

**STATE OF MAINE**  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

**Determination of the Validity of a Petition for Initiated Legislation Entitled:**

**“An Act to Designate School Sports Participation and Facilities by Sex”**

1. On February 2, 2026, 8,067 petition forms containing 79,692 signatures were submitted to the Secretary of State pursuant to the Constitution of Maine, Article IV, Part Third, Section 18 on behalf of the above-entitled initiated legislation.<sup>1</sup>
2. Following a review of these 8,067 petition forms, I find the following signatures to be invalid for the following reasons:
  - A. 5,066 signatures are invalid because they were not certified by the registrar as belonging to a registered voter in that municipality. (REG)
  - B. 1,651 signatures are invalid because they are duplicates of signatures already counted. (DUP)
  - C. 504 signatures are invalid because they were dated after the date that the circulator’s oath was completed in the presence of the notary or the voter’s signature was not dated and it could not be determined that the voter signed the petition before the circulator took the oath. (DATE)
  - D. 478 signatures are invalid because the circulator did not file a circulator’s affidavit at the time the petitions were filed with the Secretary of State. (AFF)
  - E. 278 signatures are invalid because the voter’s signature was crossed out on the petition form. (WD)
  - F. 233 signatures are invalid because the voter failed to provide a signature. (SIG)
  - G. 152 signatures are invalid because the circulator’s oath was not completed prior to submitting the petition to the registrar for certification. (PRIOR)
  - H. 101 signatures are invalid because the registered voter’s signature was made by another. (ANO)
  - I. 90 signatures are invalid because the circulator’s oath was not complete or not administered properly. (OATH)
  - J. 64 signatures are invalid because of material alterations to the petition. (ALT)
  - K. 29 signatures are invalid because the certification of the registrar was not completed. (CERT)

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<sup>1</sup> An additional 3 petition forms were submitted that contained only signatures that were certified as invalid by municipal registrars or included no municipal certification. The Secretary of State did not complete a full review of signatures included on these 3 petition forms and these signatures were not included in the final tally of signatures that culminated in this Determination of Validity.

- L. 9 signatures are invalid because the petition was not on the approved form. (FORM)
  - M. 4 signatures are invalid because the petition forms were received by the municipal office after the municipal filing deadline. (AMD)
3. For the reasons set forth above, on the 8,067 petition forms filed with the Secretary of State, I find that 71,033 signatures are valid and 8,659 signatures are invalid. The number of signatures required to determine the petition to be valid is 67,682. Because the number of valid signatures exceeds the required number by 3,351 signatures, I find the petition to be valid.

Dated: March 17, 2026



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Shenna Bellows  
Secretary of State