2020 City of Tallahassee Charter
Citizen Amendment Process

Who Can Sign Petitions
Any registered voter residing within the geographic area affected by your initiative may sign a petition (i.e. only registered voters living within the city limits of the City of Tallahassee). The address on file with the Leon County Supervisor of Elections office will be used for verification, not the address listed on the petition form. Chapter 106.03 Florida Statutes require any group seeking to collect signatures from registered voters shall form a political committee and file timely and accurate financial reports.

Required Number of Signed Petitions (F.S. 166.031 (1))
Our office recommends you submit 17,397 signed petition cards, 25% over the required amount of 13,918 (10%) to allow for illegible handwriting or individuals not registered to vote in the City of Tallahassee. You must submit a minimum of 15% over the required amount for the Random Sample Method of verification, which is 16,005. Petition amounts are based on registration numbers from book closing for the 2018 General Election; there were 139,173 registered voters in the City of Tallahassee.

Deadline for Submitting Petitions
The initial petition submission, to obtain ballot status for the 2020 General Election, must be made no later than noon on May 20, 2020, to the Leon County Supervisor of Elections office, 90 days prior to the 2020 Primary Election.

Cost to Verify Petitions
There is a verification fee of 10 cents per petition verified. Initiative petitions for the City of Tallahassee must utilize the Random Sample Method and may initially only pay the fee for the first batch of 100 petitions. This fee will be collected at the time of submission. You will receive a fee balance form containing the amount due to the Supervisor of Elections office if verification beyond the first batch is necessary. You may also file an Undue Burden Oath with the Supervisor of Elections office to waive the cost of petition verification. If sufficient funds remain at the end of the campaign, the entity filing the Undue Burden Oath will be required to pay the amount for petition verification before deposing of remaining funds.

Petition Verification
All verification of petitions will occur on a first-come-first-serve basis. You should collect all petitions that may be in the hands of others for a one-time submission to the Supervisor of Elections office. Partial submissions will not allow your petitions to be verified; however, if your initial petition submission is not approved, and time still permits, the submission of additional petitions will be permitted until June 30, 2020. Such supplement will be verified in keeping with office policy.

Certificates are issued once your petitions are verified and approved.

Deadline for Approved Language for Ballot Placement
The Supervisor of Elections requires any governmental entity wishing to have a referendum placed on the 2020 General Election ballot submit approved language no later than the date of the Primary Election, August 18, 2020.