



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Secretary of State McPherson Certifies His First Initiative

Termination of Minor's Pregnancy. Waiting Period and Parental Notification Qualifies

Sacramento -- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today certified the termination of minor's pregnancy initiative for the next statewide election held at least 131 days from the date of qualification. This is the first initiative certified by Secretary McPherson since his confirmation March 30th.

The initiative, a constitutional amendment needing 598,105 registered voter signatures, qualified based on a random sampling of petition signatures. A total 1,001,861 unverified signatures were submitted, and reports from 49 counties projected the number of valid signatures to be 682,131. For an initiative to qualify based on the random sample, it had to project to at least 110% of the number of valid signatures needed; that number was 657,916.

According to the Attorney General's title and summary, the measure would amend "California's Constitution to bar abortion on unemancipated minor until 48 hours after physician notifies minor's parent/legal guardian, except in medical emergency or with parental waiver. Permits judicial waiver of notice based on clear and convincing evidence of minor's maturity or minor's best interests. Physician must report abortions performed on minors and State shall compile statistics. Authorizes monetary damages for violation. Minor must consent to abortion unless mentally incapable or in medical emergency. Permits judicial relief if minor's consent to abortion is coerced. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: The net costs of this measure to Medi-Cal and other programs are unknown, but are probably not significant in the context of the total expenditures for these programs."

The measure is sponsored by Paul and Barbara Laubacher, telephone 916-381-5222. It currently would appear on the next regularly scheduled statewide election ballot.