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Redistricting Initiative Enters Circulation

Redistricting. Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

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

> **REDISTRICTING. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.** Amends process for redistricting California's Legislature, Board of Equalization, and U.S. House of Representative districts.   Establishes Citizens Redistricting Commission comprised of 11 qualified registered voters formed by the Secretary of State pursuant to detailed selection process.   Requires Commission to submit redistricting plan, consistent with specified criteria, after each national census. Requires Commission to hold public hearings and receive public input before finalizing the redistricting plan. Requires legal challenges to be made within 45 days of certification of plan. Subjects adopted plan to challenge by referendum. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Potentially increased redistricting costs every ten years–probably of less than $1 million. Any such costs would be accommodated within the Legislature's existing budget. (Initiative 07-0005.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1240 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0005.

The proponent for this measure, Barry Fadem, must collect the signatures of 694,354 registered voters – the number equal to 8% of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – in order to qualify the measure for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by September 17, 2007.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (925) 283-0581.

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