

## UPDATE: "AXE THE TAX" Petition

This morning, August 26, the Secretary of State's Office issued a press release stating that the verification count on the Axe the Tax petition fell short by 4,548 signatures. To qualify for the November ballot, the petition had to had 51,337 qualified signatures. The new total, 46,789 signatures, turned in by the County Clerks represented an additional loss of 2,418 from the original sampling that found 2,130 invalid signatures. (Please see following Press Release from the Secretary of State's office for details.)

However, as Yogi Berra so artfully stated: *"It ain't over 'till it's over!"* Our Court case is far from being moot with this latest recount. Nevadans for Sound Government have indicated they are filing an amicus brief in support of the Marijuana petition case currently before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals.

Our lawsuit, which was filed in Carson District Court and is scheduled for hearing at 9:00 a.m. this coming Monday, August 30th, is going forward. The Constitutional issues raised in the brief still need to be addressed by the Court.

Note: To access information, including motions and briefs about the lawsuit filed by Attorney Thomas "Spike" Wilson on behalf of NTA, the Nevada Motor Transport Association, the Reno-Sparks Chamber of Commerce, John R. Gibson and Fred D. Gibson, Jr., please visit "What's New" on our website: [www.nevadataxpayers.org](http://www.nevadataxpayers.org) .

---

Press Release Issued by the Secretary of State's Office on August 27, 2004.

### **Axe the Tax Fails**

**After full verification, petition actually loses an additional 2,418 signatures; fails by 4,548**

**Carson City**—Secretary of State Dean Heller announced today that following the conclusion of an examination of all signatures affixed to the Axe the Tax referendum petition it failed to garner the necessary number of statewide signatures to qualify for the 2004 General Election ballot. The Axe the Tax petition ended up with 46,789 valid signatures. A total of 51,337 valid signatures were needed to qualify for the ballot.

On August 10, under language contained in Nevada Revised Statutes 293.1279, Heller made the decision to take the pro-active step of ordering the County Clerks/Registrars of Voters to immediately begin to check every signature attached to the petition after the initial total number of valid signatures affixed to the petition failed to meet the 51,337 total, but did fall in the 90-100% range. The Axe the Tax referendum petition initially received a statewide count of 49,207 valid signatures.

Counties that by law did not have to verify all signatures affixed to the petitions originally (a total of less than 500 valid signatures needed) were not required to re-verify each signature as all were reviewed previously. Only counties that required more than 500 signatures were ordered to review all signatures. Those counties include Carson City, Churchill, Clark, Douglas, Elko, Lyon, Nye and Washoe.

The following is a breakdown of the county-by-county original count and the count following the full signature verification process (in **BOLD**). Those counties without a second number in **BOLD** were not required to perform the review of all signatures (as explained previously):

**Axe the Tax**

Carson City 818/ <b>821</b>	Churchill 911/ <b>878</b>	Clark 34,876/ <b>33,279</b>	Douglas 1117/ <b>1113</b>	Elko 1393/ <b>1388</b>	Esmeralda 80	Eureka 99	
Humboldt 453/ <b>474</b>	Lander 293	Lincoln 322	Lyon 805/ <b>896</b>	Mineral 284	Nye 1160/ <b>1198</b>	Pershing 209	Storey 250
Washoe 5722/ <b>4790</b>	White Pine 415						

ORIGINAL TOTAL: 49,207; **REVISED TOTAL: 46,789**

##END##

**2002 GENERAL ELECTION  
VOTER TURNOUT**

**(for use in statewide petitions and county referendum petitions)  
(Amended May 14, 2004)**

<i>COUNTIES</i>	TOTAL REGISTRATION	TOTAL VOTER TURNOUT	10% OF VOTER TURNOUT*
<b>Carson</b>	22,642	17,509	1,751
<b>Churchill</b>	12,493	7,425	742
<b>Clark</b>	547,758	313,605	31,360
<b>Douglas</b>	23,446	17,059	1,706
<b>Elko</b>	17,396	11,136	1,114
<b>Esmeralda</b>	598	454	45
<b>Eureka</b>	900	731	73
<b>Humboldt</b>	5,751	4,369	437
<b>Lander</b>	2,411	1,872	187
<b>Lincoln</b>	2,732	1,778	178
<b>Lyon</b>	18,979	11,106	1,111
<b>Mineral</b>	2,864	2,046	205
<b>Nye</b>	17,412	10,908	1,091
<b>Pershing</b>	2,205	1,686	169
<b>Storey</b>	2,232	1,670	167
<b>Washoe</b>	185,404	106,952	10,695
<b>White Pine</b>	4,636	3,064	306
<b>Totals</b>	<b>869,859</b>	<b>513,370</b>	<b>51,337</b>

\*Number of signatures required in each county and statewide