



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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State Lottery Initiative Enters Circulation

***Allows Greater Percentage of State Lottery Revenue to be Used for Prizes
And Requires Smaller Percentage to be Used for Expenses. Initiative Statute.***

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 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 measure is as follows:

ALLOWS GREATER PERCENTAGE OF STATE LOTTERY REVENUE TO BE USED FOR PRIZES AND REQUIRES SMALLER PERCENTAGE TO BE USED FOR EXPENSES. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Allows more than 50% of state lottery revenue to be paid in prizes. Reduces revenue allocated for operational and administrative expenses from 16% to 13%. Eliminates requirement that at least 34% of revenue go to public schools, but requires that revenues be distributed in a way “designed to maximize” the benefit to schools. Requires that this measure generate more money for schools than existing law, or existing revenue-allocation laws will be restored. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **Estimated increase of several hundred million dollars per year in lottery profits paid to public educational entities. Exact amount of lottery sales and profit growth, if any, would depend on choices by consumers and lottery officials.** (09-0099.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1450 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 09-0099.

The proponent for this measure, Matthew J. Geyer, 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 – 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 July 5, 2010.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (415) 389-6800.

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