



Michael Rogers  
*Oklahoma Secretary of State and Education*

March 18, 2020

Citizens of Oklahoma,

During the statewide COVID-19 emergency, Governor Stitt has given my office approval to toll the 90-day circulation period for initiative petitions imposed by 34 O.S. §§ 4, 8(E), in order to best protect the public health. See 63 O.S. § 683.9. Once the declaration of emergency is lifted by the Governor, the period will resume, and a new deadline will be calculated. Petitions submitted at or before this new deadline, assuming they meet all other legal requirements, will be deemed by the Secretary of State as in substantial compliance with statutory procedural requirements and in conformity with the end aimed at by state laws relating to both initiatives and emergencies. See 34 O.S. § 24; Okla. A.G. Op. 1976-195.

Oklahomans are encouraged to limit their social interactions and stay home for the duration of this state of emergency. As such, signature-gathering activities should halt immediately until the declaration of emergency is affirmatively withdrawn.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Michael Rogers

Oklahoma Secretary of State

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA

IN RE: STATE QUESTION NO. 805, )  
INITIATIVE PETITION NO. 421. )

THEODIS MANNING and )  
GENE RAINBOLT, )

Petitioners/Proponents, )

v. )

MICHAEL ROGERS, in his )  
capacity as OKLAHOMA )  
SECRETARY OF STATE, )

Respondent. )

**FILED**  
SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF OKLAHOMA

MAR 18 2020

JOHN D. HADDEN  
CLERK

No. 118,719

ORDER

As a result of the Secretary of State's March 18, 2020 letter informing all citizens that the 90-day circulation period for initiative petitions is tolled during the declaration of emergency by the Oklahoma Governor, Petitioners' Emergency Application to Assume Original Jurisdiction is moot. State Question 805, Initiative Petition 421's statutory signature-gathering deadline of 34 O.S. Supp. 2015, § 8(E) is tolled until the Governor lifts the declared state of emergency and the Secretary of State calculates a new deadline.

DONE BY ORDER OF THE SUPREME COURT THIS 18<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MARCH,  
2020.



CHIEF JUSTICE

**RECEIVED**

MAR 18 2020

OKLAHOMA SECRETARY  
OF STATE