



## STATE OF NEBRASKA

ROBERT B. EVNEN  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**For Release:**

August 28, 2020

**Contact:**

Cindi Allen

402-471-8408

### **Secretary of State Approves Medical Marijuana Initiative for the Ballot**

**LINCOLN-** Secretary of State Bob Evnen announced today that a sufficient number of valid signatures have been collected on petitions to put the Medical Marijuana Initiative on the ballot.

“After careful review by our counties, I can confirm that the number and distribution of valid signatures submitted on the petitions meet the statutory requirements for placement of the initiative on the November general election ballot,” Evnen said.

At least 122,325 valid signatures were required to add the petition question to the 2020 general election ballot. Signatures of more than five percent of registered voters were collected in 48 of the State’s 93 counties. This meets the distribution requirement for counties for an initiative petition.

“Certified letters have been mailed to the sponsors notifying them of the results of the signature review,” added Evnen.

Yesterday, Evnen notified the sponsors and other interested parties that the wording of the ballot initiative was legally sufficient. Evnen reviewed the language of the initiative after receiving a request to withhold the initiative from ballot based on a claim of legal insufficiency. “In determining that the language of the initiative is legally sufficient I did my best to follow the law, and I believe that I have done so,” Evnen commented.

Evnen said that he anticipates that his decision will be reviewed by the Nebraska Supreme Court. “Ultimately, the Supreme Court will decide whether I am correct, and I will comply with the decision of the Court,” Evnen said.

Public hearings will be held in each of the congressional districts and a brochure about the initiative will be distributed to each of the county election offices. The dates and locations of district hearings will be announced later.

For more information about Medical Marijuana Petition, visit the Secretary of State website <https://sos.nebraska.gov>.

###