



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

BM07:002

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, January 4, 2007

Contact: Amy Thoma
916-653-6575

Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Public Entities. Revival of Claims. Elimination of Legal Defenses. Unlimited Compensation for Private Property. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA - Secretary of State Bruce McPherson announced today that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for their measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

PUBLIC ENTITIES. REVIVAL OF CLAIMS. ELIMINATION OF LEGAL DEFENSES. UNLIMITED COMPENSATION FOR PRIVATE PROPERTY. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Expands definition of "public entity" to include all employees of local and state agencies. Revives claims filed against public entities after January 1, 1980, and voids prior decisions inconsistent with initiative. Reduces burden of proof for claims filed against public entities. Eliminates various privileges, immunities and defenses available to public entities including fraud and statute of limitations. Authorizes disclosure of all records of public entities. Requires public entity taking private property to compensate owner at owner's stated value, without limitation or review. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: Unknown but potentially significant costs to state and local governments due to increased claims against public agencies and increased payments resulting from these claims. (06-0036.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1233 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 06-0036.

The proponent for this measure, Kristnamma Tripathi, must collect 694,354 signatures of registered voters, equal to eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is June 4, 2007. The initiative proponent can be reached at 626-796-2231.