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Two Election-Related 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:

TRANSFERS DUTY TO PROVIDE BALLOT SUMMARIES FOR STATEWIDE INITIATIVES TO THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Transfers responsibility for providing the summaries for all statewide initiatives on ballots and in ballot pamphlets from the Attorney General to the Legislative Analyst. Increases the maximum number of words allowed for the summary of an initiative on the ballot from 100 to 125. Specifies additional criteria that the Legislative Analyst’s Office must follow in preparing the summaries for all initiatives. Requires that a committee review each summary of all initiatives and make recommendations to the Legislative Analyst regarding the summary. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: No significant change in ballot preparation costs. (10-0002.)

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1458 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is 10-0002.

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

TRANSFERS DUTY TO PROVIDE BALLOT SUMMARIES FOR STATEWIDE INITIATIVES TO THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Transfers responsibility for providing the summaries for all statewide initiatives on ballots and in ballot pamphlets from the Attorney General to the Legislative Analyst. Increases the maximum number of words allowed for the summary of an initiative on the ballot from 100 to 125. Specifies additional criteria that the Legislative Analyst’s Office must follow in preparing the summaries for all initiatives. Requires that a committee review each summary of all initiatives and make recommendations to the Legislative Analyst regarding the summary. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: No significant change in ballot preparation costs. (10-0003.)

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The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1459 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is 10-0003.

The proponent for these measures, David Spady, 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 August 12, 2010.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (916) 442-7757.

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