

*"Restoring religious liberties to the people of North Dakota"*  
**Religious Liberty Restoration Amendment**  
Petition Instructions – Questions and Answers

PLEASE READ THROUGH CAREFULLY!

Thank you very much for circulating a petition to **restore and protect our religious liberties**. Because your time and energy are valuable, we are providing these instructions to guide you **error-free** through the petition process. Even small errors can cause your petition to be legally challenged, so it is very important that you read these instructions in their entirety and follow them explicitly. Contact the North Dakota Catholic Conference office if you have any questions at 701-223-2519 or email [ndcatholic@btinet.net](mailto:ndcatholic@btinet.net).

**Q: Where can I get a petition?**

A: Petitions are available several ways:

1. Contact the North Dakota Catholic Conference office, emailing [ndcatholic@btinet.net](mailto:ndcatholic@btinet.net) or call 701-223-2519.
2. Send a request to: North Dakota Catholic Conference, 103 South Third Street, Suite 10, Bismarck, ND 58501
3. Download them at: <http://ndcatholic.org/rlra/>

**Q: How many pages does this petition contain?**

A: This petition must be circulated with all 4 (four) pages stapled together. The full petition includes the sponsoring committee members, the initiated measure, the signature pages, and the notary section. It is VERY IMPORTANT that ALL four pages stay together at ALL times. Petitions must be stapled together in the following order:

1. Page One – the sponsoring committee members.
2. Page Two – the initiated measure and signature blanks (blanks 1-5)..
3. Page Three - the signature page (blanks 6-25)
4. Page Four – a signature page (blanks 26-35) and the notary section.

**Q: Can I make copies of the petition?**

A: Yes. Copies may be made as long as each petition circulated includes all 4 pages. The full petition includes page one displaying the sponsoring committee members, page two displaying the petition and signature blanks, page three displaying signature blanks 6-25, and page four displaying signature blanks 26-35 and the notary section. It is VERY IMPORTANT that ALL four pages stay together at ALL times in the order listed above.

**Q: Who can circulate petitions?**

A: Only qualified North Dakota voters are allowed to circulate the petitions. A qualified

voter of North Dakota must meet the following requirements:

1. You must be a U.S. citizen
2. You must be a legal resident of this state
3. You must be a resident of the precinct at least 30 days preceding the election
4. You must be 18 years old or older.

Incarcerated felons and persons who have been declared mentally incompetent are NOT qualified voters.

**Q: Who can sign petitions?**

A: Any qualified voter of North Dakota as defined above. Petitions must be signed in the presence of a qualified circulator. Signatures collected on unattended petitions constitute improper signing practices and places ALL signatures on that petition at risk.

**Petition circulators should instruct petition signers to:**

1. Sign legibly.
2. Add the date they signed the petition.
3. Include their entire address (complete residential, rural route or general delivery address) city, state and zip code to the petition. Those who receive their mail at a PO Box, may write “General Delivery/PO Box \_\_\_\_”

**Q: Can I sign the petition that I am circulating?**

A: No. Petition circulators may sign a petition as long as it is one they are NOT personally circulating.

**Q: Can sponsoring committee members act as circulators?**

A: Yes. Sponsoring committee members may circulate petitions, but must NOT sign the petition they are personally circulating. Sponsoring committee members that are notary publics may NOT notarize any petition.

**Q: Can anyone sign the petition more than once?**

A: No. A qualified voter of North Dakota may sign the petition only once.

**Q: How many people can sign my petition?**

A: There is room for 35 signatures on each petition. However, return ALL petitions even if you have only one signature. That one signature can make a difference.

**Q: If I fill all 35 spaces on one petition, may I circulate another?**

A: Yes. You may circulate more than one petition, but it is very important that your petitions remain in your physical possession at all times.

**Q: If I don't completely finish a petition, can I give it to another circulator to complete it?**

A: No. Only one circulator may collect signatures on any single copy of a petition. If you don't completely fill (35 signatures) a petition, sign it in front of a notary public and return it anyway.

**Q: What do I do with my petitions when I am done circulating them?**

A: You must sign the affidavit at the end of the petition in front of a notary public affirming that the persons who signed the petition did so in your presence and that to the best of your knowledge, each person that signed the petition was a qualified North Dakota voter. Then send completed petitions to the North Dakota Catholic Conference, 103 South Third Street, Suite 10, Bismarck, ND 58501.

**Q: What is a Notary Public?**

A: A Notary Public is a public servant appointed by state government to witness the signing of important documents to protect against fraud. A Notary Public will generally require seeing a current identification with a photograph, usually a drivers' license.

**Q: If a sponsoring committee member is a notary public, may I have them notarize my petition?**

A: No. Members of the sponsoring committee may NOT notarize any petition. Doing so, will disqualify all the signatures on that petition.

**Q: When do I need to return the petitions that I circulated by?**

A: Please send petitions as they are completed. All petitions are requested to be postmarked by July 23, 2010.

**Q: Where do I mail my petitions after they have been completed and notarized?**

A: Send your notarized petitions with sufficient postage to:

**North Dakota Catholic Conference  
103 South Third Street, Suite 10  
Bismarck, ND 58501**

**Q: Can I hand deliver the completed and notarized petitions?**

A: Yes, drop them during regular business hours at:

**North Dakota Catholic Conference  
103 South Third Street, Suite 10  
Bismarck, ND 58501**