

# DEBRA BOWEN

**CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Political Fundraising Initiative Enters Circulation

*Prohibits Political Contributions by Payroll Deduction.  
Prohibitions on Contributions to Candidates. Initiative Statute.*

**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:

**PROHIBITS POLITICAL CONTRIBUTIONS BY PAYROLL DEDUCTION. PROHIBITIONS ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO CANDIDATES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.** Restricts union political fundraising by prohibiting use of payroll-deducted funds for political purposes. Same use restriction would apply to payroll deductions, if any, by corporations or government contractors. Permits voluntary employee contributions to employer or union committees if authorized yearly, in writing. Prohibits unions and corporations from contributing directly or indirectly to candidates and candidate-controlled committees. Other political expenditures remain unrestricted, including corporate expenditures from available resources not limited by payroll deduction prohibition. Limits government contractor contributions to elected officers or officer-controlled committees. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **Increased state implementation and enforcement costs of up to hundreds of thousands of dollars annually, potentially offset in part by revenues from fines.** (11-0010.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1487 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 11-0010.

The proponent for this measure, Ashlee N. Titus, must collect signatures of 504,760 registered voters – the number equal to five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2010 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 October 24, 2011.

The initiative proponent can be reached at 455 Capitol Mall, Suite 801, Sacramento, California 95814. No phone number was provided.

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