



## THINK BEFORE YOU INK

With the election season in full swing, you soon will be approached by a variety of petition circulators at your grocery store, library, shopping mall or other public venues asking you to sign a variety of initiative petitions. All are asking you to support their ballot proposal by signing the petition. Most will also advocate signing the petition “Just to get it on the ballot so people can vote on it.”

**BE CAUTIOUS.** Your signature is valuable. The League of Women Voters of Arapahoe and Douglas Counties suggest you consider these six questions to help you decide whether or not to sign a petition.

**IS IT COMPLEX?** Some issues can be decided by a simple yes or no vote. Complex issues may need additional questions answered and explained.

**IS IT CONFUSING?** Some ballot proposals may require court resolutions or interpretation. Ask the circulator to explain the issue.

**DOES IT BELONG IN THE STATE CONSTITUTION?** If the issue passes and is placed in the state constitution, it will stay there forever. The only way it can be changed is by another vote of the people.

**HOW WILL IT BE FUNDED?** An initiative should generally create its own revenue source and not earmark, restrict or obligate a specific percentage of the state’s General Fund revenues.

**WHO IS BEHIND IT?** Who are the sponsors and opponents? If you wish to research this go to [www.sos.state.co.us](http://www.sos.state.co.us). Click on Elections & Voting, Initiatives, and proposed initiatives.

**ASK TO SEE THE PETITION CIRCULATOR’S ID.** Paid gathers are required to carry a picture ID issued by the Secretary of State. You can prevent fraud by insisting on seeing their ID.

**GOOD LUCK. AND REMEMBER: THINK BEFORE YOU INK.**