



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Initiative to Split California Enters Circulation

Division of California into Six States. Initiative Statutory and Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced 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, and the initiative 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:

DIVISION OF CALIFORNIA INTO SIX STATES. INITIATIVE STATUTORY AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Divides California into six states subject to approval by Congress. Assigns each county to a new state, unless county voters approve reassignment to different new state and second state approves. Establishes commission to settle California's financial affairs after division; upon failure to resolve, each new state would retain assets within its boundaries and would receive proportionate distribution of California's debts based on population. Authorizes counties to refuse to provide State-mandated programs and services absent sufficient State reimbursement. Empowers counties to make and enforce all laws governing local affairs. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **If the federal government approves the proposed creation of six new states, all tax collections and spending by the existing State of California would end, with its assets and liabilities divided among the new states. Decisions by appointed commissioners and elected leaders would determine how taxes, public spending, and other public policies would change for the new states and their local governments.** (13-0063.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1648 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 13-0063.

The proponent for the measure, Tim Draper, must collect signatures of 807,615 registered voters (eight 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 the measure, meaning the signatures must be submitted to county elections officials by July 18, 2014. The proponent can be reached at (650) 233-9000.

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