

# DEBRA BOWEN

**CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE**

**NEWS RELEASE**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Children's Hospital Bond Initiative Enters Circulation

*Children's Hospital Bond Act. Grant Program. Statute.*

**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:

### **CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL BOND ACT. GRANT PROGRAM. STATUTE.**

Authorizes \$980,000,000 in bonds, to be repaid from state's General Fund, to fund the construction, expansion, remodeling, renovation, furnishing and equipping of children's hospitals. Designates that 80 percent of bond proceeds go to hospital that focus on children with illnesses such as leukemia, cancer, heart defects, diabetes, sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis. Requires that qualifying children's hospitals provide comprehensive services to a high volume of children eligible for governmental programs and meet other requirements. Designates that 20 percent of bond proceeds go to University of California general acute care hospitals. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: State costs of about \$2 billion over 30 years to pay off both the principal (\$980 million) and the interest (\$1 billion) costs of the bond. Payments of about \$67 million per year. (Initiative 07-0034.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1271 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0034.

The proponent for this measure, Diana S. Dooley, 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 February 11, 2008.

The initiative proponent can be reached at (916) 552-7111.

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