	1,011
Washakie	3,124	469
Weston	2,845	427

# Petition Processing Statistics Report

Petition Types : Initiative / Referendum    Petition Name : 2023-01\_People's Initiative to Limit Property Tax in Wyoming through a Homeowner's Property Exemption    Petition Submittal : All    Petition Status : All

## Petition Information

**Petition Name :** People's Initiative to Limit Property Tax in Wyoming through a Homeowner's Property Exemption

**Petition Date :** 10/13/2023

**Processed Date :** 08/29/2023

**Petition Expires :** 04/13/2025

**Minimum Signature Required :** 29730

**Accepted of Minimum :** 96.54%

**Total Signature Processed :** 40781

## Processing Summary

<b>Total Accepted Signature :</b>	2870	(70%)	<b>of those Processed</b>
<b>Accepted Registrant :</b>	2870	(100%)	<b>of those Accepted</b>
<b>Total Rejected Signature :</b>	1208	(30%)	<b>of those Processed</b>
<b>Rejected Registrant :</b>	1046	(87%)	<b>of those Rejected</b>
<b>Rejected Non-Registrant :</b>	1619	(13%)	<b>of those Rejected</b>

<b>Rejected Reason</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>(% Rejected)</b>
Cannot be Determined	1266	(9.8%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Date Sequence	587	(4.5%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Illegible	36	(.2%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
No Match	4856	(37.6%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
No Signature	1	(0%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Not Registered (Includes Inactive)	4246	(32.9%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
PO Box Given	78	(.6%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Printed Signature, No Attestation on File	2	(0%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Rejected - Duplicate	1080	(8.3%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Rejected - Multiple	4	(0%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Rejected - Triplicate	37	(.2%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Signatures Do Not Match	381	(2.9%)	of those Rejected with the Reason
Signed Before Date Registered to Vote (Too Late)	313	(2.4%)	of those Rejected with the Reason

Petition Type : Initiative / Referendum    Petition Name : 2023-01\_People's Initiative to Limit Property Tax in Wyoming  
through a Homeowner's Property Exemption    Petition Status : All

County	No. of Registered Voters	No. of Accepted Signatures
ALBANY	14376	1498
BIG HORN	4871	620
CAMPBELL	14267	2105
CARBON	5414	232
CONVERSE	5721	882
CROOK	3843	649
FREMONT	15010	1708
GOSHEN	5506	841
HOT SPRINGS	2415	416
JOHNSON	4624	767
LARAMIE	34265	2628
LINCOLN	9020	1969
NATRONA	26003	2982
NIOBRARA	1235	191
PARK	14863	2001
PLATTE	4438	656
SHERIDAN	14270	2448
SUBLETTE	4197	645
SWEETWATER	12824	1820
TETON	12303	1556
UINTA	7447	1156
WASHAKIE	3433	471
WESTON	3117	430
<b>Total No. of Registered Voters</b>	<b>223462</b>	
<b>Number of signatures submitted</b>	<b>40781</b>	
<b>Number of signatures Accepted</b>	<b>28700</b>	
<b>Number of signatures Rejected</b>	<b>12081</b>	
<b>Percentage (%) of Accepted signatures</b>	<b>70.38%</b>	