



SCHEEREN DEDMAN  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK**  
LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT

*Via E-Mail: [tiffani@houseourneighbors.org](mailto:tiffani@houseourneighbors.org)*

February 21, 2024

Julie Wise, Director  
King County Elections  
919 Southwest Grady Way  
Renton, WA 98057-2906

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 Ms. Wise,

Please be advised that the proposed subject initiative petition was filed with my office on Tuesday, February 13, 2024. This initiative petition has been designated Initiative Measure No. 137, and is regarding *an act to levy an excess compensation payroll expense tax to fund the Seattle Social Housing Developer.*

The ballot title has been prepared by the Seattle 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 proponent of the initiative has been informed that the minimum number of resident registered voter signatures required is 26,521; and that signed petitions for Initiative Measure No. 137 must be filed with the City Clerk within 180 days (Monday, August 19, 2024) from approval notification in accordance with the guidelines provided, for subsequent submittal to your office for verification of sufficiency of signatures.

The proponent has also been informed that King County typically requires four to six weeks to complete signature verifications.

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](mailto: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:     Wayne Barnett, Executive Director, Seattle Ethics and Elections Commission  
       Gary Smith, City Attorney's Office  
       Lauren Henry, Legislative Legal Counsel