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CONTACT: Kate Folmar
(916) 653-6575

Fourth Presidential Electors Initiative Enters Circulation


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 the measure is as follows:

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS. CONDITIONAL IMPLEMENTATION OF POLITICAL PARTY NOMINATION AND ELECTION BY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT. STATUTE. Requires California to select electors for president by the plurality vote in each congressional district only if a majority of the other states have adopted proportional voting prior to that presidential election. Provides for political party nomination of electors pledged to vote for that party’s candidate. Independent electors to be chosen by independent presidential candidates and also elected by congressional district. Two at-large electors selected based on plurality of statewide vote for president. Eliminates $10 compensation and 5¢ per mile reimbursement of electors. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: No significant net fiscal effect. (Initiative 07-0052.)

The Secretary of State’s tracking number for this measure is 1284 and the Attorney General’s tracking number is 07-0052.

The proponents for this measure, Leo McElroy, Jim Rogers and George Schmidt, must collect signatures of 433,971 registered voters – the number equal to 5% of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – for this measure in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponents have 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by March 17, 2008.

The initiative proponents can be reached at (510) 867-5725.

The first presidential electors initiative was cleared for circulation on September 5 and signatures for that measure are due February 4, 2008. Two other presidential electors initiatives were cleared for circulation October 3 and signatures for those measures must be collected by March 10, 2008.

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