



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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Legislators' Expenses Initiative Enters Circulation

Reimbursement of Legislators' Expenses. Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for her measure.

The Attorney General prepares the legal title and summary that is required to appear on initiative petitions. When the official language is complete, the Attorney General forwards it to the proponents and to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponents and to county elections officials, and the initiative may be circulated for signatures. The Attorney General's official title and summary for this measure is as follows:

REIMBURSEMENT OF LEGISLATORS' EXPENSES. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Prohibits payment of per diem or any other compensation to Legislators for living expenses incurred in the performance of their legislative duties. Restricts reimbursement for travel expenses when the Legislature is in recess for more than three days to expenses incurred while traveling to and from certain meetings, conferences or other legislative functions held at least 20 miles from the legislator's residence. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Reduced legislative living expenses of about \$4.5 million annually. (Initiative 07-0009.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1244 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0009.

The proponent for this measure, Anita Anderson, must collect the signatures of 694,354 registered voters – the number equal to 8% of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – in order to qualify the measure for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by October 1, 2007.

The initiative proponent can be reached at aapotrero@sbcglobal.net.

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