

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

DB07:022

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 15, 2007

CONTACT: Nicole Winger
(916) 653-6575

Initiative to Ban Gifts to Legislators Enters Circulation

*Ban on Legislators' Acceptance of Anything of Value from
Lobbyists or Entities who Employ Lobbyists. 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 proponent and to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State then provides calendar deadlines to the proponent 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:

BAN ON LEGISLATORS' ACCEPTANCE OF ANYTHING OF VALUE FROM LOBBYISTS OR ENTITIES WHO EMPLOY LOBBYISTS. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Bans legislators from accepting anything from (1) entities that are members of trade associations that employ a lobbyist or lobbying firm; (2) entities that engaged a lobbyist or lobbying firm during the preceding 12 months; or (3) lobbyists or lobbying firms. Requires public funds to be used to reimburse expenses for legislators who participate in a public policy meeting, conference or symposium funded, in whole or part, by a lobbyist, lobbying firm, lobbyist employer or trade association. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: This measure would have no significant fiscal impact. (Initiative 07-0010.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1245 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0010.

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 11, 2007.

The initiative proponent can be reached at aapotrero@sbcglobal.net. No phone number was provided.

###