

INITIATIVE 802

I, Sam Reed, Secretary of State of the State of Washington and custodian of its seal, hereby certify that, according to the records on file in my office, the attached copy of Initiative Measure No. 802 to the People is a true and correct copy as it was received by this office.

1 AN ACT Relating to paid signature gathering for initiative and
2 referendum petitions; amending RCW 29.79.490; and adding a new section
3 to chapter 29.79 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 29.79 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 To protect the integrity of initiative and referendum petitions, it
8 is unlawful to pay or receive money or other thing of value based on
9 the number of signatures obtained on an initiative or referendum
10 petition. Nothing in this section prohibits payment for signature
11 gathering that is not based, either directly or indirectly, on the
12 number of signatures obtained.

13 **Sec. 2.** RCW 29.79.490 and 1993 c 256 s 4 are each amended to read
14 as follows:

15 Every person shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor who:

16 (1) For any consideration or gratuity or promise thereof, signs or
17 declines to sign any initiative or referendum petition; or

1 (2) (~~Provides or receives consideration for soliciting or~~
2 ~~procuring signatures on an initiative or referendum petition if any~~
3 ~~part of the consideration is based upon the number of signatures~~
4 ~~solicited or procured, or offers to provide or agrees to receive such~~
5 ~~consideration any of which is based on the number of signatures~~
6 ~~solicited or procured; or~~

7 ~~(3))~~ Gives or offers any consideration or gratuity to any person
8 to induce him or her to sign or not to sign or to vote for or against
9 any initiative or referendum measure; or

10 ~~((4))~~ (3) Interferes with or attempts to interfere with the right
11 of any voter to sign or not to sign an initiative or referendum
12 petition or with the right to vote for or against an initiative or
13 referendum measure by threats, intimidation, or any other corrupt means
14 or practice; or

15 ~~((5))~~ (4) Receives, handles, distributes, pays out, or gives
16 away, directly or indirectly, money or any other thing of value
17 contributed by or received from any person, firm, association, or
18 corporation whose residence or principal office is, or the majority of
19 whose members or stockholders have their residence outside, the state
20 of Washington, for any service rendered for the purpose of aiding in
21 procuring signatures upon any initiative or referendum petition or for
22 the purpose of aiding in the adoption or rejection of any initiative or
23 referendum measure: PROVIDED, That this subsection shall not apply to
24 or prohibit any activity which is properly reported in accordance with
25 the applicable provisions of chapter 42.17 RCW.

26 A gross misdemeanor under this section is punishable to the same
27 extent as a gross misdemeanor that is punishable under RCW 9A.20.021.