



FAIR DISTRICTS FLORIDA PETITIONS: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Prepared by League of Women Voters of Florida for LWVF Volunteers

General

Why are there two petitions? One is for Florida Legislative districts and the other is for U.S. Congressional districts. Amendments to the Florida Constitution are required to address a single subject. Since these standards address drawing districts for two different legislative bodies, each requires its own petition.

Do I need to have people sign both petitions? YES! We need people to sign both petitions!

For Petition Signers

Can I submit the petition online? Petitions must be submitted as hard-copies with original signature. You can download the petitions online from the FairDistrictsFlorida.org website, but you cannot submit the petition online.

I'm not sure if I already signed a petition. Should I sign it twice? While it is illegal to intentionally sign more than once - it will happen inadvertently and duplicates will be pulled.

What if my signature has changed and is different than what is listed on my Voter Registration?

That is OK. Petitions are also certified with the Date of Birth or Voter Registration ID. But if you know your signature has significantly changed, then you should update it with your local Supervisor of Elections.

Which way should I print my name - Last name first or first name first? Either way, but make it legible.

Can I underline or highlight any words on the petition? The printed petition is a legal document and must not be altered in any way. No underlining, no highlighting, no changing box number, and no printing in another size are allowed.

Can someone assist in filling out the top portion of the petition? Yes, but the signature and date must be filled in by the voter.

Must a voter give both birthday and Voter ID number? No. Either one is acceptable.

Must the County be written in? Yes, they must be sorted for signature verification.

For Petition Gatherers

Must the petitions be blue and white? No, that is for ease of sorting. Any color (including both white) can be used for the petitions, but white for the legislative petition and light blue for the congressional is requested where possible.

Can I accept petitions from voters in other counties? Yes, this is a statewide effort.

Should I staple the two petitions together? Petitions can be collated, but please do not staple. Petitions will be submitted separately and will have to be unstapled at some point.

What is the submission deadline for returning signed petitions? February 1, 2010 is the deadline for petitions to be certified for the November 2010 ballot. Our deadline for returning petitions to FDF is October 31 to allow ample time for certifications by local Supervisor of Elections.

If someone dies after signing, is the petition still valid? Yes. That is why the date is so important.

Where should I send the completed petitions? To the Fair Districts Miami office: P.O. Box 330868 Miami, FL 33233. Or check with your local League representative for specific collection instructions.

What if someone mails petitions to the Fort Lauderdale Box number? Not to worry - it will be forwarded.