FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, December 5, 2005

Contact: Nghia Nguyen Demovic
916-653-6575

Two Proposed Initiatives Enter Circulation
2. Right to Possess Firearms. 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:

CITIZENSHIP AND RESIDENCY. PUBLIC BENEFITS AND SERVICES. VOTING. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Prohibits individuals from receiving public health care or social services unless legal status is verified. Prohibits California colleges and universities from admitting individuals not authorized to be in United States. Limits voter eligibility to individuals who prove they are U.S. citizens, California residents and at least 18 years old. Requires DMV to issue California driver's licenses only to persons authorized to be in United States. Provides that making or using false citizenship documents is a felony. Citizens may sue to enforce initiative, and officials may be liable for violations.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Program savings to the state and local governments due to reduced expenditures for certain public services. These savings could be in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Potentially costs in the tens of millions of dollars annually, to verify citizenship or immigration status of persons receiving public benefits.

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1166 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2005RF0099.

The proponent for this measure, Mark Wyland, 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 24, 2006. The initiative proponents can be reached at P.O. Box 2766, Del Mar, CA 92014. No phone number was provided.

RIGHT TO POSSESS FIREARMS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Amends the California Constitution to add a personal right to acquire and possess firearms for defense of self, family, and home. Requires state government to prove a compelling government interest for any action regulating the keeping and bearing of firearms. Provides that all county, city, and local government action on this subject is preempted by state law and this amendment. Allows the state to continue regulating the acquisition or possession of firearms by felons, minors, mentally incompetent persons, or persons subject to court-issued restraining orders based on their violent conduct.

-more-
Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: We estimate that this measure would result in unknown, potential costs to the state and unknown net fiscal effect on local governments.

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1167 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2005RF0105.

The proponent for this measure, Donald Kilmer, 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 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is April 24, 2006. The initiative proponent can be reached at 1261 Lincoln Avenue, Suite 111, San Jose, CA 95125. No phone number was provided.

-30-