

South Dakota Secretary of State

Monae L. Johnson Secretary of State

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FOURTH BALLOT QUESTION VALIDATED FOR 2024 GENERAL ELECTION

(**Pierre, S.D.**) – Secretary of State Monae L. Johnson announces that a petition submitted for an initiated measure was validated and filed by her office today. This ballot question would legalize the recreational use, possession, and distribution of marijuana. The title for the ballot question will be Initiated Measure 29, and it will appear on the 2024 General Election ballot on November 5, 2024.

An initiated measure currently requires 17,508 valid signatures in order to appear on the ballot. As outlined in SDCL § 2-1-16, the Secretary of State's Office conducted a random sample of the petition signatures and found 77.76 percent to be valid. Additional part-time staff was hired to assist with the validation process. Based on the results of the random sample, 22,558 signatures were deemed valid.

Upon the filing of an initiated measure, any citizen may challenge the Secretary of State's validation of the initiated measure under SDCL § <u>2-1-17.1</u>. Citizens challenging the validation must submit an original, signed affidavit listing out each specific deficiency to the Secretary of State's Office no more than 30 days after validation. Affidavits submitted electronically will not be accepted. For this initiated measure, the deadline to file a challenge is Wednesday, July 3, 2024, at 5:00pm central time.

More information on specific ballot questions can be found on the Secretary of State's website: https://sdsos.gov/elections-voting/upcoming-elections/general-information/2024/2024-ballot-questions.aspx.