

**LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES
MINI-CONFERENCE**

**INITIATIVE AND
REFERENDUM IN
NEW JERSEY
LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

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“The referendum power ... is an exercise in democracy that profoundly affects the relationship between the citizens and their government by affording the people the last word if they choose to take a stand against the wisdom of an ordinance that the government has enacted.”

In re Petition for Referendum on City of Trenton Ordinance 09-02, 201 N.J. 349 (2010)

REFERENDUM


PERMITTED	Faulkner Act	Home Rule Act	Commission Form of Government /Walsh Act	Municipal Public Utility Sale/Lease (alternative process when emergency circumstances exist)
NOT PERMITTED	Local Redevelopment and Housing Law	Refunding Bond Ordinance		
REQUIRED	Type II School Districts – Bond Authorization	Municipal Public Utilities (without emergency circumstances)		

INITIATIVE

PERMITTED	Faulkner Act	Walsh Act
NOT PERMITTED	Home Rule Act	
REQUIRED	N/A	

CHANGE FORM OF GOVERNMENT

Faulkner Act

- Charter Commission Method
 - Direct Petition
 - Amending Charter
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CASE STUDIES



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