

AME Marriage Equality Petition - Volunteer Information

(scroll down for a downloadable copy of the petition)

We appreciate your role assisting with the collection of supporter's signatures for the Victorian AME Marriage Equality Petition requesting the Victorian Government to pass a new law allowing same sex couples to marry.

There are strict requirements for presenting a petition to Government. Can you please read the information below to ensure that your petition sheets are valid when we submit them in the 1st half of 2013.

Resources

You will need:

- Blank AME Marriage Equality Petition sheets (these can be printed from AMEpetition.pdf or photocopied from an existing copy of the petition)
FYI: there are 20 spaces per sheet: 5 sheets = 100 signatures
- Clipboards
- Pens (suggest 3 pens per clipboard as spares)
- Addressed stamped envelope for return posting
- Enthusiasm & motivation to seek supporters

Collecting signatures

As you talk with each person/group either read or suggest they read the petition content then to make sure the signatures you collect are valid:

- Get each person to add their
 - Name
 - Signature
 - Address(only Victorian addresses are acceptable, other signatures are not valid and will not be counted)
- Only collect handwritten original signatures (not photocopies or scanned signatures)
- Please be respectful even if you face negative comment (The reasons for Marriage Equality stated in the petition, we think, speak for themselves) & do not allow anyone to sign for someone else, unless the other person is incapable of signing and agrees
- Ensure people sign our AME Petition sheets not blank pages (it must have the text of our petition at the top...If you run out of room on the front of a petition page, you can continue recording signatures on the back)

Returning the Petition to AME

Please return the signed sheets by or before February 5th 2013:

- Mail to:
PO Box 528
Clifton Hill VIC 3068
- Petitions are not valid when emailed, scanned or faxed

Please contact Chris via mobile 0412551946 or email ccooke@optusnet.com.au if you would like any further information.

Thank you!

To the Legislative Council of Victoria

The Petition of the residents of Victoria draws to the attention of the House that same-sex couples should be able to marry. This reform is required so as to:

- Remove legally-entrenched discrimination and take an important step towards full equality
- Reinforce marriage's core values of commitment and fidelity rather than defining marriage by whom it excludes
- Affirm that same-sex relationships can be as loving and committed as heterosexual relationships
- Strengthen relationships and bring families closer together
- Protect children being raised by same-sex couples by allowing them the opportunity of having married parents
- Help remove stigma against same-sex attracted people and their children and improve their mental health outcomes
- Provide an economic boost for the state economy through the wedding spend of same-sex couples

This reform has not diminished or changed the fundamental meaning of marriage, harmed children or threatened religious freedoms anywhere that it has already been enacted.

The Petitioners therefore request that the Legislative Council of Victoria pass a law which allows same-sex couples to marry.

[illegible]