



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Two Proposed Initiatives Enter Circulation

1. *Sex Offenders. Sexually Violent Predators. Punishment, Residence Restrictions and Monitoring. Initiative Statute.*
2. *Invalidation of Domestic Partnerships. Marriage. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.*

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponents of two new initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for their measures.

The Attorney General's official titles and summaries are as follows:

SEX OFFENDERS. SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATORS. PUNISHMENT, RESIDENCE RESTRICTIONS AND MONITORING. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Increases penalties for violent and habitual sex offenders and child molesters. Prohibits registered sex offenders from residing within 2,000 feet of any school or park, and requires lifetime Global Positioning System monitoring of felony registered sex offenders. Expands the definition of a sexually violent predator, and changes the current two-year involuntary civil commitment for a sexually violent predator to an indeterminate commitment, subject to annual review by the Director of Mental Health and petition by the sexually violent predator for conditional release or unconditional discharge.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown net costs to the state, within a few years, potentially in the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually due primarily to increased state prison, parole supervision, and mental health program costs. These costs would grow significantly in the long term. Potential one-time state capital outlay costs, within a few years, in the low hundreds of millions of dollars for construction of additional state mental hospital and prison beds. Unknown but potentially significant net operating costs or savings to counties for jail, probation supervision, district attorneys, and public defenders. The portion of costs related to changes in the Sexual Violent Predators program would be reimbursed by the state.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1154 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0092.

The proponents for this measure, Richard Gann, George Runner and Sharon Runner must collect 373,816 signatures of registered voters, equal to five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is February 21, 2006. The initiative proponents can be reached in care of Dave Gilliard at 916-444-1502.

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**INVALIDATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS. MARRIAGE. INITIATIVE
CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**

Amends California Constitution to provide that a marriage between a man and a woman is the only legal union that shall be valid or recognized in California. Amendment bars domestic partnerships from being valid or recognized as legal unions in California. Eliminates certain rights and obligations conferred by California law on same-sex and heterosexual couples registered as domestic partners, concerning subject areas including, but not limited to, community property, intestate succession, stepparent adoption, child custody/support, hospital visitation, healthcare decisions for an incapacitated partner, insurance benefits, and recovery for wrongful death.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown, but probably not significant, fiscal effect on state and local governments. The impact would depend in large part on future court interpretations.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1155 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0093.

The proponents for this measure, Gail J. Knight, Natalie R. Williams, and Mark A. Jansson, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal to eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is February 21, 2006. The initiative proponents can be reached in care of Andrew Pugno at 916-608-3065.