



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

BM06:086

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Friday, June 23, 2006

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## **Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Certifies Initiative for November 7, 2006 General Election**

*Measure is the sixth to qualify by initiative and the 12<sup>th</sup> added to the ballot*

SACRAMENTO, CA - Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that he has certified an initiative for the November ballot. This brings the total to six measures that have qualified through initiative circulation. Including the six measures added by the Legislature, the total number of measures on the November ballot is now 12.

### **Education Funding. Real Property Parcel Tax. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.**

Provides additional public school funding for kindergarten through grade 12 by imposing a \$50 tax on each real property parcel; exempts certain elderly and disabled homeowners. Funds must be used for class size reduction, textbooks, school safety, Academic Success facility grants, and a data system to evaluate educational program effectiveness. Provides for reimbursement to government entities to offset anticipated decrease in other tax revenue. Prohibits fund use for school administrative overhead. Requires school district audits and penalties for fund misuse. Excludes funds from Proposition 98 calculations.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Annual revenue of up to \$500 million from a new, statewide parcel tax with the revenue dedicated to specific K-12 education programs (such as class size reduction, instructional materials, school safety, and facility grants). (SA2005RF0126.)

The initiative received 1,161,083 total signatures and qualified during the random sample stage. To qualify by random sample, an initiative must receive a projected 110% of the required number of signatures, which for this initiative was 657,916. The initiative qualified with 683,020 projected valid signatures.

According to the California Constitution, qualified initiatives go before voters in a statewide election held at least 131 days from the date they qualify. The deadline for initiatives to qualify for the November ballot is June 29, 2006.

For more information on the initiatives currently in circulation, please visit the Secretary of State's website at [http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections\\_j.htm](http://www.ss.ca.gov/elections/elections_j.htm).