



MIKE DEWINE

★ OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL ★

Administration
Office 614-466-4320
Fax 614-466-5087

30 E. Broad Street, 17th Fl
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.OhioAttorneyGeneral.gov

May 4, 2017

Via regular U.S. Mail and E-Mail

J. Corey Colombo
McTigue & Colombo LLC
545 E. Town St.
Columbus, Ohio 43215
ccolombo@electionlawgroup.com

Re: Submitted Petition for Initiated Constitutional Amendment to Amend Article XI of the Ohio Constitution — “Bipartisan Congressional Redistricting Reform Amendment”

Dear Mr. Colombo,

On April 24, 2017, in accordance with Ohio Revised Code (“ORC”) Section 3519.01(A), I received a written petition containing (1) a copy of a proposed constitutional amendment to amend Article XI of the Ohio Constitution, and (2) a summary of the same measure. One of my statutory duties as Attorney General is to send all of the part-petitions to the appropriate county boards of elections for signature verification. With all of the counties reporting back, at least 1,000 signatures have been verified.

It is my statutory duty to determine whether the submitted summary “is a fair and truthful statement of the proposed law or constitutional amendment.” ORC Section 3519.01(A). If I conclude that the summary is fair and truthful, I am to certify it as such within ten days of receipt of the petition. In this instance, the tenth day falls on Thursday, May 4, 2017.

The Ohio Supreme Court has defined “summary” relative to an initiated petition as “a short, concise summing up,” which properly advises potential signers of a proposed measure’s character and purport. *State ex rel. Hubbell v. Bettman*, 124 Ohio St. 24 (1931). After reviewing the submission, I have concluded that I am unable to certify your summary as a fair and truthful representation of the proposed amendment.

I have identified two material omissions between the summary and the proposed amendment. First, the summary fails to mention that Section 9(A) of the proposed amendment vests the Supreme Court of Ohio with exclusive, original jurisdiction over court challenges to any congressional district plan. Similarly, the summary omits the fact that Section 9(B) would apply to congressional district plans.

For these reasons, I am unable to certify the summary as a fair and truthful statement of the proposed amendment. However, I must caution that this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all defects in the submitted summary.

Very respectfully yours,



Mike DeWine
Ohio Attorney General

cc: Committee to Represent the Petitioners

Catherine R. Turcer
3112 Delburn Ave.
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Carrie L. Davis
2970 Wildflower Trail
Dublin, Ohio 43017

Heather Taylor-Miesle
54 W. Short St.
Worthington, Ohio 43085