

DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Fourth Redistricting Initiative Enters Circulation

Redistricting, Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

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 this measure is as follows:

REDISTRICTING. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

Creates 14-member redistricting commission responsible for drawing new district lines for State Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts. Requires State Auditor to randomly select commission members from voter applicant pool to create a commission with five members from each of the two largest political parties, and four members unaffiliated with either political party. Requires nine votes to approve final district maps. Establishes standards for drawing new lines, including respecting the geographic integrity of neighborhoods and encouraging geographic compactness. Permits State Legislature to draw lines for congressional districts subject to these standards. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Probably no significant increase in state redistricting costs. (Initiative 07-0077.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1307 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0077.

The proponents for this measure, Kathay Feng, Jeannine English, and David Fleming, must collect signatures of 694,354 registered voters – the number equal to 8% of the total votes cast for governor in the 2006 gubernatorial election – 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 May 15, 2008.

The initiative proponents can be reached at 3527 Mt. Diablo Boulevard #192, Lafayette, California 94549. No phone number was provided.

Two redistricting measures that cleared for circulation in April failed to qualify for the ballot. A third redistricting measure cleared for circulation on August 15, and the signatures for that measure must be collected by January 14, 2008.

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