



Atkinson, Shawna <shawna.atkinson@abilenetx.gov>

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## Re: petition to designate abilene sanctuary city

1 message

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Lynn Reed

Wed, Dec 8, 2021 at 4:35 PM

To: "Atkinson, Shawna" <shawna.atkinson@abilenetx.gov>

Thanks, Shawna!

On Wed, Dec 8, 2021 at 4:13 PM Atkinson, Shawna <shawna.atkinson@abilenetx.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon Mr. Reed,

Mayor Williams forwarded your email to me.

I'm not sure where the 7,000 number is coming from. The City of Abilene Charter requires a petition to have 10% of the qualified voters from the last municipal election sign. The last election had **64,289 voters**.

Therefore the total required signatures would be 6,429 signatures. There is no specific time frame for them to get signatures though. The only deadlines kick in after they turn the petition into my office. I have 20 days to verify signatures at that point. There are also deadlines for it to be presented to Council after that date, and then if Council votes to not pass the ordinance, there would be deadlines regarding a special election. All of that would depend on when they turn the petition in though.

If this all came to pass and the election was in the affirmative, yes, there would then be an ordinance declaring Abilene a sanctuary city for the unborn.

Hopefully that answers your questions. Feel free to let me know if you need additional information.

Thanks,

On Wed, Dec 8, 2021 at 11:27 AM Williams, Anthony <anthony.williams@abilenetx.gov> wrote:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Lynn Reed**

Date: Wed, Dec 8, 2021 at 10:06 AM

Subject: petition to designate abilene sanctuary city

To: <anthony.williams@abilenetx.gov>

CC: 1>

Good morning, Mayor Williams!

This is Jerry Reed, long-since retired news reporter.

I have a question regarding a current petition drive to designate Abilene a sanctuary city for the unborn.

What I've heard is that this campaign requires 7,000 signatures to put the issue on the ballot for the citizens to decide.

Can you tell me what the 7,000 figure is based on?

Is there a specific time frame in which the proponents have to collect the signatures?

When would such a referendum be held? I would expect that it would not be a stand-alone election, but would piggyback on another already-scheduled regular election, to save money.

Would passage create a city ordinance that  
makes Abilene a sanctuary city?

Just asking for myself, out of curiosity.

Thanks!

Best,

Jerry Reed



**Shawna**

**Atkinson, TRMC, CMC**  
City Secretary,

City of Abilene  
555 Walnut,

Abilene TX 79601  
P.O. Box 60,

Abilene, TX 79604  
abilenetx.gov | shawna.  
atkinson@abilenetx.gov

2/18/22, 11:12 AM

City of Abilene Mail - Re: petition to designate abilene sanctuary city

325-676-6202

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