

REPEAL THE CASINO DEAL SIGNATURE DRIVE INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

The Goal of the Signature Drive:

Our mission is to get a question on the November 2014 statewide ballot that would give all citizens their first chance to vote up or down on whether to repeal the state's casino deal.

What You and I Need to Do:

We have one final hurdle: we need to collect 11,485 certified signatures of Massachusetts registered voters starting on May 9th through June 18th when all petition papers must be turned into city & town clerks to be certified. Voter signatures who already signed last fall DO NOT COUNT so we need 11,485 new voters. That gives us 39 days to collect 19,142 raw signatures which, at a conservative certification rate of 60%, would allow us to meet the goal of 11,485.

Conservatively, a volunteer can collect 25 signatures per hour using two clipboards (with a RTCD sticker on the back) at a location with good foot traffic. The benefit of using at least two clipboards is while one voter is signing the petition you can be asking another voter passing by to sign on the second clipboard. Three clipboards are even more effective- you'll collect at a far greater clip.

Set a goal for yourself. Many citizens statewide have committed themselves to collect at least 500 signatures...that's only 100 per week. At a conservative pace of 25 signatures per hour using two clipboards at once, it's only four hours per week for five weeks. This strategy does not include the additional signatures you will easily collect within the daily routine of your life such as your social network, work colleagues, family, neighbors, church members, PTO meetings, etc.

We have the power to bring change to the direction of our state. This signature drive gives us the opportunity to exercise that power.

INSTRUCTIONS

Where should I petition? What types of locations are best?

If you have already collected signatures before, you may already have good locations in mind. The key to success is choosing a location with lots of foot traffic. Some examples: supermarkets, malls, big box stores (Target, Home Depot, Lowes), community events (fairs, charity walks, flu shot clinics), T stops and train stations during rush hours, coffee shops (Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks), elementary and high school sporting events (like youth soccer), and after-church social hours.

What do I need?

Get copies of the petition from MFI (phone 781-569-0400, email elissa@mafamilly.org) or the statewide campaign manager Darek Barcikowski (phone 617-869-0601, email repealcampaignmanager@gmail.com).

You can make your own copies if they are the same look, size and paper weight as the original petition (Staples, white, 28 lb. works well). You can download a PDF version [HERE](#). Print double-sided front-to-back (make sure back side is not upside-down). If they're different, then the signatures collected on them will not be valid.

Have multiple copies of the petition as you will need one for each town that the people who are signing are from. Up to 19 signatures can be on a petition but they must all be registered voters from that town.

Have a good pen (black or blue) and a firm clip board or table surface that people can sign on. Ask them NOT TO SCRIBBLE.

Do I need to get permission to petition in a particular location?

You do not need permission to petition in front of any store when standing on a public sidewalk or in front of a busy T stop or commuter rail station. Signature collection outside post offices is also permissible. In some cases (supermarkets, malls, big box stores) permission should be sought in advance in order to petition on private property. In those instances, or any instance in which access is denied, contact RTCD Campaign Manager: Darek Barcikowski 617-869-0601 / repealcampaignmanager@gmail.com for assistance.

How do I ask people to sign?

Be friendly and smile. Depending on the community you're in, greet passersby and ask "Would you please sign a petition to stop the state's bad casino deal?" or "Will you please sign to get a question on the 2014 ballot that gives all citizens a chance to vote up or down on whether to

repeal the state's casino deal?" These are just a sample lines...use what works best for you. If they say "Yes," then ask if they are registered to vote. Your goal should be to spend no more than 30 seconds with any one individual. **Do not waste time with debate.**

If folks start asking questions or would like to chat, hand them literature about the campaign and invite them to go to our web site. Then move on to the next potential signer. If a passerby refuses to sign, say "Thank you anyway, have a nice day."

What are the rules for signing?

For signatures to be valid, there are very specific and unforgiving rules, and these rules are strictly enforced by the Secretary of State.

- ✓ **Only the signatures of Massachusetts registered voters are counted.** The signature of someone who is unregistered to vote will not be counted towards our goal.
- ✓ **All signatures must be written in pen ink and legible, using their name and address as given in current voter registration records.** Ask them to stay well within the boxes for "Name" and "Address." For clarity, a signer may also print his or her name with his signature, within the signature box. Nicknames will not count.
- ✓ **Ask people not to "scribble" or cross out anything.** Doing so will invalidate the entire sheet!
- ✓ It is critical the voter uses the address where he/she is registered to vote. **Anyone signing with a P.O. Box will not count.**
- ✓ **All signatures on a single petition sheet must be from the same city or town. For example, if you write Boston in the appropriate boxes on each side of the petition, that means only Boston voter signatures should sign that sheet.**
- ✓ When you come across a signer from a different town, begin a new petition sheet by writing in the voter's town name or use a sheet you've already started for that town.
- ✓ If someone mistakenly signs the wrong sheet, ***DON'T CROSS OUT THE SIGNATURE.*** Just ask them to sign again on the appropriate sheet. Any signatures on the original sheet will still count.
- ✓ It is not necessary for signers to fill in "Ward" or "Precinct."
- ✓ Voters should sign only once. The state uses a computerized system to keep track of signers so that a single voter's signature will not be counted more than once. The rule is that duplicates don't hurt, but won't help either!

What if I run out of blank petitions?

Only make your own copies if they are the same look, size and paper weight as the original petition (Staples, white, 28 lb. works well). You can download a PDF version [HERE](#).

Print double-sided front-to-back (make sure back side is not upside-down). If they're different, then the signatures collected on them will not be valid.

If you are unable to print you can get more copies from Massachusetts Family Institute phone 781-569-0400 or email elissa@mfamily.org or call the Repeal the Casino Deal phone line at 617-701-7823 or email repealthecasinodeal@gmail.com

Does every sheet need to be full before I can hand it in?

No. We will be gathering signed petitions and submitting them throughout the campaign, so we can stay on top of sorting and counting.

What do I do with the signed petition forms?

We would like them as soon as possible as we will be sorting and counting them on a weekly basis. We will submit them to the individual town and city clerks for certification.

Please mail your signed petition forms to

Petition P, Repeal The Casino Deal, P.O. Box 520162, Winthrop, MA 02152

Or drop them off at the MFI Offices

Massachusetts Family Institute
100 TradeCenter, Suite 625
Woburn, MA 01801

What can't I do?

- ✗ **Do not number, tally, mark, initial, stain, highlight, or write on the petition sheets except to place the city/town in the designated box.**
- ✗ **Do not go into a long explanation to signers,** stick to "Will you please sign to help get a question on the 2014 ballot that gives all citizens a chance to vote up or down on whether to repeal the state's casino deal?" **and extend them a pen as you speak. Do not debate.**
- ✗ **Do not** collect signatures in pairs unless you are at different entrance doors or in an area where it is so busy one person cannot ask everyone on their own

Questions?

Contact RTCD Campaign Manager: Darek Barcikowski

617-869-0601 / repealcampaignmanager@gmail.com