



05:125

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Wednesday, November 2, 2005

Contact: Nghia Nguyen Demovic
916-653-6575

Proposed Referendum Enters Circulation

Referendum Petition to Overturn Law Authorizing Dog-Breed-Specific Ordinances

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponent of a proposed referendum measure may begin collecting signatures.

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

REFERENDUM PETITION TO OVERTURN LAW AUTHORIZING DOG-BREED-SPECIFIC ORDINANCES.

If signed by the required number of electors and timely filed with the Secretary of State, this petition will prevent implementation of Chapter 668, Statutes of 2005, previously approved by the Legislature and Governor, unless and until it is approved by the voters. Chapter 668 authorizes cities and counties to enact dog-breed-specific ordinances concerning mandatory spay or neuter programs and breeding requirements, but disallows local ordinances from declaring specific dog breeds potentially dangerous or vicious. Chapter 668 requires jurisdictions implementing such programs to report dog bites.

To qualify a referendum for the ballot, the proponent is required by the California Constitution to submit petition signatures of 373,816 registered voters to county election officials within 90 days from the date the bill is enacted. Senate Bill 861 (Speier, D – San Mateo) was enacted on October 7, 2005. Proponents have until January 5, 2006 to submit petition signatures.

Once signatures are submitted to county elections officials for verification, the law that the referendum seeks to repeal shall not go into effect until either the qualification attempt fails or the issue is addressed by the state's voters.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1158 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0107.

The proponent of the referendum is Dawn Capp. The proponent can be reached at 916-320-1824.