



DEBRA BOWEN

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Proposed Eminent Domain Initiative Enters Circulation

Eminent Domain. Acquisition of Owner-Occupied Residence. Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponents of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for their 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:

EMINENT DOMAIN. ACQUISITION OF OWNER-OCCUPIED RESIDENCE. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Bars state and local governments from using eminent domain to acquire an owner-occupied residence, as defined, for conveyance to a private person or business entity. Creates exceptions for public work or improvement, public health and safety protection, and crime prevention. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: The measure would likely not have a significant fiscal impact on state or local governments. (Initiative 07-0018.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1251 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0018.

The proponents for this measure, Christopher K. McKenzie, Susan Smartt and Kenneth Willis, 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 proponents have 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by December 3, 2007.

The initiative proponents can be reached at (415) 389-6800.

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