Four Proposed Initiatives Enter Circulation

1. District Boundary Changes. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today that the proponent of four initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for his measures.

The Attorney General's official title and summary of each follows:

DISTRICT BOUNDARY CHANGES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends State Constitution's redistricting process.
- Four-member panel of retired judges, selected by legislative leaders, will adjust boundaries of Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts.
- Legislature will adjust Congressional district boundaries.
- Panel to adopt redistricting plan when measure passes and again after each national census.
- Panel must consider legislative and public proposals/comments and hold public hearings.
- If panel unanimously approves redistricting plan, it becomes effective immediately when filed with Secretary of State;
- If panel fails to unanimously approve redistricting plan, Legislature adjusts Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts.

The summary of the estimated fiscal impact on state and local governments, as determined by the Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance, indicates that this measure would have one-time state redistricting costs, probably totaling a few million dollars.

CHANGING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends State Constitution's redistricting process.
- Three-member panel of retired judges, selected by legislative leaders, will adjust boundaries of Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts.
- Legislature will adjust Congressional district boundaries.
- Panel to adopt redistricting plan when measure passes and again after each national census.

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Panel must consider legislative and public proposals/comments and hold public hearings.
Panel’s redistricting plan subject to voter approval.
If panel fails to unanimously approve proposed redistricting plan, or if voter reject plan, the Legislature adjusts Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts.

The Legislative Analyst and Department of Finance estimate that this measure would have one-time state redistricting costs, probably totaling a few million dollars.

REAPPORPTIONING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends State Constitution’s redistricting process.
- Four-member panel of retired judges, selected by legislative leaders, will adjust boundaries of Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts.
- Legislature will adjust Congressional district boundaries.
- Panel to adopt redistricting plan when measure passes and again after each national census.
- Panel must consider legislative and public proposals/comments and hold public hearings.
- Panel’s redistricting plan subject to voter approval.
- If panel fails to unanimously approve proposed redistricting plan, or if voters reject plan, the Legislature adjusts Senate, Assembly and Board of Equalization districts.

The Legislative Analyst and Department of Finance estimate that this measure would have one-time state redistricting costs, probably totaling a few million dollars.

REAPPORPTIONMENT OF DISTRICTS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends State Constitution’s process for redistricting California’s Senate, Assembly, Congressional and Board of Equalization districts.
- After each national census, the Legislature shall appoint a bipartisan advisory committee composed of non-State legislators, with equal representation from the State’s two largest political parties, to produce a redistricting plan for consideration and deliberation by the Legislature.
- Specifies the criteria that shall be used for drawing district boundaries.

The Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance estimate indicates that this measure would likely have no significant fiscal impact.
The proponent, Robert W. Harris, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal in number to eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify the measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is July 25, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-449-6190.

For a copy of the complete texts, titles & summaries, and circulation calendars, please contact the Secretary of State’s Press Office at 916-653-6575.

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