



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Law Enforcement Initiative Enters Circulation

Law Enforcement Licenses. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponents of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for their 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 proponents and to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponents and to county elections officials, and the initiative may be circulated for signatures. The Attorney General's official title and summary for the measure is as follows:

LAW ENFORCEMENT LICENSES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Requires law enforcement officers to obtain a license that must be renewed each year. Creates a board consisting of 13 non-law enforcement officers appointed by the Governor, and empowers it to issue, suspend, revoke or cancel licenses. Requires the board to investigate incidents involving the use of deadly force and to maintain a process for the public to complain about law enforcement officers. Imposes training and notification requirements on law enforcement agencies. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Increased state expenditures in the tens of millions of dollars annually to support the operations of the new California Law Enforcement State License Board, which would be funded with revenues collected by the board from licensing fees. Increased state, county, and city costs that collectively could reach the hundreds of millions of dollars annually for licensing, bond and insurance coverage, law enforcement training, and the provision of legal counsel, depending upon how this measure is interpreted and implemented. (08-0017.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1348 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 08-0017.

The proponents for this measure, Tony Avila Sampson, Floyd Garfield Sampson, and Rose Marie Sampson, 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 proponents have 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by May 18, 2009.

The initiative proponents can be reached at P.O. Box 2720, Petaluma, California, 94953. No phone number was provided.

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