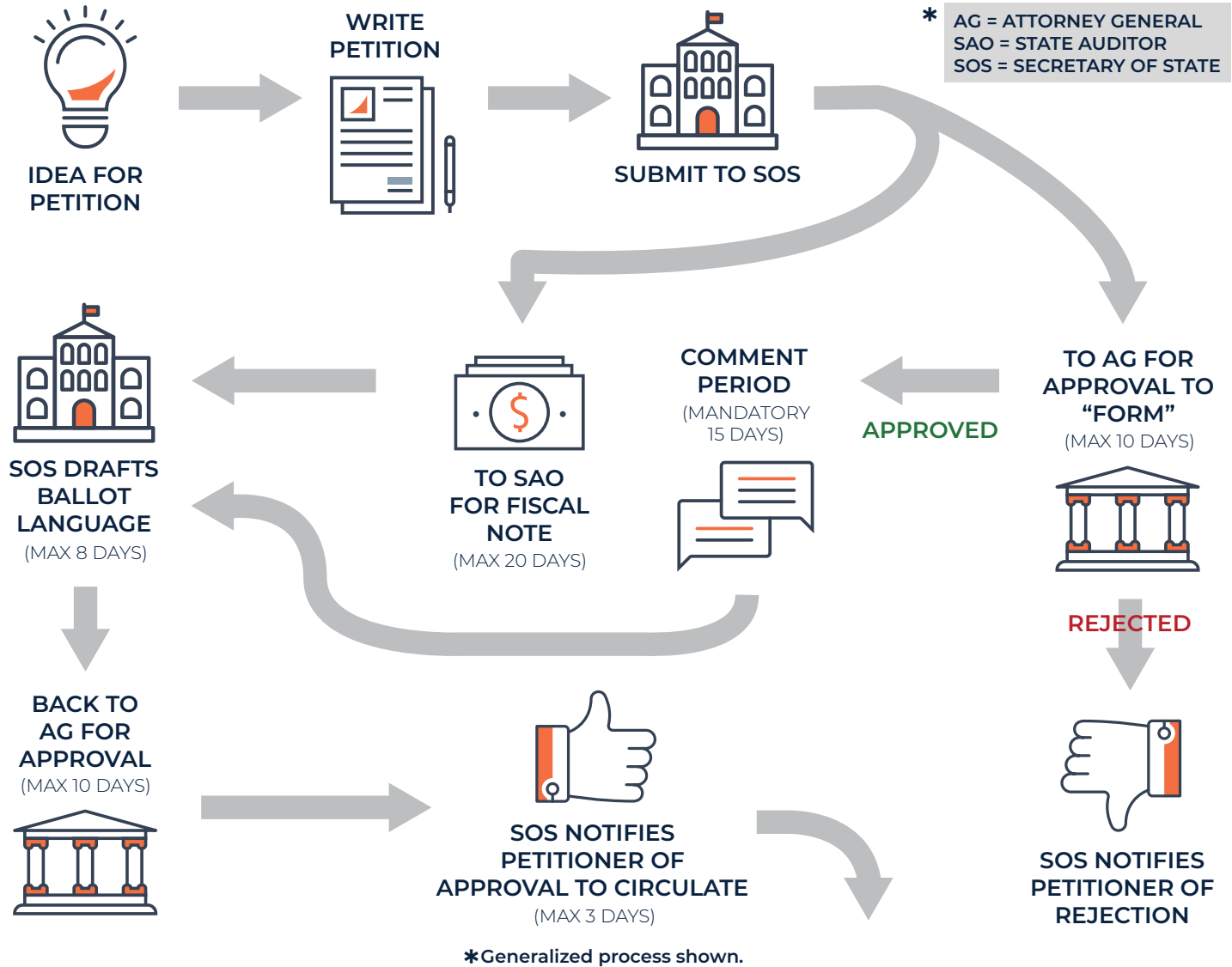
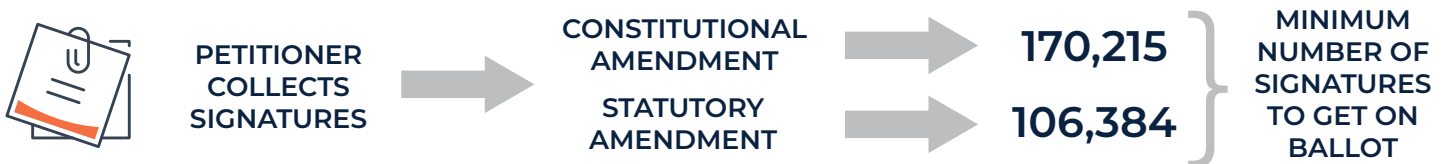


INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITION PROCESS



SIGNATURE COLLECTION



According to state law, a petition must have a minimum number of signatures in six of eight congressional districts. The minimums are based on the number of votes cast in the last gubernatorial election. See more details on reverse page.

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITION PROCESS

SIGNATURE SUBMISSION & VERIFICATION



Signatures must be submitted by 5 p.m. on May 3, 2026. Signature pages must be in boxes organized by county. Signatures must be submitted all at one time.



SOS verifies the number of signature pages submitted and distributes signature pages to local election authorities.



SOS validates each circulator affidavit and ensures full ballot language is attached. Local election authorities check and verify signatures, and return verification documents to SOS.



If there are sufficient valid signatures, the petition receives a Certificate of Sufficiency, which must be certified by 5 p.m. on the 13th Tuesday before the November General Election (Aug. 4, 2026).

REQUIRED SIGNATURES PER CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
(SIX OF EIGHT DISTRICTS NEEDED)



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

1ST
2ND
3RD
4TH
5TH
6TH
7TH
8TH

GUBERNATORIAL VOTES CAST IN 2024

311,915
431,395
401,227
370,875
333,988
378,080
371,969
360,817

5% FOR STATUTORY

15,596
21,570
20,062
18,544
16,700
18,904
18,599
18,041

8% FOR CONSTITUTIONAL

24,954
34,512
32,099
29,670
26,720
30,247
29,758
28,866

REQUIRED PUBLICATION OF BALLOT MEASURES



SOS is required to publish the full text of all statewide ballot measures that will appear on the ballot, per state law.



In 2018, the cost to publish one referendum, six initiative petitions (one IP was 49 pages) and one petition from the state legislature was \$5.8 million.

OTHER POINTS



For a petition to pass, only 50% voter approval is needed. This voter threshold applies whether the question is one that will amend statute or the Missouri constitution.

Some elections have very low turnout, yet voters decide major constitutional issues. For example, in the August 2014 election, three of five constitutional amendments were passed with more than 50% approval. The amendment that passed with the most votes was a constitutional amendment to prohibit unreasonable search and seizure of an individual's electronic communications and data. At the time, the 729,752 "yes" votes **made up less than 18% of Missouri's registered voters.** Another constitutional amendment called "Right to Farm" passed with 499,963 "yes" votes. In this case, **12.3% of Missouri's registered voters amended the constitution.**



Secretary Hoskins supports increasing the voter threshold required to amend the constitution to 60% or higher.



Missouri Secretary of State
Elections



Denny Hoskins, CPA
Missouri Secretary of State