



# DEBRA BOWEN

**CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE**

**NEWS RELEASE**

DB09:032

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 17, 2009

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## Two Voting-Related Initiatives Enter Circulation

**SACRAMENTO** – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponents of two new initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for their measures.

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 proponents and to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponents and to county elections officials, and the initiative may be circulated for signatures. The Attorney General's official title and summary for the first measure is as follows:

**LIMITS ON VOTING. INITIATIVE STATUTE.** Prohibits citizens from voting at the polls unless they present a government-issued photo-identification card. Establishes provisional voting for citizens at the polls who fail to present government-issued photo-identification. Requires that provisional ballots and mail-in ballots be deemed invalid unless the accompanying envelope is marked with the last four digits of a citizen's California driver's license, state identification card or social security number. Eliminates the right to vote for citizens on probation for a felony offense. Establishes that ballots from absent military personnel are timely if postmarked by election day. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Some increased government costs associated with voting in elections. These costs probably would not be significant. (09-0007.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1361 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0007.

The Attorney General's official title and summary for the second measure is as follows:

**LIMITS ON VOTING. INITIATIVE STATUTE.** Prohibits citizens from voting at the polls unless they present a government-issued photo-identification card. Establishes provisional voting for citizens at the polls who fail to present government-issued photo-identification. Requires that provisional ballots and mail-in ballots be deemed invalid unless the accompanying envelope is marked with the last four digits of a citizen's California driver's license, state identification card or social security number. Establishes that ballots from absent military personnel are timely if postmarked by election day. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Some increased government costs associated with voting in elections. These costs probably would not be significant. (09-0008.)

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The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1362 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0008.

The proponents for these measures, George C. Runner, Jr., and Charles H. Bell, Jr., must collect signatures of 433,971 registered voters – the number equal to 5% of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – for each measure in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponents have 150 days to circulate petitions for each of these measures, meaning the signatures must be collected by November 13, 2009.

The initiative proponents can be reached at (916) 442-7757.

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