FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, April 13, 2006

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

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:

MINIMUM WAGE. MANAGERIAL EXEMPTION. FLEXIBLE WORK SCHEDULE. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Sets minimum wage at $7.25 per hour starting July 1, 2007, increasing to $7.75 starting on July 1, 2008. Changes current law requiring overtime pay after 8 hours, permitting individual employees, with employer's approval, to work more than 8 hours per workday without paid overtime except when employee works more than 10 hours per workday or more than 40 hours per workweek. Eliminates daily and weekly overtime pay for additional specified employees, including managers earning a minimum of $540 per week and other highly compensated employees, as defined.

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Annual state and local government costs due to the minimum wage increase-primarily in health and child care programs-in the high tens of millions of dollars to over $100 million. Potential net reduction, but probably not significant, in annual state and local government revenues. (SA2006RF0022.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1217 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is SA2006RF0022.

The proponent for this measure, Thomas W. Hiltachk of Bell, McAndrews & Hiltachk, LLP, 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 September 1, 2006. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-442-7757.

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