

CLERK FILE No. **305365**

Clerk File No. 305365, City Clerk's Report and Certificate of Sufficiency for Initiative Measure No. 77, The Espresso Tax Initiative.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Honorable Resident:

The \_\_\_\_\_  
to which was referred this file, respectfully reports that the same was considered, and the recommendation

*9/30/02 Motion by Steinman to place on agenda*

*9/15/02 Held over week*

*9-9-02 Hold 1 week*

*9-26-02 Filed*

Date Filed with Clerk

Received by

City Clerk Staff

**ACTION OF THE COUNCIL**

Referred	<b>AUG 12 2002</b>	To	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
Referred		To	
Referred		To	
Reported		Disposition	
Re-referred		To	
Reported	<b>9-26-02</b>	Disposition	<b>Filed</b>



**Legislative Department  
Office of City Clerk  
Memorandum**

**Date:** August 12, 2002  
**To:** Councilmembers  
**From:** Judith Pippin, City Clerk   
**Subject:** Certificate of Sufficiency; Petition for Initiative #77, The Espresso Tax Initiative

At 9:48 this morning I received from Bob Roegner, Manager of King County Records and Elections, a Certificate of Sufficiency for Initiative No. 77, The Espresso Tax Initiative (copy attached).

CF 305365 containing the sufficiency report, and CF 305171, the original initiative file, will be walked-on at today's Full Council meeting.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.



Room 104, Municipal Building, Seattle, Washington 98104-1392  
(206) 684-8344 Fax: (206) 386-9025 TTY: (206) 233-0025  
email: [clerk@ci.seattle.wa.us](mailto:clerk@ci.seattle.wa.us)

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CITY OF SEATTLE

2002 AUG 12 AM 9:48



King County Records, Elections, and Licensing Services Division  
CITY CLERK

## King County Elections

# PETITION CERTIFICATION

*THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the citizen petition for City of Seattle Initiative No. 77, submitted on July 30, 31, and August 8, 2002, to the King County Elections Section, which concerns a proposed City of Seattle tax on espresso beverages for the purpose of funding childcare programs, has been examined, the signatures thereon carefully compared with the voter registration records of the King County Records and Elections Division, and as a result of such examination, found to be sufficient under the voter registration provisions of the Revised Code of Washington and City of Seattle Charter, Article IV, Section 1.B.*

*Dated this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2002.*

Bob Roegner, Manager

Julie Anne Kempf, Superintendent





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CITY OF SEATTLE

King County Records, Elections, and Licensing Services **2002 AUG 2 AM 9:48**

**Elections Section**

553 King County Administration Building  
500 Fourth Avenue, Seattle, WA 98104  
Telephone: (206) 296-1565 Fax: (206) 296-0108

**CITY CLERK**

August 9, 2002

Ms. Judith Pippin  
City Clerk, City of Seattle  
Room 104, Municipal Building  
Seattle, WA 98104-1892

*VIA HAND DELIVERY & U.S. Mail*

RE: Seattle Initiative No. 77 - Insufficiency found - Batch no. 2

Dear Ms. Pippin:

The King County Elections Office has found Initiative 77, an initiative which concerns a tax on espresso beverages sold within the City of Seattle for the purpose of funding childcare, insufficient as of this date, August 9, 2002. This petition required the submission of 17,228 valid signatures for certification.

A total of 18,489 signatures were found on the petitions pages submitted this office. 3,676 were processed, and 1,395 signatures were ruled invalid. As the invalidation of these 1,395 signatures brought the total number of available signatures down to 17,094, it is mathematically impossible for Initiative 77 to be found sufficient within Batch No. 2.

Accordingly, the petition is determined to be insufficient.

I am aware of city code which places differing forwarding requirements on your office based upon the batch in which the petition is found sufficient, in cases of City of Seattle initiatives submitted to your office in multiple batches. However, as the petition was found to be insufficient in its entirety on the basis of Batch No. 2, mathematically, the validating signature cannot be found in Batch Nos. 1 or 2.

As we have received from your office, Batch No. 3 of signatures presented for Initiative No. 77, we will resume the signature verification process.

As always, I thank you and your staff for your cooperation during the petition season.

Sincerely,

Julie Anne Kempf  
Superintendent of Elections

CC: Bob Roegner, Records and Elections Manager  
Nicole Way, acting Petition and Mail Ballot Supervisor



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CITY OF SEATTLE

King County Records, Elections, and Licensing Services **2002 AUG 12 AM 9:48**

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**CITY CLERK**

August 12, 2002

Ms. Judith Pippin  
City Clerk, City of Seattle  
Room 104, Municipal Building  
Seattle, WA 98104-1892

**VIA HAND DELIVERY & U.S. Mail**

RE: Seattle Initiative No. 77 – Transmittal of Sufficiency Certificate

Dear Ms. Pippin:

Enclosed please find the King County Records and Elections Division Manager's Certificate of Sufficiency for City of Seattle Initiative No. 77, an initiative which concerns a tax on espresso beverages sold within the City of Seattle for the purpose of funding childcare. This petition required the submission of 17,228 valid signatures for certification.

I am aware of city code which places differing forwarding requirements on your office based upon the batch in which the petition is found sufficient, in cases of City of Seattle initiatives submitted to your office in multiple batches.

I am therefore also providing the following information: Initiative No. 77 was found to be insufficient within batches No. 1 and No. 2, submitted on July 30, 2002, and July 31, 2002, respectively. Sufficiency for Seattle Initiative No. 77 was achieved on Batch No. 3, submitted to our office on August 8, 2002. Calculations demonstrating this determination appear below.

***Discussion of Methodology:***

To speed up the processing of large citizen petitions, such as those for the City of Seattle, our office began utilizing random statistical sampling methodology for petition checking last year, with tremendous success. To calculate sufficiency from the random sample chosen, we have utilized the same calculations as authorized for state initiatives by RCW 29.79.200 and WAC 434-379-010.

A municipal petition may be certified sufficient based upon statistical sampling, but may not be found insufficient by such means. As the petition was found insufficient by sampling, as occurred with the first two batches, our office commenced canvassing the entire petition to



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determine sufficiency or insufficiency. With the arrival of the third batch of signatures, the statistical sample method was again attempted, and was successful, in showing sufficiency.

**Calculations:**

The information following shows actual statistical calculations performed in the sampling. These data are provided for your information, and for explanation to any members of the public who may have an interest in this process.

The petitioner(s) filed the signatures with your office in three different batches on the following dates:

Batch Number	Date Filed with Seattle	Date filed by Seattle with KC Elections	Pages	# of Signatures inventoried by KC
Batch # 1	7/30/02	7/30/02	924	17,239
Batch # 2	7/30/02	7/31/02	106	1,250
Batch # 3	8/07/02	8/08/01	856	11,321
<b>Total signatures:</b>				<b>29,810</b>

Total number of signatures in random sample: 5,469 signatures (18.34% of petition)

Total number of valid signatures in random sample: 3,543 signatures (64.78% of sample)

Total number of invalid signatures in random sample: 1,926 signatures (35.21% of sample)

Rejection of signatures within the statistical sample comprised of all three batches occurred for a variety of reasons of law:

Voter not registered in the City of Seattle:	343 signatures	6.27% of total sample
Voter not registered at all in King County:	1,068 signatures	19.53% of total sample
Illegible entry or fictitious (i.e. Spider Man, Betty Boop):	130 entries	2.37% of total sample
Incomplete entry (i.e no address, name only, no date signed)	35 entries	0.64% of total sample
Entry damaged beyond legibility - Blacked Out	306 entries	0.55% of total sample
Common name/no match at address/no sig match for name:	12 signatures	0.21% of total sample
Non-matching sig with no name match at address	9 signatures	0.16% of total sample
Duplicate (two or more signatures from same signer)	23 sigs/ 10 pair/ 1 triple	0.42% of total sample

**Batch No. 1:**

Batch No. 1, submitted on July 30, 2002, contained just 17,239 signatures. This batch was insufficient after the processing of just 60 signatures, that is, after 60 signatures were processed, 15 were ruled invalid, and the petition no longer contained enough signatures for there to be any mathematical possibility of reaching sufficiency.



**Batch No. 2:**

When Batch No. 2, submitted on July 31, 2002, was added to Batch No. 1, a total number of signatures submitted of 18,489 was achieved. This batch was insufficient after the processing of 3,676 signatures. With 3,676 signatures processed, 1,395 were ruled invalid, and the petition no longer contained enough signatures for there to be any mathematical possibility of reaching sufficiency.

**Batch No. 3:**

Batch No. 3, containing an additional 11,321 signatures, for a total of 29,810 signatures on the petition, was submitted on August 8, 2002. Due to the size of this batch, it became possible that once a statistical sample was tested of this batch, the petition would be sufficient. Thus, the following statistical calculations, identical to those used by the Office of the Secretary of State for statewide initiatives, were performed in the interest of due diligence:

**WAC 434-379-010 Random sampling procedure.** In the verification of signatures on initiative and referendum petitions...the following statistical test may be employed:

- (1) Take an unrestricted random sample of the signatures submitted;  
**5,469 signatures; 18.34% of total petition**
  
- (2) Check each signature sampled to determine the number of valid signatures in the sample, the number of signatures in the sample which are invalid because the individual signing is not registered or the signature is improper in form, and the number of signatures which are duplicated in the sample;  
**Of 5,469 signatures, 3,543 were found valid, 1,926 invalid.  
Ten pairs and one triple (duplicate signatures of same voter) was found.**
  
- (3) Calculate an allowance for the chance error of sampling by multiplying the square root of the number of invalid signatures in the sample by 1.5;  
**square root of 1,926 = 43.89  
43.89 x 1.5 = 65.84 (round up to 66)**
  
- (4) Estimate the upper limit of the number of signatures in the population which are invalid by dividing the sum of the invalid signatures in the sample and the allowance for the chance error of sampling by the sampling ratio, i.e. the number of signatures sampled divided by the number of signatures submitted;  
**sum of invalid sigs in sample (1,926) + allowance for chance error (66) = 1,992  
sigs sampled (5,469) divided by submitted sigs (29,810) = sampling ratio of .1834  
1,992 divided by (sampling ratio, when ratio = .1834) = 10,862 expected invalid sigs**

(5) Determine the maximum allowable number of pairs of signatures in the population by subtracting the sum of the number of signatures required... and the estimate of the upper limit of the number of invalid signatures in the population from the number of signatures submitted;  
**Signatures required (17,228) + Expected invalid with margin for error (10,862) = 28,090**  
**Total signatures submitted (29,810) - 28,090 = 1,720 allowable pairs**

(6) Determine the expected number of pairs of signatures in the sample by multiplying the square of the sampling ratio by the maximum allowable number of pairs of signatures in the population;  
**sampling ratio = .1834**  
**square of sampling ratio = .0336**  
**1,720 x .0336 = 57.79 expected pairs in sample**

(7) Determine the acceptable number of pairs of signatures in the sample by subtracting 1.65 times the square root of the expected number of pairs of signatures in the sample from the expected number of pairs of signatures in the sample;  
**expected number of pairs = 57.79**  
**square root of expected number of pairs = 7.60**  
**7.60 x 1.65 = 12.54**  
**57.79 - 12.54 = 45.25 allowable pairs in sample**

(8) If the number of pairs of signatures in the sample is greater than the acceptable number of pairs of signatures in the sample, each signature shall be canvassed to determine the exact number of valid signatures;

**acceptable pairs = 45.25**  
**pairs found in sample = 10 pairs, 1 triple**

(9) If the number of pairs of signatures in the sample is less than the acceptable number of pairs of signatures in the sample, the petition shall be deemed to contain sufficient signatures and the serial number and ballot title shall be certified....

**45.25 is greater than 11,**  
**and enough otherwise valid signatures (18,948) are statistically shown to exist,**  
**thus the petition is deemed sufficient.**

**Conclusion:**

Thus, the petition for Seattle Initiative ~~63~~<sup>11</sup> is found to be sufficient on Batch No. 3, submitted on August 8, 2002.

As always, I thank you and your team in the City Clerk's office for your support and cooperation on this petition validation process, and I look forward to working again with you soon.

Judith Pippin -- City of Seattle I-77  
August 12, 2002  
Page 5

Please do not hesitate to contact me personally if my office may be of any assistance or provide any information relating to the sufficiency of this petition.

Sincerely,



Julie Anne Kempf  
Superintendent of Elections

cc: Bob Roegner, Manager, Records, Elections, and Licensing Services Division  
Julie Moore, Assistant Superintendent for Election Operations  
Lisa Moore, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Voter Registration  
Nicole Way, Acting Mail Ballot and Petition Supervisor

enclosure



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**Addition to Clerk File 305365**

**AN ORDER OF THE DIRECTOR  
RECORDS, ELECTIONS AND LICENSING SERVICES DIVISION  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council of The City of Seattle, King County, Washington, did present on July 30, 2003, Initiative No. 77 dated October 2, 2002 wherein they direct that a Special Election be held pursuant to RCW 29.13.020 for submission to the qualified voters of said jurisdiction, a proposition for their consideration; and

**WHEREAS**, said governing body states that an emergency exists and, accordingly, requests that the Special Election be held September 16, 2003 in conjunction with the Primary; and

**WHEREAS**, the request is found to be in compliance with the pertinent statutes governing special elections;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED** by the Director, King County Records, Elections and Licensing Services Division, as ex-officio supervisor of elections, having deemed that an emergency exists, that a Special Election shall be held in The City of Seattle on September 16, 2003, said election to be conducted at the prescribed polling places for the purpose of submitting to the qualified voters of said jurisdiction the following ballot measure:

**THE CITY OF SEATTLE  
INITIATIVE NO. 77**

Initiative Measure Number 77 concerns funding childcare and early learning through an espresso beverage tax.

The measure would fund qualifying pre-kindergarten programs, grants to qualifying families, and education-based compensation increases for childcare and early learning providers by imposing on businesses that prepare and sell espresso beverages in Seattle a tax in the amount of ten cents on each such sale. The measure establishes an oversight committee and requires that tax revenues not replace existing funding for these services and that the City continue to fund these services at 2002 levels, adjusted for inflation.

Should this measure be enacted into law?

YES

NO

The foregoing ballot title has been certified in accordance with RCW 29.27.065.

**DATED** at Seattle, Washington, this 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2003.

  
Interim Director, Records, Elections and  
Licensing Services Division, King County

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