

2-3. Same—Filing of petition ; publication of amendment.

All sheets of a referendum petition shall be filed with the county executive on or before the date prescribed by public general law of the state or the Charter of the County, whichever shall be applicable. If such date is not prescribed by public general law or Charter, then such filing shall occur not later than sixty days preceding the date of the next regular, general or congressional election at which such proposed amendment is to be submitted to the voters of the county. Within seven days after such filing, the county executive shall forward such petition to the Board of Supervisors of Elections, which shall notify the council and the county executive whether or not such petition is valid. If notified that the petition so filed is a valid petition requiring a referendum thereon, the county executive shall cause such amendment to be published once a week for five successive weeks prior to the election at which it is to be voted upon, in at least one newspaper published in the County. Such publication shall also state that the amendment will be submitted to the voters for their approval or rejection at the next regular, general or congressional election, as the case may be, and shall state the date of such election.

*Section 2.* Section 9-14, title "Petition—Form", Chapter 9, title "Elections", is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

9-14. Petition—Form.

A petition for a referendum on any legislation, or part thereof, enacted by the council and subject to referendum under the Charter, shall be composed of one or more sheets, each in substantially the following form:

"REFERENDUM PETITION

"We, the undersigned registered voters of Montgomery County, Maryland, do hereby petition for a referendum vote on (the provisions (identifying them briefly) of) the Act entitled 'An Act (inserting title),' enacted by the County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland, at its (insert *month and year*) legislative session."

*Section 3.* Section 9-15, title "Same—Signatures, etc.", Chapter 9, title "Elections", is hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

9-15. Same—Signatures, etc.

Following such petition there shall be the signatures of the petitioners who shall be registered voters of the county. Opposite the signature of each signer there shall appear his residential address, including post office, and the district and precinct in which he is registered for voting in the county. Below the signature of each signer his name shall appear in print or type lettering.

Below the signatures on each sheet of such petition there shall appear an affidavit made before a notary public for the state stating that each signature on the sheet was affixed in the presence of the affiant, that each such signature is the signature of the signer, and that each signer affixed his signature as his voluntary act.

All sheets duly filed of a petition for a referendum on the same act shall constitute a single petition for a referendum on that act. The total number of signatures of different registered voters attached to the sheets constituting a single petition shall be not less than that number required by the Charter.