



SCHEEREN DEDMAN
OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

Via E-Mail: tiffani@houseourneighbors.org

February 21, 2024

Attn: Tiffani McCoy
House Our Neighbors!
600 1st Ave. Suite 531
Seattle, WA 98104

SUBJECT: *Ballot Title of Proposed Initiative Measure No. 137*
In re: an act to levy an excess compensation payroll expense tax to fund the
Seattle Social Housing Developer.

Dear Tiffani:

Please be advised the ballot title for proposed Initiative Measure No. 137, filed on Tuesday, February 13, 2024, has been prepared by the City Attorney's Office in accordance with SMC 2.08.020 and RCW 29A.36.071. The title reads as follows:

THE CITY OF SEATTLE
INITIATIVE MEASURE NUMBER 137

City of Seattle Initiative Measure 137 concerns a payroll expense tax to fund the Social Housing Developer.

This measure would impose a tax on payroll expenses for employers doing business in Seattle. The tax rate would be 5% on annual compensation above \$1,000,000 paid in Seattle to any employee. Proceeds would support the Social Housing Developer, a public development authority created to develop, own, and maintain social housing in Seattle. The tax imposed would be in addition to the City's payroll expense tax levied under Seattle Municipal Code Chapter 5.38.

Should this measure be approved?

Yes _____

No _____

[End of Title]

The initiative process is outlined in Article IV, Section 1 of the City Charter; Seattle Municipal Code Section 2.08; and the Revised Code of Washington Sections 29A.36.071, 29A.36.080 and 29A.36.090. Please be advised, the signed petitions for Initiative Measure No. 137 must be filed with the City Clerk within 180 days from approval notification (Monday, August 19, 2024). The number of signatures required shall be equal to or not less than ten percent of the total number of votes cast for the office of Mayor at the last preceding municipal election (2021). The minimum number of resident registered voter signatures required is 26,521. Once the petitions are filed, the appropriate documentation and petition signatures will be processed and transmitted to the King County Elections Department for verification of the sufficiency of signatures in accordance with state law. If the King County Elections Department determines there are insufficient verified signatures, an additional 20-day period shall be allowed.

Should you have any questions regarding the process, or the information contained herein, please contact me at 206-684-8361 or by email at scheereen.dedman@seattle.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scheereen Dedman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scheereen Dedman
City Clerk

cc: Mayor Bruce Harrell
City Councilmembers
Wayne Barnett, Executive Director, Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission
Scott Lindsay, City Attorney's Office
Gary Smith, City Attorney's Office
Ben Noble, Director, Council Central Staff
Aly Pennucci, Deputy Director, Council Central Staff
Lauren Henry, Legislative Legal Counsel