

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Makes it a Crime for Undocumented Persons to Seek Work while Concealing Their Immigration Status and Also Makes it a Crime for Any Employer to Hire an Undocumented Person Intentionally or Negligently. Initiative Statute.

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:

MAKES IT A CRIME FOR UNDOCUMENTED PERSONS TO SEEK WORK WHILE CONCEALING THEIR IMMIGRATION STATUS AND ALSO MAKES IT A CRIME FOR ANY EMPLOYER TO HIRE AN UNDOCUMENTED PERSON INTENTIONALLY OR NEGLIGENTLY. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Requires all highway patrol, police, sheriffs and other sworn officers to investigate immigration status when they are reasonably suspicious that a person stopped is in the country illegally. Authorizes legal residents to sue any official or agency that adopts or implements policies that limit immigration enforcement, and specifies a \$5,000 per day fine and attorneys' fees for violations. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **Potentially significant cost savings in services provided to undocumented immigrants by state and local governments and reductions in state and local revenue to the extent this measure reduces the number of undocumented immigrants in the state. The net impact of this factor is unknown. Increased costs to the state and local criminal justice system, potentially exceeding tens of millions of dollars annually, from the arrest, prosecution, and detention of violators of the provisions of the measure. (10-0023.)**

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1476 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 10-0023.

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The proponent for this measure, Michael Erickson, must collect signatures of 433,971 registered voters – the number equal to five percent 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 April 21, 2011.

The initiative proponent can be reached erickson@reagan.com. No phone number was provided.

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