



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Election Day Holiday. Initiative Statute.

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

ELECTION DAY HOLIDAY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Provides that statewide general election days shall be state holidays. Further provides that public schools and community colleges shall close on statewide general election days, and that certain public employees, including public school and community college classified employees, may be entitled to a paid holiday on statewide general election days pursuant to collective bargaining agreements. Makes other non-substantive changes to renumber certain statutory provisions.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Increased state costs of up to \$18 million annually, depending on future collective bargaining negotiations.

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1165 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2005RF0101.

The proponent for this measure, Roy R. Benson, must collect 373,816 signatures of registered voters, equal to five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is April 14, 2006. The initiative proponent can be reached at 415-847-3963.

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