



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Certifies Two Initiatives for Statewide Ballot

Public Employee Union Dues and Teacher Tenure Measures Qualify

Sacramento -- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that he certified two initiatives – one dealing with public employee union dues and the other dealing with public school teacher tenure – for the next statewide election ballot.

The Public Employee Union Dues. Required Employee Consent for Political Contributions. Initiative Statute is sponsored by Lewis Uhler of Roseville, telephone 916-786-9400. The measure, according to the Attorney General's title and summary, would prohibit public employee labor organizations from using dues or fees for political contributions unless the employee provides prior consent each year on a specified written form. Prohibition does not apply to dues or fees collected for charitable organizations, health care insurance, or other purposes directly benefiting the public employee. Requires labor organizations to maintain and submit to the Fair Political Practices Commission records concerning individual employees' and organizations' political contributions; those records are not subject to public disclosure. It needed a projected 411,198 registered voter signatures to qualify based on the random sample verifications; it received a projected 426,223.

The Public School Teachers. Waiting Period for Permanent Status. Dismissal. Initiative Statute is sponsored by Assemblywoman Bonnie Garcia of Cathedral City, telephone 760-202-7714. The measure, according to the Attorney General's official title and summary, would increase length of time required before a teacher may become a permanent employee from two complete consecutive school years to five complete consecutive school years; measure applies to teachers whose probationary period commenced during or after the 2003-2004 fiscal year. Authorizes school boards to dismiss a permanent teaching employee who receives two consecutive unsatisfactory performance evaluations. It needed a projected 411,198 registered voter signatures to qualify based on the random sample verifications; it received a projected 428,057.

According to the California Constitution, qualified initiatives go before voters in a statewide election held at least 131 days from the date they qualify.