SACRAMENTO --- The Secretary of State's office issued the following statement in response to today's pre-clearance letter from the Department of Justice in Washington.

"We received a letter from the Department of Justice this morning informing us that the federal government has granted pre-clearance for Proposition 53 and Proposition 54 to appear on the October 7th Statewide Special Election ballot," said Doug Stone, Communications Director.

"Two federal court hearings are scheduled later this week on the pre-clearance issue, one on Wednesday in Fresno and another on Friday in San Jose. When the courts issue their decisions, we will proceed accordingly," said Stone.

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