

ANNEXATION

19. (*Annexation.*) (a) *The legislative body, by whatever name known, of every ~~municipal~~ MUNICIPAL corporation in this State may ~~change~~ ENLARGE the corporate boundaries thereof as in this sub-heading provided. ~~The change may be either to increase or to decrease the area within the corporate boundaries.~~*

(b) *The proposal for change may be initiated by resolution regularly introduced into the legislative body of the municipal corporation, in accordance with the usual requirements and practices applicable to its legislative enactments, BUT ONLY AFTER THE LEGISLATIVE BODY SHALL HAVE OBTAINED THE CONSENT FOR THE PROPOSAL FROM NOT LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE PERCENTUM (25%) OF THE PERSONS WHO RESIDE IN THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED AND WHO ARE REGISTERED AS VOTERS IN COUNTY ELECTIONS AND FROM THE OWNERS OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE PERCENTUM (25%) OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED. The resolution shall describe by a survey of courses and distances, and may also describe by landmarks and other well-known terms, the exact area proposed to be included in the change, and shall contain complete and detailed provisions as to the conditions and circumstances applicable to the change in boundaries and to the residents and property within the area to be ~~affected~~ ANNEXED.*

(c) *The proposal for change also may be initiated by a written petition signed by not less than twenty-five per centum (25%) of the persons who reside in the area to be ~~affected~~ ANNEXED and who are registered as voters in county elections, AND BY THE OWNERS OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY-FIVE PERCENTUM (25%) OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED. Upon the presentation of a petition to the legislative body of the municipal corporation, the presiding officer thereof shall cause to be made a verification of the signatures thereon and shall ascertain that the persons signing the petition represent at least twenty-five per centum (25%) of the persons who reside in the area to be ~~affected~~ ANNEXED and who are registered as voters in county elections, AND THE OWNERS OF TWENTY-FIVE PERCENTUM (25%) OF THE ASSESSED VALUATION OF THE REAL PROPERTY LOCATED IN THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED. Upon verifying that the requirements of this sub-section have been complied with, the presiding officer of the legislative body shall promptly cause to be introduced therein a resolution proposing the change of boundaries as requested by the petition. The resolution in form and content shall conform to the requirements of this section.*

(d) *After the introduction of the resolution into the legislative body of the municipal corporation, the chief executive and administrative officer of the municipal corporation shall cause a public notice thereof to be published not fewer than four times at not less than weekly intervals in a newspaper OR NEWSPAPERS of general circulation in the municipal corporation AND THE AREA TO BE ANNEXED, briefly and accurately describing the proposed change and the conditions and circumstances applicable thereto. The public*