



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Third Budget-Related Initiative Enters Circulation

State Budget. Penalties for Governor and Legislature if Budget Deadlines not Met. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

The Attorney General prepares the legal title and summary that is required to appear on initiative petitions. When the official language is complete, the Attorney General forwards it to the proponent and to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponent and to county elections officials, and the initiative may be circulated for signatures. The Attorney General's official title and summary for the measure is as follows:

STATE BUDGET. PENALTIES FOR GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATURE IF BUDGET DEADLINES NOT MET. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Provides that the Governor and Legislature will be automatically removed from office if the Legislature fails to approve budget by June 15th or the Governor fails to sign a budget by June 30th. Requires that 25% of the salaries owed to the Governor and each Legislative member be withheld until a budget is completed for following year. Prohibits officials removed from office for failure to pass a budget from being elected or appointed to state office for two years following removal. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Increase in state and local election costs in any year in which the Governor and all 120 members of the Legislature are terminated when the budget process is not completed on time. These costs could potentially exceed \$100 million in any such year. Unknown state fiscal impacts from changes in the content of the annual budget as a result of the measure's provisions related to a late budget. (09-0001.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1354 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0001.

The proponent for this measure, Bradley Philip Morisoli, must collect signatures of 694,354 registered voters – the number equal to 8% of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by July 27, 2009.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (925) 766-0673.

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