



RICHARD CORDRAY  
OHIO ATTORNEY GENERAL

June 25, 2009

VIA FIRST CLASS MAIL

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198 Jenkins Avenue  
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Charles T. Meade  
8409 National Road  
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Re: Proposed Initiated Constitutional Amendment to Allow Casino Gambling

Dear Committee Members:

A written petition proposing to amend Article XV, Section 6 of the Ohio Constitution was submitted to our office on June 18, 2009, in accordance with Section 3519.01(A) of the Ohio Revised Code. This statute specifies that we are to “conduct an examination of the summary” within ten days after receiving it. In this instance, the tenth day falls on June 29, 2009.

Though our particular duty under this statute is to opine whether the submitted summary is a fair and truthful statement of the proposed constitutional amendment, in rendering a judgment, we must take into account all provisions of Ohio Revised Code Chapter 3519, *Initiative and Referendum Petitions*. After reviewing your submission, we are unable to certify your summary because it does not meet certain other requirements of Chapter 3519, notably those addressing Form of Petition and Verification of Petition, Sections 3519.05 and 3519.06, respectively.

Specifically, nowhere in the documentation submitted by Mr. Meade is there a Circulator’s Statement, avowing that all signatures were collected in the presence of the circulator, on the date specified, and are the signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be – which is a requirement under Ohio Revised Code Section 3519.05. Moreover, Section 3519.06 states that part-petitions are not properly verified “if it appears on the face thereof, or is made to appear by satisfactory evidence . . . that the statement required by section 3519.05 of the Revised Code is not properly filled out.”

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On Mr. Meade's first summary page, he noted the total number of signatures collected, and signed his name. However, this does not meet the statutory requirements which would enable the various boards of election to ultimately verify those signatures.

Due to the Committee's omission of a signed Circulator's Statement, our office is unable to certify the summary pursuant to our duties under Chapter 3519 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Please feel free to contact Richard Coglianesi in our office's Constitutional Section (614-466-2872) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

RICHARD CORDRAY  
Ohio Attorney General

  
Susan E. Ashbrook  
Deputy Chief Counsel

cc: Ronald Feister, Esq.