

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

DB10:042

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Redistricting Initiative Enters Circulation

*Transfers Authority for Drawing
Congressional Districts from Elected Representatives to
State Commission on Redistricting. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.*

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:

TRANSFERS AUTHORITY FOR DRAWING CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS FROM ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES TO STATE COMMISSION ON REDISTRICTING. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Removes elected representatives from the process of establishing congressional districts and transfers that authority to the recently authorized 14-member redistricting commission. Redistricting commission is comprised of five Democrats, five Republicans, and four voters registered with neither party. Requires that any newly-proposed district lines be approved by nine commissioners including three Democrats, three Republicans, and three from neither party. Provides that voters will have the authority to reject district boundary maps approved by the commission. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **Probably no significant change in state redistricting costs.** (10-0007.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1463 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 10-0007.

The proponent for this measure, Clark Chu, must collect signatures of 694,354 registered voters – the number equal to eight 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 August 23, 2010.

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DB10:042
March 26, 2010
Page 2

The initiative proponent can be reached at reachchu@gmail.com. No phone number was provided.

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