FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Two Proposed Initiatives Enter Circulation

1. Legislative Vote Requirement for Taxes. Redefinition of Tax. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.
2. Expansion of Constitutional Definition of a Person to Include the Unborn, and Related Rights. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponents of two new initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for their measures.

The Attorney General’s official titles and summaries are as follows:

LEGISLATIVE VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR TAXES. REDEFINITION OF TAX. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Provides that any state law change resulting in higher taxes for any taxpayer due to tax rate or computation change requires two-thirds vote of both houses of Legislature. Redefines as “tax” any charge imposed by state/local government, with exceptions including charges for government services provided directly to payer where charge does not exceed reasonable service cost or reasonable regulatory costs of licensing, permitting, inspecting, auditing or administrative adjudication. Voids taxes enacted or increased after January 1, 2005, but before measure’s effective date, unless taxes re-enacted per this amendment.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Potentially significant decrease in state and local revenues from certain fees or charges, depending upon future actions of the Legislature, local governing bodies, and local electorates.

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1135 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2005RF0068.

The proponent, Allen S. Zaremberg, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal 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 September 6, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-444-6670.

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EXPANSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEFINITION OF A PERSON TO INCLUDE THE UNBORN, AND RELATED RIGHTS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Amends the State Constitution to provide that each unborn person, upon conception, has the inalienable right to life while in the womb.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: The net fiscal impact of this measure is unknown.

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1136 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2005RF0069.

The proponent, Tom Furrh, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, equal 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 September 6, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 760-207-3115.

For the complete text, title and summary of each initiative, please contact the Secretary of State’s Press Office at 916-653-6575.