



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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## **Two Proposed Initiatives Enter Circulation**

1. *"Three Strikes" Law. Sentences for Repeat Felony Offenders. Initiative Statute.*
2. *Invalidation of Domestic Partnerships. Marriage. 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 follow:

### **"THREE STRIKES" LAW. SENTENCES FOR REPEAT FELONY OFFENDERS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

Revises "Three Strikes" law by providing generally that offenders with two or more prior serious and/or violent felony convictions whose current offense is a non-serious and/or non-violent felony be sentenced to twice the usual term for the current offense, instead of 25 years to life. Authorizes re-sentencing of persons serving indeterminate life sentences where the offense was non-serious and non-violent. Eligibility for shorter sentences or re-sentencing would not apply to specified crimes, including murder, firearm use, and certain sex or drug offenses.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Net state savings-primarily to prison operations-potentially in the tens of millions of dollars initially, increasing to about one hundred million dollars annually within a decade. Unknown state savings for capital outlay associated with prison construction that would otherwise be needed, potentially as much as several hundreds of millions of dollars in the long term. Increased county costs of potentially several millions of dollars initially, decreasing significantly in subsequent years, for jail and court-related costs. (SA2006RF0017.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1213 and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2006RF0017.

The proponents for this measure, Brian T. Dunn and Steve Cooley of The Cochran Firm, 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 August 21, 2006. The initiative proponents can be reached at 323-931-6200.

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**INVALIDATION OF DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS. MARRIAGE. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**

Amends California Constitution to provide that a marriage between one man and one woman is the only legal union that shall be valid or recognized in California. Bars domestic partnerships from being valid or recognized as legal unions in California. Eliminates certain rights and obligations conferred by California law on same-sex and heterosexual couples registered as domestic partners, concerning subject areas including, but not limited to, community property, intestate succession, stepparent adoption, child custody/support, hospital visitation, healthcare decisions for an incapacitated partner, insurance benefits, and recovery for wrongful death.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown, but probably not significant, fiscal effect on state and local governments. The impact would depend in large part on future court interpretations. (SA2006RF0018.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1214, and the Attorney General's tracking number is SA2006RF0018.

The proponents for this measure, Ivan Megediuk, Nikolay Bugriyev and Richard N. Otterstad, Jr., 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 August 21, 2006. The initiative proponents can be reached at 916-485-5942.

For the complete texts, titles and summaries and circulation calendars, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.