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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

City of Burien Receives Petition Asking to Repeal Ordinance No. 651

Ordinance 651 Directs City of Burien Staff and Law Enforcement Personnel to Not Inquire about Immigration Status or Religious Affiliation

Burien, WA., July 11, 2017—On July 7, 2017, the City of Burien received an initiative petition asking to place on a ballot the repeal of Burien [Ordinance No. 651](#). The “immigration status ordinance” directs Burien City staff and law enforcement personnel to not inquire about immigration status or religious affiliation. The petition asks that an ordinance repealing Ordinance 651 be submitted to a vote of the registered voters of the City of Burien.

The Burien City Clerk received the signed petitions by appointment on Friday, July 7. Following RCW 35A.01.040(4), the City Clerk delivered the signed petitions to King County Elections on July 11, 2017. Washington state law requires petitions be delivered within 3 business days of receipt.

King County Elections will have the signatures counted no later than July 14, 2017.

According to RCW 35A.11.100, petitions for initiatives must be signed by at least 15 percent of the total number of registered voters within the City on the day of the last preceding City general election. Burien had 24,291 active registered voters according to the 2015 General Election validation summary report. A total of 3,643 valid signatures of City of Burien registered voters are needed to meet the sufficiency requirement of the law.

If there are enough valid signatures, then the County certifies the petition. After certification, the Burien City Council must take one of two actions: either pass the proposed ordinance without any alteration within 20 days of the receipt of certificate or immediately pass a resolution directing the County to place the proposed ordinance on the next general election date (November 7, 2017). The cost of adding this to the general election ballot is paid by the City of Burien.

If the petition is not certified, the petitioners have 10 days from the date of the certification decision to gather and transmit additional signatures.

More information about Ordinance 651

- [Ordinance 651: An ordinance of the City of Burien, Washington, adding a Chapter 2.26 to the Burien Municipal Code relating to ascertaining immigration status or religion as it relates to the public health and safety of the residents of the city of Burien](#)
- [Immigration Status Ordinance: Working to Build Trust between the City, Police, and Community \(Burien Magazine, Spring 2017\) \(English and Spanish\)](#)

- [City of Burien Ordinance Works to Build Trust among the City, Police, and Community: Statement on the City of Burien's Immigration Status Ordinance No. 651 and President Trump's Executive Order: Enhancing Public Safety in the Interior of the United States \(Press Release\)](#)
- [Letter from Monica Lusk, City Clerk to Julie Wise, Director, King County Records and Elections regarding Burien Initiative No. 1 to Repeal City of Burien Ordinance 651](#)
- [Letter from Craig Keller, co-founder, Respect Washington regarding delivery of petitions to Burien City Hall](#)

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