

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Tribal Gaming Compact Referendum Enters Circulation

Referendum to Overturn Indian Gaming Compacts

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen announced today that the proponent of a proposed referendum may begin collecting signatures for her measure.

The Attorney General prepares the legal title and summary that is required to appear on referendum petitions. When the official language is complete, the Attorney General forwards it to the proponent and to the Secretary of State, and the referendum may be circulated for signatures. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponent and to county elections officials.

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

REFERENDUM TO OVERTURN INDIAN GAMING COMPACTS. If signed by the required number of registered voters and timely filed with the Secretary of State, this petition will place on the statewide ballot a challenge to a state law previously approved by the Legislature and the Governor. The law must then be approved by a majority of voters at the next statewide election to go into effect. The law ratifies two gaming compacts (with the North Fork Rancheria of Mono Indians, and the Wiyot Tribe); and it exempts execution of the compacts, certain projects, and intergovernmental agreements from the California Environmental Quality Act. (13-0007.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1596 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 13-0007.

The proponent for this measure, Cheryl Schmit, 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 next statewide ballot. The proponent has 90 days from the date the bill is chaptered to request and receive a title and summary from the Attorney General, and circulate petitions for a referendum. AB 277 (Chapter 51, Statutes of 2013) was chaptered on July 3, 2013. The proponent has until October 1, 2013, to submit petition signatures to county election officials.

The referendum proponent can be reached at (916) 663-3207.

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