

**Proposition 6**  
 (Proposed Charter Review Commission Amendment 14)

Date submitted  
to Commission: 4/13/2015

Date scheduled  
on agenda: **Approved**

Charter Amendment Number: **14**

4/27/2015: Held to 5/11/25  
5/11/2015: Carried 9-5, Bell, Dow, Goldsmith,  
Mackiewicz, and Sobjack opposed. Mutchler  
absent

Submitted by:

Jon Mutchler and Todd Donovan

Section:

Section 8.22 Amendments by the Public

Ballot Title:

**Proposition No. 6: LOWERING THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR CITIZEN INITIATIVES TO AMEND CHARTER**

The Whatcom County Charter Review Commission has proposed an amendment to the Whatcom County Charter reducing signatures required to place citizen-proposed Charter amendments on the ballot. This measure would amend Charter Section 8.22 to lower the number of signatures required for placement upon the ballot of proposed Whatcom County Charter changes by citizen initiative from 20% to 15% of the number of votes cast in the County in the last gubernatorial election. Should this proposal be:

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

REJECTED: \_\_\_\_\_

Amendment:

**Section 8.22 Amendments by the Public**

The public may propose amendments to the Charter by registering with the Auditor an initiative petition bearing the signatures of registered voters of the county equal in number to, but not less than, ~~twenty (20)~~ **fifteen (15)** percent of the number of votes cast in the county in the last gubernatorial election. Signatures shall be registered not more than one hundred twenty (120) days following filing of the petition with the Auditor, who shall submit the amendments to the voters. The one hundred and twenty (120) day period shall begin upon receipt of official notification to petitioner(s) by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office either by certified mail or messenger. If the last day for collecting signatures falls on a weekend or legal holiday, then the one hundred and twenty (120) day period shall extend to the end of the next business day. (Amended by referendum 1986; Ord. 93-045; amended by referendum 1995; Ord. 2005-075 Exh. A)