

## DOS AND DON'TS of SIGNATURE GATHERING

### DO's

1. Signers must be registered to vote in Montana.
2. Collect signatures from all of your friends and relatives, making sure that the last name, first and middle initials, are legible.
3. Physical address is preferable to phone numbers and PO Boxes. Clearly print the street address and write the signature as it was signed on their voter's registration. Mobile phone numbers disqualify signatures.
4. For eligible Montana residents who want to sign the petition but aren't registered to vote, give them a voter-registration application. After they fill it out and give it back to you, then they may sign the petition. Best to turn in their voter's registration paperwork before the petition with their signature is turned in. (Note: you may not register people to vote, just provide and turn in their application.)
5. Use blue or black ink.
6. Use separate pages for separate counties. Petitions with signatures from multiple counties will be disqualified.
7. Ask your pastor to make an announcement in church before you collect signatures.
8. While petitioning, carry extra blank petitions, affidavit forms, and "DO'S AND DON'TS INSTRUCTION SHEETS."
9. Whenever a voter signs, ask them if they will help collect signatures. If yes, give them a cardboard, a blank petition, affidavit form, and instruction sheet. Be sure to get their phone number or e-mail address for follow-up.
10. After you have gotten signatures from people you know, find events where you can petition: craft shows, concerts, sporting events, estate sales, parades, polling places, or wherever there are crowds. Public sidewalks in front of post offices, stores, libraries, or busy courthouses are ideal spots as well. If there is not a public sidewalk in front of a busy store, ask permission to petition from the manager. "Hi folks, can you please help me with a signature on a pro-life petition? (If "yes," ask, "Which Montana county do you vote in?"
11. Ask everyone (even non-voters) to sign up for e-mail updates to stay connected:  
[info@montanapro-lifecoalition.org](mailto:info@montanapro-lifecoalition.org)
12. Collect signatures sooner rather than later. The quicker that easy districts get qualified with enough signatures, the sooner we'll achieve ballot-access by being able to focus on more difficult districts. Plus, the sooner we can switch from petitioning to campaigning, the better.
13. Have pro-life materials to distribute to people who ask questions, but don't argue with them. Remaining cheerful and continuing to collect signatures is always better than letting someone distract you who is advocating child-killing. If somebody is trying to prevent you from petitioning in public, take their picture and call the campaign quickly at 270-0516.
14. Door-to-door petitioning only works in urban areas when people are home on evenings and weekends.
15. We prefer you mail all petitions and attached notarized affidavits (yes, you must have a separate notarized affidavit for each county, and no more than 25 petition sheets per affidavit) to Montana Pro-Life Coalition, P.O. Box 2758, Bigfork, MT 59911. If you hand them in to your own county offices, please mail us copies of the petitions.
16. Take your clipboard along whenever you go out, even if you are in a hurry. An extra signature at the gas station, doctor/dentist office, or restaurant weekly will add up quickly.
17. Ask all churches and business owners for their endorsement of CI 108, and email them to us so we can list them on the website for the forthcoming campaign.
18. Get "Pro-Life Petition" signs and buttons from M.P.L.C., if you would like them.
19. Encourage signers to read the initiative text and explanation texts available on each petition.

### DON'Ts

1. Never leave your petitions unattended for people to sign while you are not watching them (the lunchroom at work, etc.).
2. Never let anyone sign who is not a Montana voter, has signed C.I.108 once before, or is signing for anyone else.
3. Never give your started petitions to anyone else to fill up. Give them blanks to start their own.
4. Never give your completed petitions to anyone else to mail in, unless M.P.L.C. approves that person in advance.
5. Procrastination over getting started, or expecting the whole job to get done by others, will make it much harder for all of the other volunteers.