



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Statement Regarding Peace and Freedom Party's Qualification for the June 6, 2006 Primary Election Ballot

SACRAMENTO, CA - The Secretary of State's office made the following statement today:

The Secretary of State's office feels strongly that the Office's interpretation of California election code, section 5100 is correct regarding the qualification of the Peace and Freedom Party for the June 2006 ballot. However, upon review of the historical precedent (the practical application of the statute which illustrates examples dating back to 1934), it appears that precedent supports the party remaining on the ballot.

"I strongly favor greater ballot access for qualified parties; therefore, I have chosen to act upon the side of the historical precedent," said Secretary McPherson. "I appreciate the communication we have had with the Peace and Freedom Party and have welcomed dialogue on this unique precedent."

The Secretary of State's Office notified the Peace and Freedom party this afternoon that they will remain on the ballot. The Office has also notified counties that the party will remain on the ballot. In the future, the Secretary of State may seek legislation to gain clarification on the statute.

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