



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Part-Time Legislature Initiative Enters Circulation

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

REDUCES LEGISLATIVE SESSION AND PAY BY AT LEAST 50%. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Reduces the Legislature's regular session by more than 50% to no more than ninety-five days. Directs the Legislature to convene in January for up to thirty days and again in May for up to sixty days. Allows the Legislature to reconvene for up to five additional days to reconsider bills vetoed by the Governor. Requires that legislators' salaries be cut by at least 50%, regardless of the amount of work legislators perform. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Potential reduction in state costs of tens of millions of dollars per year, including over \$5.7 million in reduced annual costs for legislator salaries. Actual reduction, if any, would depend on future actions of the Legislature and the Governor. (09-0031.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1382 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0031.

The proponent for this measure, Gabriella Holt, 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 March 29, 2010.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (916) 648-1222.

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