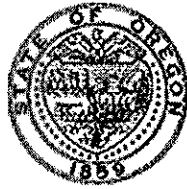


OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JEANNE P. ATKINS
SECRETARY OF STATE
ROBERT TAYLOR
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE



ELECTIONS DIVISION

JIM WILLIAMS
DIRECTOR
255 CAPITOL STREET NE, SUITE 501
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0722
(503) 986-1518

March 9, 2016

Kevin Mannix
Common Sense for Oregon
2007 State Street
Salem, OR. 97301

Re: Elections Division Case 16-005

Dear Mr. Mannix,

Enclosed is a copy of the March 7, 2016 letter that was sent to you. This letter addresses the complaint that was filed.

This letter constitutes a resolution of this case and this matter is closed.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Williams".

Jim Williams, Director
Elections Division

Enclosure



JEANNE P. ATKINS
SECRETARY OF STATE
ROBERT TAYLOR
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE

JIM WILLIAMS
DIRECTOR
255 CAPITOL STREET NE, SUITE 501
SALEM, OREGON 97310-0722
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March 7, 2016

Kevin Mannix
Common Sense for Oregon
2007 State Street
Salem OR 97301

Dear Mr. Mannix,

This is in response to your letter dated February 22, 2016. Your letter stated that an agent in your organization misunderstood the process for receiving approval to circulate initiative petition #7. It further stated that the chief petitioners have been gathering signatures on the official templates since April 13, 2015. You asked if our office would retroactively approve the use of these petition forms.

On March 31, 2015, our office received the appellate judgment certifying the ballot title for initiative petition #7. On that same day, as provided in ORS 250.052 our office sent a letter to the chief petitioners providing the "official" templates. The letter provided instructions to the petitioners about the approval process and stated that, if modifications to the templates were needed, the petitioners should complete and submit form SEL323 as well as **printed examples** of petition sheets to the Elections Division. On April 8, 2015, the chief petitioners did, in fact, request additional templates from our office that included the following: a five- and ten-line signature sheet; an e-sheet with return address; and, a tri-fold e-sheet. On April 9, 2015, our office provided the requested modified templates and again included instructions to the petitioners that, in order to receive approval to circulate, they must complete and submit form SEL323 and **printed examples** of the petition sheets. No further correspondence from the chief petitioners was received by our office after April 8, 2015.

At the time the templates were provided, the 2014 Initiative and Referendum Manual adopted by administrative rule #165-014-0005 was in effect. Page 19 of the 2014 manual provides a step by step process for receiving approval to circulate a petition.

It is unfortunate that your office mistakenly believed you could move forward without further approval. We believe the administrative rules are clear and that we do not have the authority to grant you the remedy you have requested. We must follow the established procedures adopted by administrative rule. Therefore, any signatures gathered prior to receiving the official approval to circulate initiative #7 are void.

Please feel free to call our office if you have questions.

Sincerely, -

Jim Williams, Director
Elections Division