



DEBRA BOWEN

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Two Political Funding Initiatives Enter Circulation

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponent of two new initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for his measures.

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 the first measure is as follows:

IMPOSES POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE RESTRICTIONS ON CORPORATIONS. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Prohibits corporations or other business entities as defined from making contributions or expenditures for political activities except with shareholders' prior informed consent. Limits total funding for approved political activities to proportion of shareholder votes favoring proposed funding. Defines "political activities" to include contributions or expenditures related to candidates, ballot measures, issue advocacy, political parties, committees, voter registration, or any other political or legislative causes. Imposes criminal penalties for violations against persons expending, consenting to, or receiving prohibited contributions or expenditures. Requires detailed reporting to shareholders. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **State enforcement costs potentially totaling a few hundred thousand dollars annually, partially offset by increased fine revenues.** (09-0087.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1437 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0087.

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

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IMPOSES POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION AND EXPENDITURE RESTRICTIONS ON CORPORATIONS. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Prohibits corporations or other business entities as defined from making contributions or expenditures related to any elective office, ballot measure, or for issue advocacy, unless approved by resolution of the shareholders. Requires that authorizing resolutions specify the recipient, amount, and purpose of the contribution or expenditure, and time period the authorization is valid. Prohibits corporate officers and directors from consenting to prohibited contributions. Prohibits candidates, political committees, and persons from knowingly receiving prohibited contributions or expenditures. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **State enforcement costs potentially totaling a few hundred thousand dollars annually, partially offset by increased fine revenues.** (09-0088.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1438 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0088.

The proponent for these measures, Lance H. Olson, must collect signatures of 433,971 registered voters – the number equal to five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – for each measure in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for these measures, meaning the signatures must be collected by June 14, 2010.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (916) 442-2952.

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