95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

HB5111

by Rep. Paul D. Froehlich

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/7-10	from Ch. 46, par. 7-10
10 ILCS 5/7-59	from Ch. 46, par. 7-59
10 ILCS 5/28-6	from Ch. 46, par. 28-6

Amends the Election Code. Removes the greater nominating petition signature requirement for county offices in DuPage County (from 1.5% to 0.5% of qualified primary voters). Requires the filing of a declaration of intent to be a write-in candidate on a primary ballot no later than 7 (now, 61) days before the primary in order for votes for that write-in candidate to be counted. Makes the minimum petition signature requirement for local public questions 8% of the total votes cast for all gubernatorial candidates at the most recent gubernatorial election by the voters of the political subdivision (now, with respect to questions at elections in 2009 and later, 11% of the total ballots cast by voters in the political subdivision at the most recent regular election).

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AN ACT concerning elections.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing 5 Sections 7-10, 7-59, and 28-6 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/7-10) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-10)

7 Sec. 7-10. Form of petition for nomination. The name of no candidate for nomination, or State central committeeman, or 8 9 township committeeman, or precinct committeeman, or ward committeeman or candidate for delegate or alternate delegate to 10 national nominating conventions, shall be printed upon the 11 primary ballot unless a petition for nomination has been filed 12 13 in his behalf as provided in this Article in substantially the 14 following form:

We, the undersigned, members of and affiliated with the 15 16 party and qualified primary electors of the party, in the of, in the county of and State of Illinois, 17 do hereby petition that the following named person or persons 18 19 shall be a candidate or candidates of the party for the 20 nomination for (or in case of committeemen for election to) the 21 office or offices hereinafter specified, to be voted for at the 22 primary election to be held on (insert date).

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23 Name Office Address
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1	John Jones	Governor	Belvidere, Ill.
2	Thomas Smith	Attorney General	Oakland, Ill.
3	Name	. Address	
4	State of Illinois)		
5) ss.		
6	County of)		
7	I,, do hereby certify that I reside at No		
8	street, in the	of, county of	, and State of
9	, that I am 18 years of age or older, that I am a citizen		
10	of the United States, and that the signatures on this sheet		
11	were signed in my presence, and are genuine, and that to the		
12	best of my knowledge and belief the persons so signing were at		
13	the time of signing the petitions qualified voters of the \ldots		
14	party, and that the	ir respective resid	lences are correctly
15	stated, as above set f	forth.	
16			
17	Subscribed and swe	orn to before me on (insert date).
18			
19			
20	Each sheet of th	e petition other th	an the statement of

Each sheet of the petition other than the statement of candidacy and candidate's statement shall be of uniform size and shall contain above the space for signatures an appropriate heading giving the information as to name of candidate or 1 candidates, in whose behalf such petition is signed; the 2 office, the political party represented and place of residence; 3 and the heading of each sheet shall be the same.

Such petition shall be signed by qualified primary electors 4 5 residing in the political division for which the nomination is sought in their own proper persons only and opposite the 6 7 signature of each signer, his residence address shall be 8 written or printed. The residence address required to be 9 written or printed opposite each qualified primary elector's 10 name shall include the street address or rural route number of 11 the signer, as the case may be, as well as the signer's county, 12 and city, village or town, and state. However the county or city, village or town, and state of residence of the electors 13 14 may be printed on the petition forms where all of the electors 15 signing the petition reside in the same county or city, village 16 or town, and state. Standard abbreviations may be used in 17 writing the residence address, including street number, if any. At the bottom of each sheet of such petition shall be added a 18 19 circulator statement signed by a person 18 years of age or 20 older who is a citizen of the United States, stating the street address or rural route number, as the case may be, as well as 21 22 the county, city, village or town, and state; and certifying 23 that the signatures on that sheet of the petition were signed in his or her presence and certifying that the signatures are 24 25 genuine; and either (1) indicating the dates on which that sheet was circulated, or (2) indicating the first and last 26

dates on which the sheet was circulated, or (3) certifying that 1 2 none of the signatures on the sheet were signed more than 90 3 days preceding the last day for the filing of the petition and certifying that to the best of his or her knowledge and belief 4 5 the persons so signing were at the time of signing the petitions qualified voters of the political party for which a 6 7 nomination is sought. Such statement shall be sworn to before some officer authorized to administer oaths in this State. 8

9 No petition sheet shall be circulated more than 90 days
10 preceding the last day provided in Section 7-12 for the filing
11 of such petition.

12 The person circulating the petition, or the candidate on 13 whose behalf the petition is circulated, may strike any 14 signature from the petition, provided that:

(1) the person striking the signature shall initial the
 petition at the place where the signature is struck; and

(2) the person striking the signature shall sign a
certification listing the page number and line number of
each signature struck from the petition. Such
certification shall be filed as a part of the petition.

Such sheets before being filed shall be neatly fastened together in book form, by placing the sheets in a pile and fastening them together at one edge in a secure and suitable manner, and the sheets shall then be numbered consecutively. The sheets shall not be fastened by pasting them together end to end, so as to form a continuous strip or roll. All petition

which are filed with the proper local election 1 sheets 2 officials, election authorities or the State Board of Elections 3 shall be the original sheets which have been signed by the voters and by the circulator thereof, and not photocopies or 4 5 duplicates of such sheets. Each petition must include as a part 6 thereof, a statement of candidacy for each of the candidates filing, or in whose behalf the petition is filed. This 7 8 statement shall set out the address of such candidate, the 9 office for which he is a candidate, shall state that the 10 candidate is a qualified primary voter of the party to which 11 the petition relates and is qualified for the office specified 12 (in the case of a candidate for State's Attorney it shall state 13 that the candidate is at the time of filing such statement a 14 licensed attorney-at-law of this State), shall state that he 15 has filed (or will file before the close of the petition filing 16 period) a statement of economic interests as required by the 17 Illinois Governmental Ethics Act, shall request that the candidate's name be placed upon the official ballot, and shall 18 19 be subscribed and sworn to by such candidate before some 20 officer authorized to take acknowledgment of deeds in the State 21 and shall be in substantially the following form:

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Statement of Candidacy

23 Name Address Office District Party
24 John Jones 102 Main St. Governor Statewide Republican
25 Belvidere,
26 Illinois

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State of Illinois)

) ss. County of) I,, being first duly sworn, say that I reside at Street in the city (or village) of, in the county of, State of Illinois; that I am a qualified voter therein and am a qualified primary voter of the party; that I am a candidate for nomination (for election in the case committeeman and delegates and alternate delegates) to the office of to be voted upon at the primary election to be held on (insert date); that I am legally qualified (including being the holder of any license that may be an eligibility requirement for the office I seek the nomination for) to hold such office and that I have filed (or I will file before the close of the petition filing period) a statement of economic interests as required by the Illinois Governmental Ethics Act and I hereby request that my name be printed upon the official

primary ballot for nomination for (or election to in the case 18 19 of committeemen and delegates and alternate delegates) such office. 20

21

Signed

22 Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me by, 23 who is to me personally known, on (insert date).

24 Signed 25 (Official Character)

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1 (Seal, if officer has one.)

The petitions, when filed, shall not be withdrawn or added 2 3 to, and no signatures shall be revoked except by revocation 4 filed in writing with the State Board of Elections, election 5 authority or local election official with whom the petition is 6 required to be filed, and before the filing of such petition. 7 Whoever forges the name of a signer upon any petition required 8 by this Article is deemed quilty of a forgery and on conviction 9 thereof shall be punished accordingly.

10 A candidate for the offices listed in this Section must 11 obtain the number of signatures specified in this Section on 12 his or her petition for nomination.

(a) Statewide office or delegate to a national nominating 13 14 convention. If a candidate seeks to run for statewide office or 15 as a delegate or alternate delegate to a national nominating 16 convention elected from the State at-large, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 5,000 17 but not more than 10,000 signatures. 18

(b) Congressional office or congressional delegate to a national nominating convention. If a candidate seeks to run for United States Congress or as a congressional delegate or alternate congressional delegate to a national nominating convention elected from a congressional district, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified primary

electors of his or her party in his or her congressional 1 2 first primary election district. In the following а 3 redistricting of congressional districts, a candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 600 signatures of 4 5 qualified primary electors of the candidate's political party 6 in his or her congressional district.

7 (c) County office. If a candidate seeks to run for any countywide office, including but not limited to county board 8 9 chairperson or county board member, elected on an at-large 10 basis, in a county other than Cook County, then the candidate's 11 petition for nomination must contain at least the number of 12 signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified electors of his or 13 her party who cast votes at the last preceding general election 14 in his or her county (or 1.5% if the county is DuPage County). 15 If a candidate seeks to run for county board member elected 16 from a county board district, then the candidate's petition for 17 nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified primary electors of his or her party 18 in the county board district (or 1.5% if the county is DuPage 19 20 County). In the first primary election following а county board districts or the initial 21 redistricting of 22 establishment of county board districts, a candidate's 23 petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified electors of his or 24 25 her party in the entire county who cast votes at the last 26 preceding general election divided by the total number of

- 1 county board districts comprising the county board (or 1.5% if 2 the county is DuPage County); provided that in no event shall 3 the number of signatures be less than 25.
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(d) County office; Cook County only.

5 (1) If a candidate seeks to run for countywide office 6 in Cook County, then the candidate's petition for 7 nomination must contain at least the number of signatures 8 equal to 0.5% of the qualified electors of his or her party 9 who cast votes at the last preceding general election in 10 Cook County.

11 (2) If a candidate seeks to run for Cook County Board 12 Commissioner, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 13 14 0.5% of the qualified primary electors of his or her party 15 in his or her county board district. In the first primary 16 election following a redistricting of Cook County Board of 17 districts, a candidate's petition Commissioners for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures 18 19 equal to 0.5% of the qualified electors of his or her party 20 in the entire county who cast votes at the last preceding 21 general election divided by the total number of county 22 board districts comprising the county board; provided that 23 in no event shall the number of signatures be less than 25.

(3) If a candidate seeks to run for Cook County Board
 of Review Commissioner, which is elected from a district
 pursuant to subsection (c) of Section 5-5 of the Property

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Tax Code, then the candidate's petition for nomination must 1 2 contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the total number of registered voters in his or her board 3 of review district in the last general election at which a 4 5 commissioner was regularly scheduled to be elected from that board of review district. In no event shall the number 6 7 of signatures required be greater than the requisite number 8 for a candidate who seeks countywide office in Cook County 9 under subsection (d)(1) of this Section. In the first 10 primary election following a redistricting of Cook County 11 Board of Review districts, a candidate's petition for 12 nomination must contain at least 4,000 signatures or at least the number of signatures required for a countywide 13 14 candidate in Cook County, whichever is less, of the 15 qualified electors of his or her party in the district.

16 (e) Municipal or township office. If a candidate seeks to 17 run for municipal or township office, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of 18 19 signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified primary electors of 20 his or her party in the municipality or township. If a 21 candidate seeks to run for alderman of a municipality, then the 22 candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the 23 number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the qualified primary 24 electors of his or her party of the ward. In the first primary election following redistricting of aldermanic wards 25 or 26 trustee districts of а municipality or the initial

establishment of wards or districts, a candidate's petition for 1 2 nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to at least 0.5% of the total number of votes cast for the candidate 3 of that political party who received the highest number of 4 5 votes in the entire municipality at the last regular election at which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from 6 7 the entire municipality, divided by the number of wards or 8 districts. In no event shall the number of signatures be less 9 than 25.

10 (f) State central committeeperson. If a candidate seeks to 11 run for State central committeeperson, then the candidate's 12 petition for nomination must contain at least 100 signatures of 13 the primary electors of his or her party of his or her 14 congressional district.

15 (g) Sanitary district trustee. If a candidate seeks to run 16 for trustee of a sanitary district in which trustees are not 17 elected from wards, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal 18 19 to 0.5% of the primary electors of his or her party from the 20 sanitary district. If a candidate seeks to run for trustee of a 21 sanitary district in which trustees are elected from wards, 22 then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at 23 least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the primary 24 electors of his or her party in the ward of that sanitary 25 district. In the first primary election following 26 redistricting of sanitary districts elected from wards, a

1 candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the 2 signatures of 150 qualified primary electors of his or her ward 3 of that sanitary district.

Judicial office. If a candidate seeks to run for 4 (h) 5 judicial office in a district, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to 6 0.4% of the number of votes cast in that district for the 7 candidate for his or her political party for the office of 8 9 Governor at the last general election at which a Governor was 10 elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. If a 11 candidate seeks to run for judicial office in a circuit or 12 subcircuit, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain the number of signatures equal to 0.25% of the number 13 14 of votes cast for the judicial candidate of his or her 15 political party who received the highest number of votes at the 16 last general election at which a judicial officer from the same 17 circuit or subcircuit was regularly scheduled to be elected, but in no event less than 500 signatures. 18

19 (i) Precinct, ward, and township committeeperson. If a 20 candidate seeks to run for precinct committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least 10 21 22 signatures of the primary electors of his or her party for the 23 precinct. If a candidate seeks to run for ward committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain no 24 25 less than the number of signatures equal to 10% of the primary 26 electors of his or her party of the ward, but no more than 16%

of those same electors; provided that the maximum number of 1 2 signatures may be 50 more than the minimum number, whichever is candidate seeks to 3 greater. If а run for township committeeperson, then the candidate's petition for nomination 4 5 must contain no less than the number of signatures equal to 5% of the primary electors of his or her party of the township, 6 7 but no more than 8% of those same electors; provided that the 8 maximum number of signatures may be 50 more than the minimum 9 number, whichever is greater.

(j) State's attorney or regional superintendent of schools for multiple counties. If a candidate seeks to run for State's attorney or regional Superintendent of Schools who serves more than one county, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the primary electors of his or her party in the territory comprising the counties.

(k) Any other office. If a candidate seeks any other office, then the candidate's petition for nomination must contain at least the number of signatures equal to 0.5% of the registered voters of the political subdivision, district, or division for which the nomination is made or 25 signatures, whichever is greater.

For purposes of this Section the number of primary electors shall be determined by taking the total vote cast, in the applicable district, for the candidate for that political party who received the highest number of votes, statewide, at the

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last general election in the State at which electors for 1 2 President of the United States were elected. For political subdivisions, the number of primary electors 3 shall be determined by taking the total vote cast for the candidate for 4 5 that political party who received the highest number of votes in the political subdivision at the last regular election at 6 7 which an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from subdivision. For wards 8 or districts of political that 9 subdivisions, the number of primary electors shall be 10 determined by taking the total vote cast for the candidate for 11 that political party who received the highest number of votes 12 in the ward or district at the last regular election at which 13 an officer was regularly scheduled to be elected from that ward 14 or district.

15 A "qualified primary elector" of a party may not sign 16 petitions for or be a candidate in the primary of more than one 17 party.

18 The changes made to this Section of this amendatory Act of 19 the 93rd General Assembly are declarative of existing law, 20 except for item (3) of subsection (d).

Petitions of candidates for nomination for offices herein specified, to be filed with the same officer, may contain the names of 2 or more candidates of the same political party for the same or different offices.

25 (Source: P.A. 94-645, eff. 8-22-05; 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)

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(10 ILCS 5/7-59) (from Ch. 46, par. 7-59)

2 Sec. 7-59. (a) The person receiving the highest number of 3 votes at a primary as a candidate of a party for the nomination for an office shall be the candidate of that party for such 4 5 office, and his name as such candidate shall be placed on the 6 official ballot at the election then next ensuing; provided, 7 that where there are two or more persons to be nominated for 8 the same office or board, the requisite number of persons 9 receiving the highest number of votes shall be nominated and 10 their names shall be placed on the official ballot at the 11 following election.

Except as otherwise provided by Section 7-8 of this Act, the person receiving the highest number of votes of his party for State central committeeman of his congressional district shall be declared elected State central committeeman from said congressional district.

17 Unless a national political party specifies that delegates and alternate delegates to a National nominating convention be 18 19 allocated by proportional selection representation according 20 to the results of a Presidential preference primary, the requisite number of persons receiving the highest number of 21 22 votes of their party for delegates and alternate delegates to 23 National nominating conventions from the State at large, and the requisite number of persons receiving the highest number of 24 25 votes of their party for delegates and alternate delegates to 26 National nominating conventions in their respective congressional districts shall be declared elected delegates
 and alternate delegates to the National nominating conventions
 of their party.

A political party which elects the members to its State 4 5 Central Committee by Alternative B under paragraph (a) of Section 7-8 shall select its congressional district delegates 6 7 and alternate delegates to its national nominating convention 8 by proportional selection representation according to the 9 results of Presidential preference primary in each а 10 congressional district in the manner provided by the rules of 11 the national political party and the State Central Committee, 12 when the rules and policies of the national political party so 13 require.

A political party which elects the members to its State 14 15 Central Committee by Alternative B under paragraph (a) of 16 Section 7-8 shall select its at large delegates and alternate 17 its national nominating convention delegates to by proportional selection representation according to the results 18 19 of a Presidential preference primary in the whole State in the 20 manner provided by the rules of the national political party and the State Central Committee, when the rules and policies of 21 22 the national political party so require.

The person receiving the highest number of votes of his party for precinct committeeman of his precinct shall be declared elected precinct committeeman from said precinct.

26 The person receiving the highest number of votes of his

party for township committeeman of his township or part of a township as the case may be, shall be declared elected township committeeman from said township or part of a township as the case may be. In cities where ward committeemen are elected, the person receiving the highest number of votes of his party for ward committeeman of his ward shall be declared elected ward committeeman from said ward.

8 When two or more persons receive an equal and the highest 9 number of votes for the nomination for the same office or for 10 committeeman of the same political party, or where more than 11 one person of the same political party is to be nominated as a 12 candidate for office or committeeman, if it appears that more than the number of persons to be nominated for an office or 13 14 elected committeeman have the highest and an equal number of 15 votes for the nomination for the same office or for election as 16 committeeman, the election authority by which the returns of 17 the primary are canvassed shall decide by lot which of said persons shall be nominated or elected, as the case may be. In 18 19 such case the election authority shall issue notice in writing 20 to such persons of such tie vote stating therein the place, the day (which shall not be more than 5 days thereafter) and the 21 22 hour when such nomination or election shall be so determined.

(b) Write-in votes shall be counted only for persons who have filed notarized declarations of intent to be write-in candidates with the proper election authority or authorities not later than <u>7</u> 61 days prior to the primary. However,

whenever an objection to a candidate's nominating papers or petitions for any office is sustained under Section 10-10 after the 61st day before the election, then write-in votes shall be counted for that candidate if he or she has filed a notarized declaration of intent to be a write in candidate for that office with the proper election authority or authorities not later than 7 days prior to the election.

8 Forms for the declaration of intent to be a write-in 9 candidate shall be supplied by the election authorities. Such 10 declaration shall specify the office for which the person seeks 11 nomination or election as a write-in candidate.

12 The election authority or authorities shall deliver a list 13 of all persons who have filed such declarations to the election 14 judges in the appropriate precincts prior to the primary.

15 (C) (1) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this 16 Section, where the number of candidates whose names have been 17 printed on a party's ballot for nomination for or election to an office at a primary is less than the number of persons the 18 party is entitled to nominate for or elect to the office at the 19 20 primary, a person whose name was not printed on the party's primary ballot as a candidate for nomination for or election to 21 22 the office, is not nominated for or elected to that office as a 23 result of a write-in vote at the primary unless the number of votes he received equals or exceeds the number of signatures 24 25 required on a petition for nomination for that office; or unless the number of votes he receives exceeds the number of 26

votes received by at least one of the candidates whose names were printed on the primary ballot for nomination for or election to the same office.

4 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply where 5 the number of candidates whose names have been printed on the 6 party's ballot for nomination for or election to the office at 7 the primary equals or exceeds the number of persons the party 8 is entitled to nominate for or elect to the office at the 9 primary.

10 (Source: P.A. 94-647, eff. 1-1-06; 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)

- 11 (10 ILCS 5/28-6) (from Ch. 46, par. 28-6)
- 12 Sec. 28-6. Petitions; filing.

(a) On a written petition signed by a number of voters 13 equal to (i) through the general election in 2008, at least 8% 14 15 of the total votes cast for candidates for Governor in the 16 preceding gubernatorial election by the registered voters of the municipality, township, county or school district and (ii)-17 beginning with elections in 2009 and thereafter, at least 11% 18 of the total ballots cast by the registered voters of the 19 20 municipality, township, county, or school district in the last 21 regular election conducted in the municipality, township, 22 county, or school district, it shall be the duty of the proper election officers to submit any question of public policy so 23 24 petitioned for, to the electors of such political subdivision 25 at any regular election named in the petition at which an

election is scheduled to be held throughout such political 1 2 subdivision under Article 2A. Such petitions shall be filed with the local election official of the political subdivision 3 or election authority, as the case may be. Where such a 4 5 question is to be submitted to the voters of a municipality which has adopted Article 6, or a township or school district 6 located entirely within the jurisdiction of a municipal board 7 of election commissioners, such petitions shall be filed with 8 9 the board of election commissioners having jurisdiction over 10 the political subdivision.

11 (b) In a municipality with more than 1,000,000 inhabitants, 12 when a question of public policy exclusively concerning a 13 contiguous territory included entirely within but not coextensive with the municipality is initiated by resolution or 14 15 ordinance of the corporate authorities of the municipality, or 16 by a petition which may be signed by registered voters who 17 reside in any part of any precinct all or part of which includes all or part of the territory and who equal in number 18 (i) through the general election in 2008 at least 8% of the 19 20 total votes cast for candidates for Governor in the preceding gubernatorial election by the voters of the precinct or 21 22 precincts in the territory where the question is to be 23 submitted to the voters and (ii) beginning with elections in 2009 and thereafter, at least 11% of the total ballots cast at 24 25 the last regular election conducted in the precinct 26 precincts in the territory where the question is -be

submitted to the voters, it shall be the duty of the election 1 2 authority having jurisdiction over such municipality to submit such question to the electors throughout each precinct all or 3 part of which includes all or part of the territory at the 4 5 regular election specified in the resolution, ordinance or petition initiating the public question. A petition initiating 6 7 a public question described in this subsection shall be filed 8 with the election authority having jurisdiction over the 9 municipality. A resolution, ordinance or petition initiating a 10 public question described in this subsection shall specify the 11 election at which the question is to be submitted.

12 (c) Local questions of public policy authorized by this 13 Section and statewide questions of public policy authorized by 14 Section 28-9 shall be advisory public questions, and no legal 15 effects shall result from the adoption or rejection of such 16 propositions.

17 (d) This Section does not apply to a petition filed18 pursuant to Article IX of the Liquor Control Act of 1934.

19 (Source: P.A. 95-699, eff. 11-9-07.)