2009 – Session of the General Assembly

Local Referendum

SB 964  Caroline County Board of Education - Election and Appointment of Members – Referendum
Chpt. 633

No 2009 legislation was successfully petitioned to referendum

2010 – Session of the General Assembly

Constitutional Amendments

SB 119  Civil Jury Trials - Amount in Controversy
Chpt. 480

HB 417  Baltimore City - Orphans' Court Judges - Qualifications
Chpt. 481
The passage of this Constitutional Amendment will require a statewide majority vote and a majority vote in Baltimore City.

Other Ballot Question

SB 26  Maryland Constitutional Convention - Sense of the Voters
Chpt. 9

No 2010 legislation was successfully petitioned to referendum

- Constitutional Amendments and Statewide Referendum – Questions originated by General Assembly legislation appear on the ballot statewide. The Secretary of State (SOS) prepares the question language as it is to appear on the ballot. The deadline for the SOS to certify the ballot language to the State Board of Elections (SBE) is the 3rd Monday in August. The language will be posted on the SBE website www.elections.state.md.us after certification.

- Local Referendums and Public Local Law Referendum - Questions originated by General Assembly legislation only appear on the ballot in that county. SBE prepares the ballot question language. The deadline for SBE to certify the ballot language to the local board of elections (LBE) is the 2nd Monday in August. The language will be posted on the SBE website after certification.

- Local Ballot Questions originated by the County. This list does not include local ballot questions that are prepared and certified by the local governments. The county attorney prepares the ballot question language. The deadline for the County Attorney to certify the ballot language to the LBE is the 3rd Monday in August. The LBE forwards the ballot language to SBE for incorporation in general election ballot development. The local ballot question language will be posted on the SBE website after certification.

- Maryland law does not provide for the Initiative process (this is the process used by the public to get questions on the ballot used in other states)

- The complete text of legislation passed by the General Assembly can be obtained from the Department of Legislative Services (DLS) website http://mlis.state.md.us. DLS is required to prepare a non-technical summary of the ballot question legislation passed by the General Assembly. The deadline for DLS to provide the summaries to SBE is the 3rd Monday in August. The summaries will be posted on the SBE website when they are provided and will provide a link to the complete text of each piece of legislation.
Additional questions regarding ballot questions should be referred to Donna Duncan or Natasha Walker at SBE.