

Submitter: Denice Searcy
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Rules
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HJR11

VOTE NO ON HJR 11

This bill raises the number of signature requirements to qualify a measure to the ballot by 25% to 33% higher. For state law changes (statutory) HJR 11 raises the number of signatures by 33% (it takes it from current rule of 6% of the people voted in the last election for Governor to 8%). For Constitutional changes, HJR 11 raises it 25% (it takes it from the current law of 8% of people who voted in the last election for Governor and raises it to 10%).

Liberal Democratic lawmakers favor it because they loathe the long list of past tax cutting and anti-crime measures passed by voters and now wish to block voters from the democratic process.

The huge drop in citizen-led and grassroots driven petition drives is a direct result of politicians making the initiative process much harder. Many of the measures on the statewide ballot are referrals from the Legislature. Now under this bill, getting signatures would be even more difficult.

The people's petition process is a critical check on politicians' power. This bill aims to limit and reduce people from using the petition initiative process.