



FOR RELEASE
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**Vote NO Advocate Seeks Urgent Court Review
of Initiative 83 Approval for November Ballot**

*Mid-Sept. Printing Deadline Approaching
BOE Has Not Issued Written Order Explaining Action*

Deirdre Brown, Chair of Vote NO on Initiative 83, asked the D.C. Court of Appeals for expedited review of the D.C. Board of Elections' (BOE) certification of Initiative 83 for the November ballot. The motion seeks a ruling before mid-September, when the ballots are scheduled to be printed. If a decision cannot be made in time, the request is to prevent Initiative 83 from appearing on the ballot (Case #24-AA-0720).

"To date, the BOE has not issued a written Administrative Order explaining the legal basis for its ruling approving I83 for the ballot," said Brown. "The public, the court, and our campaign need to understand the BOE's rationale, especially concerning the handling of the petition pages by I83 circulators, including the use of Wite-out and holding pages up to the light to verify signers' intent, procedures that seem to lack legal standards."

Brown further stated, "If the Court cannot reach a decision before the ballots are sent to print in mid-September, Initiative 83 should be excluded from the November ballot. Voters in the District deserve assurance that the BOE's procedures for approving initiatives are fair and not arbitrary."

I83 would bring ranked choice voting and partially open primaries to District elections.

Last Fall, the D.C. Democratic Party filed a lawsuit in opposition to I83 being approved as proper subject matter by BOE. This is a separate case that is before the D.C. Court of Appeals.

Paid for by Vote No on Initiative 83 | Neena Murphy Martin, Treasurer | Deirdre Brown, Chair | 14 Ridge Square, NW, 3rd Floor, Washington, DC 20016. A copy of our report is filed with the Director of Campaign Finance of the District of Columbia Board of Elections.