INSTRUCTIONS FOR GATHERING PETITION SIGNATURES

Petition Circulators MUST: rev 6/4/08

- STAY WITH YOUR PETITION AT ALL TIMES – NEVER LEAVE IT UNATTENDED
- ALWAYS BE PRESENT WHEN PEOPLE ARE SIGNING YOUR PETITION The signature gathering process can be corrupted by the signing of an unattended petition.
- PETITION CIRCULATOR FORM: You must complete, sign, and date a CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION and have your own town clerk certify that you are a registered voter in Maine.
- You MUST be a Maine Registered Voter BEFORE you collect signatures.

Certificate of Registration Form:

You can complete your CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION before or after you collect signatures.

Take the form to your town clerk where you are registered to vote. They will certify that you are registered to vote and will probably attach a copy of your voter registration card, front and back, or give some other proof.

Return both the validated Certificate of Registration form and the copy of your voter registration card as soon as you have them done or with your petitions to: Real ID Repeal, c/o Lu Bauer, PO Box 96, Brunswick, ME 04011

Petition:
ONLY ONE CITY/TOWN per petition. DO NOT MIX TOWNS ON THE SAME PETITION.

At the bottom of the petition there is a clear section for you, the petition circulator to complete when you have finished gathering signatures. Inside the CIRCULATOR'S OATH box on the petition, PRINT your name BUT DO NOT SIGN YOUR NAME UNTIL YOU APPEAR BEFORE THE NOTARY PUBLIC and only when you are finished collecting signatures on that petition. There is usually a Notary Public at town offices but you can get them notarized elsewhere. You cannot notarize your own petition nor can the Notary be an immediate family member.

Note: Do NOT ever sign another's name. Collect only ONE signature on our petition from a voter. Do not add voter signatures after you have had your signature notarized.

Make sure each voter prints AND SIGNS his/her own name as it appears on the voting list (must be registered Maine voter). It is good to show each person that they should sign their name first, and then print it a the end.

If you, or the signer, makes a mistake, just strike through the whole line and start again in the space below.

Also make sure that the date of signing, physical street address (no P.O. Boxes will be accepted), and municipality (city or town) of residence is printed in the appropriate spaces. (The voter must fill out the signature and the date; the rest of the information can be filled out by the circulator.) Since you are using a different form for each town, you should write the town name at the top of the petition. You may also want to write the name of the Municipality (town) in each of the 30 lines, ahead of time.

When you are finished gathering signatures on a petition sheet, take an oath before a Notary Public signifying that you personally witnessed each signature on the petition. You can do this at the town office when having your petition signatures validated. In any case, be sure your Circulator's Oath is notarized before turning your petitions into a coordinator who is collecting all the petitions, especially if they will be getting the signatures validated for you.

Signature Collecting Questions and Procedures

Who can collect signatures?

Every signature-gatherer must be 18 years of age, a Maine resident and registered to vote in Maine. You can register to vote at your town hall or right at a polling location. You must register to vote BEFORE collecting signatures or else all the signatures you collect will be invalid.

When can you collect signatures?

Starting right now! You can gather signatures anytime. You don't need to carry the Certificate of (Voter) Registration with you. It is best to be at events where it's easy to have all the signatures be from the same town. Many stores, post offices, etc., are welcoming to petitioners, some are not. It is best to check before collecting in a seemingly public place that may be considered private property.

At the Polls

When you arrive at the polls, please take a moment to introduce yourself to the Poll Warden. Good relationships with the Poll Warden can make an enormous difference in your ability to be in a highly visible location and collect signatures. Ask them if they have any particular rules or preferences that you should know about and be sure to adhere to their guidance. The Town Clerk sets the rules, so if the Poll Warden places more restrictions on you than the Clerk does, you may call the Clerk's office.

Setting Up

Bring tape with you and tape a sign to the front of the table or wherever it can be reasonably seen.
[To Protect Your Personal Rights and Freedoms, Sign HERE! No Real ID for ME.]
Also, tape a copy of the back of a petition to the table for display. (Required)
Most polling locations will provide a table and chair(s) for your use

Engage People Respectfully

When in the polling place, voters cannot sign the petitions BEFORE they vote. If people want to come and sign before they've voted nicely tell them they should vote first and then come and see you. Be enthusiastic and courteous. As people come out of the voting booths make eye contact and try to engage them to sign but do not force the issue. If someone wishes to argue with you about the issue, do not engage and politely try to move to the next person who may be interested in signing.

Legally Responsible

You are collecting official signatures and each petition is a legal document. It is important that you be responsible for your own petition and signatures. The petition needs to be notarized with you affirming that you were the one who took the signatures, that you witnessed each signature, and that to the best of your knowledge, the signers were who they claimed. Please take your petitions with you when you leave and hold on to them until they are complete, notarized, validated and returned to the campaign.

Signatures or Entire Petitions May be Rejected.

These are some typical problems:

INDIVIDUAL SIGNATURES may be rejected if:	**ENTIRE PETITIONS may be rejected if**:
• Not a registered voter • Duplicate signing • Signature after circulator has had petition verified • Signing of another's name Printed name, but no signature	• Unauthorized individuals altered petition • Circulator's verification not complete or not signed • Circulator didn't take oath before valid notary public • Notary did not complete or sign notarization • Notary is immediate family member of circulator • Registrar's certification not completed or signed