



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE BRUCE McPHERSON

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Marriage. Elimination of Domestic Partnership Rights. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA - Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponents of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for their measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

MARRIAGE. ELIMINATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP RIGHTS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Amends the California Constitution to provide that only marriage between one man and one woman is valid or recognized in California. Prohibits decreasing marriage rights shared by one man and one woman. Voids or makes unenforceable certain rights and obligations conferred by California law on same-sex and heterosexual couples registered as domestic partners, concerning subject areas including, but not limited to, community property, intestate succession, stepparent adoption, child custody, child support, hospital visitation, health care decisions for an incapacitated partner, insurance benefits, death benefits, and recovery for wrongful death.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown, but potential increased costs for state and local governments. The impact would depend in large part on future court interpretations. (06-0029.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1225 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 06-0029.

The proponents for this measure, Larry Bowler and Randy Thomasson, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal to eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is January 2, 2007. The initiative proponents can be reached at 916-265-5643.

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