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Proposed Referendum Enters Circulation

Referendum to Overturn Law Defining State and Local Law-Enforcement Agencies' Participation in Specified Immigration Enforcement.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Alex Padilla announced the proponent of a new referendum was cleared to begin collecting petition signatures this past Friday.

The Attorney General prepares the circulating title and summary that is required to appear on referendum petitions. Once completed, the Attorney General forwards the title and summary to the proponent and to the Secretary of State, and the referendum may be circulated for signatures. The Secretary of State 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:

REFERENDUM TO OVERTURN LAW DEFINING STATE AND LOCAL LAW-ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES' PARTICIPATION IN SPECIFIED IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT. If signed by the required number of registered voters and timely filed with the Secretary of State, this petition will place on the statewide ballot a challenge to a state law previously approved by the Legislature and Governor. A majority of voters must then approve the challenged law at the next statewide election before it can take effect. The law limits, subject to considerations to ensure public safety, when state/local law-enforcement agencies may use resources or personnel to assist federal agencies in specified immigration enforcement activities. (17-0040.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1820 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 17-0040.

The proponent for the measure, Marco Gutierrez, must collect 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 ballot. The proponent has 90 days from the date the bill is chaptered to request and receive a title and summary from the Attorney General, and gather petition signatures for the referendum. SB 54 (Chapter 495, Statutes of 2017) was chaptered on October 5, 2017. The proponent has until January 3, 2018 to submit petition signatures to county elections officials. The referendum proponent can be reached c/o: Ben Bergquam (559) 618-1109

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