



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

**DB07:039**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**July 27, 2007**

**CONTACT: Nicole Winger  
(916) 653-6575**

### **Internet Poker Initiative Enters Circulation**

#### *Internet Poker. Statute.*

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

**INTERNET POKER. STATUTE.** Creates a State-owned Internet poker site. Provides that 90 percent of net revenues be distributed to cities and counties for street repairs and 10 percent of net revenues be allocated to the California Gambling Addiction Program Fund. Allows players age 21 and over to participate. Requires Governor to appoint a Director responsible for the site. Requires that games be similar to prevailing online and live poker room practices. Allows participation from outside the State where not prohibited by law. Authorizes revenue sharing and player base agreements with states, localities and California Indian tribes. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Unknown increase in revenues for (1) cities and counties to use for pothole and street repair and (2) the state to use for gambling addiction assistance programs. This increase could easily be in the tens of millions of dollars annually. Unknown reduction in other tax and gambling-related revenues for the state and local governments. This reduction could offset a significant amount of the net revenues from the state poker site. (Initiative 07-0017.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1250 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0017.

The proponent for this measure, Anthony Sandstrom, must collect the signatures of 433,971 registered voters – the number equal to 5% 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 December 24, 2007.

The initiative proponent can be reached at P.O. Box 503932, San Diego, CA 92150-3932. No phone number was provided.

###