NEWS RELEASE
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **ALEX PADILLA**

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CONTACT: Sam Mahood
(916) 653-6575

Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation
Carry-Out Bags. Charges. Initiative Statute.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Alex Padilla announced the proponent of a new initiative was cleared to begin collecting petition signatures today.

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, and the initiative may be circulated for signatures. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponent and to county elections officials. The Attorney General's official title and summary for the measure is as follows:

> **CARRY-OUT BAGS. CHARGES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.** Redirects money collected by grocery and certain other retail stores through sale of carry-out bags, whenever any state law bans free distribution of a particular kind of carry-out bag and mandates the sale of any other kind of carry-out bag. Requires stores to deposit bag sale proceeds into a special fund administered by the Wildlife Conservation Board to support specified categories of environmental projects. Provides for Board to develop regulations implementing law. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: **If voters uphold the state's current carryout bag law, redirected revenues from retailers to the state, potentially in the several tens of millions of dollars annually. Revenues would be used for grants for certain environmental and natural resources purposes. If voters reject the state's current carryout bag law, likely minor fiscal effects.** (15-0074.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1734 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 15-0074.

The proponent of the measure, Doyle L. Johnson, must collect the signatures of 365,880 registered voters (five percent of the total votes cast for Governor in the November 2014 general election) in order to qualify it for the November 2016 ballot. The proponent has 180 days to circulate petitions for the measure, meaning the signatures must be submitted to county elections officials by June 6, 2016. The proponent can be reached c/o Kurt Oneto at (916) 446-6752.

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