

## INITIATED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

### Attorney General's Explanation

RECEIVED  
JUN 30 2017  
S.D. SEC. OF STATE

**Title:** An initiated amendment to the South Dakota Constitution changing campaign finance and lobbying laws, creating a government accountability board, and changing certain initiative and referendum provisions.

**Attorney General's Explanation:** This constitutional amendment lowers campaign contribution amounts to candidates and political parties. It prohibits contributions to candidates or political parties by labor unions and corporations. Candidates and elected officials are prohibited from using campaign contributions for personal use.

The amendment expands the scope of activities requiring people to register as lobbyists, and places additional restrictions on lobbyists.


The amendment replaces the government accountability board recently created by the Legislature. The New board is granted broad power, including the power to investigate, adopt rules, issue advisory opinions, and conduct audits. It may impose sanctions, including fines, on any elected or appointed official, judge, or State or local government employee. The amendment annually appropriates State funds to be solely administered by the board.

The amendment limits the number of votes necessary for approval of any initiative or referendum to a simple majority. It requires the Legislature to make specific factual findings when enacting laws that are not subject to referral. If the legislature wants to change the initiative or referendum process, or a law passed by initiative, it must submit the change to the voters.

The multiple-section amendment makes other additions to the Constitution. It will likely be challenged on constitutional grounds.

**Name of Sponsor:** Mitch Richter 605-360-1370  
mitchell.richter@sio.midco.net

**This petition circulator is a paid petition circulator and is being paid \$12 per hour.**

Filed this 6<sup>th</sup> day of  
July 2017  
  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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**Name of Sponsor:** Mitch Richter 605-360-1370  
mitchell.richter@sio.midco.net

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**Name of Sponsor:**    **Mitch Richter 605-360-1370**  
                                 **mittchell.richter@sio.midco.net**

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**Name of Sponsor:** Mitch Richter 605-360-1370  
mitchell.richter@sio.midco.net

**This petition circulator is a paid petition circulator and is being paid \$3,500 per month.**

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**This petition circulator is a volunteer and is not receiving any monies to circulate this petition.**

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