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Two More Presidential Elector Initiatives Enter Circulation

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponent of two new initiatives may begin collecting petition signatures for his measures.

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 the first measure is as follows:

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS. ALLOCATION BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE. INTERSTATE AGREEMENT. STATUTE. Enters California into an interstate agreement to allocate California’s electoral votes to the presidential ticket receiving the most popular votes nationwide. Allocates electoral votes based on the national vote only in years when states possessing a majority of total electoral votes (270 of 538) have entered into the agreement. Maintains California’s current system of awarding electoral votes to the statewide popular vote winner in other years. Eliminates $10 compensation and 5¢ per mile reimbursement of electors. Nullifies competing presidential-elector initiatives on the ballot that receive fewer votes. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Reduced state expenses of less than $10,000 every four years. (Initiative 07-0048.)

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1281 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is 07-0048.

The Attorney General’s official title and summary for the second measure is as follows:

– MORE –
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS. ALLOCATION BY NATIONAL POPULAR VOTE. INTERSTATE AGREEMENT. STATUTE. Enters California into an interstate agreement to allocate California’s electoral votes to the presidential ticket receiving the most popular votes nationwide. Allocates electoral votes based on the national vote only in years when states possessing a majority of total electoral votes (270 of 538) have entered into the agreement. Maintains California’s current system of awarding electoral votes to the statewide popular vote winner in other years. Eliminates $10 compensation and 5¢ per mile reimbursement of electors. Nullifies competing presidential-elector initiatives on the ballot that receive fewer votes. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Reduced state expenses of less than $10,000 every four years. (Initiative 07-0049.)

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1282 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is 07-0049.

The proponent for these measures, Tom Steyer, 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 – for each measure in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for these measures, meaning the signatures must be collected by March 10, 2008.

The initiative proponent can be reached at 3527 Mt. Diablo Blvd., #192, Lafayette, CA 94549. No phone number was provided.

The first presidential electors initiative, put forth by Thomas W. Hiltachk, was cleared for circulation in early September and signatures for that measure must be collected by February 4, 2008.

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