

# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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### Secretary of State Debra Bowen Announces Certified List of 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District Candidates

**SACRAMENTO** – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced the certified list of candidates who will appear on the Special Primary Election ballot to fill the vacancy in the 17<sup>th</sup> Senate District seat. The candidates and their official ballot designations are:

- **Darren W. Parker (My Party Preference is the Democratic Party) – Small Business Owner**
- **Sharon Runner (My Party Preference is the Republican Party) – Small Business Owner**

The Special Primary Election will be held on February 15 to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of George Runner.

In a special primary, all qualified candidates appear on one ballot. If one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast (50 percent plus one), no further election will be necessary. If no candidate receives a majority of the votes, a Special General Election will be held on April 19, with a ballot featuring the two candidates who received the most votes in the primary.

This election and the Senate District 28 Special Election are the first to be conducted since Proposition 14 of 2010 took effect. Prior to the new law, known as the Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act, if no candidate received a majority of the votes in a special primary election, the candidate from each qualified political party who received the most votes would move on to a special general election. Also before Proposition 14, every candidate's party registration was listed on ballots; now voters and candidates only indicate a preferred party or "no party preference."

The official certified list of candidates, with contact information for each of them, is available at [www.sos.ca.gov/elections/Special/sd17/certified-list.pdf](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/Special/sd17/certified-list.pdf).

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