

Ordinance No. 00490

ORDINANCE NO. 490

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Washington, amending Chapter 01.29 to add section 1.29.020 providing a Time for Submission of Petitions in Support of Initiative and Referendum

WHEREAS, the City of Lakewood, through action taken by the City Council has adopted the powers of Initiative and Referenda for use by the citizens of the City; and

WHEREAS, a timeline is set by state law for all actions by the City and County upon receipt of a petition for Initiative or Referendum but there is no such deadline set for the initial submission of the petition; and

WHEREAS, the citizens have exercised this power and in the process demonstrated the potential for such an effort to fail simply by not providing sufficient time for the County Auditor to validate petition signatures; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of timelines for submission of petition signatures can mitigate the potential for a petition to fail for lack of time to validate signatures; and

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD, WASHINGTON DO ORDAIN as follows:

Section 1. That a new section 01.29.020 be added to Chapter 01.29 of the Lakewood Municipal Code to read as follows:

01.29.020 - Time for Submission of Petitions in Support of Initiative and Referendum

Citizen petitions seeking to put on an election ballot any Initiative or Referenda must be submitted to the City of Lakewood no later than the close of business Tuesday no later than 60 days before the County Auditor's Resolution deadline in order to be included in the next scheduled election. Citizen petitions submitted later than this deadline may be submitted for inclusion in a subsequent election.

Section 2. Severability. If any portion of this Ordinance or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the Ordinance or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected.

Section 3. Effective Date. That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect five (5) days after publication of the Ordinance Summary.

PASSED by the City Council this 20th day of April, 2009.

CITY OF LAKEWOOD

_____ Douglas G. Richardson, Mayor

Attest:

Alice M. Bush, MMC, City Clerk

Approved as to form:

Heidi Ann Wachter, City Attorney