



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

05:06Z

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 20, 2005

Contact: Nghia Nguyen Demovic
Caren Daniels-Meade
916-653-6575

Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Certifies 8th Initiative **for November Special Election Ballot** ***Electric Service Providers Re-Regulation to Be Decided***

Sacramento – Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today the qualification of the final initiative that was being verified by county elections officials, making the energy re-regulation measure the eighth initiative slated for the November 8th statewide special election ballot.

Electric Services Providers. Regulation. Initiative Statute. The measure, sponsored by Robert Finkelstein and Michel Peter Florio, would, according to the title and summary from the Attorney General, subject electric service providers, as defined, to control and regulation by the California Public Utilities Commission. Additionally, it would impose restrictions on electricity customers' ability to switch from private utilities to other electric providers; provide that registration by electric service providers with Commission constitutes providers' consent to regulation; require all retail electric sellers, instead of just private utilities, to increase renewable energy resource procurement by at least 1% each year, with 20% of retail sales procured from renewable energy by 2010, instead of current requirement of 2017; impose duties on Commission, Legislature and electrical providers. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Annual state costs of up to \$4 million for regulatory activities of the California Public Utilities Commission. These costs would be fully offset by fee revenues. Unknown impact on state and local costs and revenues, as the measure's impact on retail electricity rates is uncertain.

The measure needed a projected 411,198 registered voter signatures to qualify based on a random sample verification of petition signatures; it received 417,390 projected valid signatures statewide. Santa Cruz County's report was received this afternoon and took the measure over the number needed.

Proponents Robert Finkelstein and Michel Peter Florio may be reached at telephone (415) 929-8876.

The seven previously qualified initiatives for November 8th are: 1) Termination of Minor's Pregnancy. Waiting Period and Parental Notification. Initiative Constitutional Amendment; 2) Public Employee Union Dues. Required Employee Consent for Political Contributions. Initiative Statute; 3) Public School Teachers. Waiting Period for Permanent Status. Dismissal. Initiative Statute; 4) School Funding. State Spending. Initiative Constitutional Amendment; 5) Reapportionment. Initiative Constitutional Amendment; 6) Prescription Drugs. Discounts. Initiative Statute; and (7) Prescription Drug Discounts. State-Negotiated Rebates. Initiative Statute.

-30-