

8.01 - Methods of amending Charter.

This Charter may be amended in two (2) ways:

- (a) The commission may, by ordinance, propose amendments to any part or all of this Charter, except Article II prescribing boundaries, and upon passage of the initiating ordinance shall place the proposed amendment to a vote of the electors at the next general election held within the city or at a special election called for such purpose. Amendment of Article II resulting from annexation done in accordance with general law shall be by ordinance of the commission and shall not be subject to a vote of the electors except as provided by general law.
- (b) The electors of the city may propose amendments to this Charter for a regular election by petition signed by at least ten percent (10%) of the total number of qualified voters registered to vote in the last regular city election. Charter amendment petitions scheduled for a special election must be signed by qualified voters of the city equal in number to at least twenty percent (20%) of the total number of qualified voters registered to vote in the last regular city election.
 - (1) All papers of a petition shall be uniform in size and style and shall be assembled in one (1) instrument for filing. Each signature shall be executed in ink or indelible pencil and shall be followed by the address of the person signing. Petitions shall contain or have attached thereto throughout their circulation the full extend of the proposed charter amendment.
 - (2) Each paper of a petition shall have attached to it when filed an affidavit executed by the circulator thereof stating that he personally circulated the paper, the number of signatures thereon[,] that all the signatures were affixed in his presence, that he believes them to be the genuine signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be and that each signer had an opportunity before signing, to read the full text of the proposed charter amendment.
 - (3) Upon certification of the petition by the city clerk, such certification to include the validity of the names on the petition as qualified voters registered to vote in the last regular city election, the commission shall place the proposed amendment to a vote of the electors at the next general election held not less than sixty (60) days after certification or at a special election called for such purpose. If the petition for Charter amendment seeks a special municipal election, it shall be titled "Proposed Special Municipal Election." Immediately after the title, the petition shall state the following: "By signing this petition, I am requesting that a special election be held for this question, instead of the scheduling of this question for the next general municipal or statewide election. I understand that the additional cost to the City of Key West to hold such a special election is anticipated to be \$ insert amount], as determined by the city clerk."

(Ord. No. 98-21, § 2(Exh. A), 8-4-1998)

State Law reference— Charter amendment, F.S. § 166.031.