



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Kate Folmar

(916) 653-6575

Initiative to Repeal Stem-Cell Research Law Enters Circulation

***Repeal of Voter-Approved Human Embryonic Stem
Cell Research. Constitutional Amendment and Statute.***

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

The Attorney General prepares the legal title and summary that is required to appear on initiative petitions. When the official language is complete, the Attorney General forwards it to the proponent and to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponent and to county elections officials, and the initiative may be circulated for signatures. The Attorney General's official title and summary for this measure is as follows:

REPEAL OF VOTER-APPROVED HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELL RESEARCH. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE. Repeals bonds voters authorized in 2004 to fund the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine. Voids contracts entered into by Institute before November 5, 2008. Requires Legislature to spend \$900 million to construct and fund an umbilical cord blood and adult stem cell research facility that also performs certain defined embryo adoptions and implantations. Prohibits funding of human embryonic stem cell research. Requires Legislature to appoint 35 member governing board to oversee new facility. Requires taxpayers to pay all legal costs proponent incurs fighting challenges to initiative. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Potential state savings of about \$120 million annually over the next few decades resulting from reduced principal and interest costs for bonds to fund stem cell research. Unknown potential loss of state or local revenue gains and cost savings due to reduced stem cell research funding. Unknown gain of state revenues for fees related to embryo adoptions. Unknown potential gain of local government revenue due to possible allocation of patent or license revenues to local governments. (Initiative 08-0011.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1343 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 08-0011.

The proponent for this measure, Laura Storms, must collect 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 it for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by September 25, 2008.

The initiative proponent can be reached at 8130 La Mesa Boulevard #202, La Mesa, California 91941. No phone number was provided.

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