



DEBRA BOWEN

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Third Marriage Initiative Enters Circulation

Limit on Marriage. Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponents of a third marriage-related initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for their measure. Three other marriage-related initiatives have been cleared for circulation: two earlier today and another on June 14.

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:

LIMIT ON MARRIAGE. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Amends the California Constitution to provide that only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California. Further amends the California Constitution to state that the amendment shall not affect the rights, benefits and obligations conferred by California law on other domestic relationships. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: The measure would have no fiscal effect on state or local governments. This is because there would be no change to the manner in which marriages are currently recognized by the state. (Initiative 07-0023.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1255 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0023.

The proponents for this measure, Dennis Hollingsworth, Gail J. Knight, Hak-Shing William Tam, Peter Henderson and Mark A. Jansson, 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 14, 2007.

The initiative proponents can be reached at (916) 608-3065.

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