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 proponents for these measures, James C. Harrison and Thomas A. Willis, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters for each measure, 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 these measures is July 10, 2006. The initiative proponents can be reached at 510-346-6200.

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

**ALTERNATIVE ENERGY. RESEARCH, PRODUCTION, INCENTIVES. TAX ON CALIFORNIA OIL. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.**

Establishes program to reduce oil and gasoline use, with research and production incentives for alternative energy, alternative fuel vehicles, energy efficient technologies, and for education and training. Funded by tax of 1.5% to 6%, depending on oil price per barrel, on producers of oil extracted in California. Prohibits producers from passing tax on to consumers. Program administered by California Energy Alternatives Program Authority. Specifies spending $4 billion in 10 years. Prohibits changing tax while indebtedness remains. Revenues excluded from Proposition 98 calculations and appropriation limits.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: New state revenues annually – depending on the interpretation of the measure’s tax rate provisions – of either about $200 million or about $380 million from the imposition of a severance tax on oil production, to be used to fund a variety of new alternative energy programs. Reductions of unknown amounts in: local revenues from property taxes paid on oil reserves, potentially partially offset by state payments to schools to make up their revenue loss; state revenues from income taxes paid by oil producers; and, potentially, state and local revenues from gasoline and diesel excise and sales taxes. (SA2005RF0137, Amdt. # 2-S.)

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1195 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2005RF0137, Amdt. # 2-S.
ALTERNATIVE ENERGY. RESEARCH, PRODUCTION, INCENTIVES. TAX ON CALIFORNIA OIL. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

Establishes $4 billion program to reduce oil and gasoline usage by 25%, with research and production incentives for alternative energy, alternative energy vehicles, energy efficient technologies, and for education and training. Funded by tax of 1.5% to 6%, depending on oil price per barrel, on producers of oil extracted in California. Prohibits producers from passing tax on to consumers. Program administered by California Energy Alternatives Program Authority. Prohibits changing tax while indebtedness remains. Revenues excluded from Proposition 98 calculations and appropriation limits.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: New state revenues annually – depending on the interpretation of the measure’s tax rate provisions – of either about $200 million or about $380 million from the imposition of a severance tax on oil production, to be used to fund a variety of new alternative energy programs. Reductions of unknown amounts in: local revenues from property taxes paid on oil reserves, potentially partially offset by state payments to schools to make up their revenue loss; state revenues from income taxes paid by oil producers; and, potentially, state and local revenues from gasoline and diesel excise and sales taxes.

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1196 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2005RF0138, Amdt. # 2-S.

For the complete titles, summaries and circulation calendars of each measure, please call the Secretary of State’s Press Office at 916-653-6575.

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