

Initiative Petition for a Proposed Constitutional Amendment

Recall Elections for Statewide, Countywide, and Districtwide Elected Officers

Whereas the Massachusetts Declaration of Rights in Article 8, provides for the redress of grievances by its inhabitants, the establishment of recall elections as per this amendment shall serve as a modern expression of the people's inherent right to hold their elected officials accountable and to participate in the governance of the Commonwealth.

Section 1. The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new article, which shall read as follows:

Section 1.1 Right to Recall

The people of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts reserve the power to recall any elected officer holding a state, county, or district elected office. Recall elections allow voters to remove an elected officer prior to the expiration of said officer's term. A recall petition must not be filed against an official during the first six months or last six months of the officer's term of office.

Elected officials included under this provision are Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of the Commonwealth, Attorney General, Treasurer, Auditor, State Senator, State Representative, District Attorney, Sheriff, Governor's Councillor, Register of Probate, Register of Deeds, Clerk of Courts, County Commissioner, and County Treasurer.

Section 1.2. Grounds for Recall

Recall elections may be initiated for any statewide, countywide, or districtwide elected officer who is subject to recall upon the occurrence of any of the following grounds:

- (a) Malfeasance, Misfeasance, or Nonfeasance in office;
- (b) Conviction of a felony or other serious crime involving moral turpitude.

Section 1.3. Recall Petition

(a) The recall process shall be initiated by the filing of a recall petition with the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. The recall petition must be signed by registered voters equal in number to at least 25% of the total votes cast in the officer's most recent election.

(b) The recall petition shall contain a clear and concise statement of the grounds for recall and the name of the elected officer to be recalled.

(c) An officer sought to be recalled shall continue to perform the duties of office until the result of the recall election is certified.

Section 1.4. Recall Election

(a) Upon the verification of the signatures on the recall petition, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall schedule a recall election to be held no later than 35 days from the date of verification filing. If the requisite number of signatures are not obtained, the recall effort shall terminate.

(b) The recall election shall be conducted in accordance with the laws and procedures governing regular statewide, countywide, or districtwide elections.

Section 1.5. Successor Election

(a) In the event of a successful recall, the officer's position shall become vacant, and a special election shall be held within 60 days to fill the vacancy.

(b) The Governor may appoint an interim officer to the vacant position to be served until the special election results are certified.

(c) In the event of a vacancy in the Governor's office, the office may be temporarily filled by the Lieutenant Governor.

Section 2: Effective Date

This amendment shall take effect upon its ratification by a majority of the voters of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts voting thereon.

Section 3. Severability Clause

If any provision of this amendment or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the amendment or the application of the provisions to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

INITIATIVE PETITION FOR A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT
REGARDING RECALL ELECTIONS FOR STATEWIDE, COUNTYWIDE, AND
DISTRICTWIDE ELECTED OFFICERS (CONT)

The below-signed petitioners seek to have enacted the following Constitutional Amendment:

We have personally reviewed the final text of this Initiative Petition, fully subscribe to its contents, and agree to be one of its original signors of the petition.

Attached are our Certificates of Voter Registration.

Name	Address	Signature
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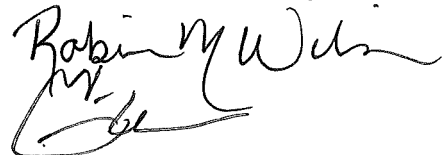
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Eric B. Mack	41 Seaward Lane Fall River, MA 02720
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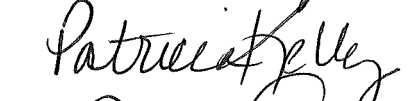
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