Secretary of State Debra Bowen Announces Results of Random Alphabet Drawing For Candidate Order on Ballots in 12th Congressional District Special Election

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen’s office today held a randomized alphabet drawing to determine the order that candidates’ names will appear on the April 8 primary and, if necessary, the June 3, 2008, run-off special elections in the 12th Congressional District. The results of the drawing are as follows:


This special election is being held to fill the vacancy created when Congressman Tom Lantos passed away on February 11, 2008.

In accordance with Elections Code section 13112(d), the names of candidates on the ballot are arranged based on the randomized alphabet. This alphabet applies throughout the entire last name of the candidate. If the names of two or more candidates begin with the same letter, their ballot listing order is determined by applying the randomized alphabet to the next letter(s) of their names. If last names of multiple candidates are the same, the random alphabet also applies to first names.

If no candidate receives 50% or more of the votes cast on April 8, the name of the candidate from each qualified political party who receives the most votes cast will appear on the June 3 special general election ballot.

Today’s random alphabet drawing was held in the Elections Division within the Secretary of State’s office in compliance with Elections Code section 13112. Staff members pulled the letters in a lottery-style drawing, with witnesses from the public present.

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