



# DEBRA BOWEN

## CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

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### Healthcare for Veterans Initiative Enters Circulation

#### *Shall the U.S. Government Fully Fund Healthcare for Veterans? Initiative.*

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

**SHALL THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FULLY FUND HEALTHCARE FOR VETERANS? INITIATIVE.** Asks voters to express opinion whether the U.S. government should be required to fund the Department of Veterans Affairs fully to ensure that all eligible veterans receive quality and accessible healthcare. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: The measure would have no direct fiscal effect. (Initiative 07-0073.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1303 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0073.

The proponent for this measure, Robin J. Rustan, 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 – in order to qualify it for the ballot. The proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by May 12, 2008.

The initiative proponent can be reached at P.O. Box 668, Sunset Beach, California 90742. No phone number was provided.

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