



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Requirement for Legislators to Certify That They Understand Legislation and Have Not Accepted a Bribe or Engaged in Illegal Vote Swapping. 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:

REQUIREMENT FOR LEGISLATORS TO CERTIFY THAT THEY UNDERSTAND LEGISLATION AND HAVE NOT ACCEPTED A BRIBE OR ENGAGED IN ILLEGAL VOTE SWAPPING. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Prohibits legislators from voting in support of legislation unless they certify under penalty of perjury that they have read and understood the legislation and execute a statement regarding their duties to the People. Prohibits legislators from voting on legislation unless they certify under penalty of perjury that they have not received a bribe or engaged in illegal vote swapping. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Probably no net increase in state costs. (09-0012.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1368 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0012.

The proponent for this measure, Jerrol LeBaron, 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 December 14, 2009.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (818) 273-8164.

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