



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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### Tax-Related Initiative Enters Circulation

***Restricts State's Ability to Collect Unpaid Personal Income Tax. 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:

**RESTRICTS STATE'S ABILITY TO COLLECT UNPAID PERSONAL INCOME TAX. INITIATIVE STATUTE.** Limits Franchise Tax Board's authority to impose liens, seize property, or impose fines or interest to recover unpaid personal income taxes. Requires Board to accept installment payments that do not exceed the specified threshold. Creates tax deduction for court-ordered child support, but not parental support that is not court-ordered. Imposes procedural requirements to resolve disputes between taxpayers and Board. Requires Board to simplify tax rules. Allows taxpayers to request that a court, public commission, consumer group, or the media determine the appropriateness of the Board's action against the taxpayer. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **Reductions in state revenue from administrative changes and the new deduction for child support payments in the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Annual tax administration costs likely in excess of \$10 million.** (10-0012.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1466 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 10-0012.

The proponent for this measure, Thomas Lomax, 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 August 26, 2010.

The initiative proponent can be reached at 312 Munich Street, San Francisco, California 94112. No phone number was provided.

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