



DEBRA BOWEN

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE NEWS RELEASE

DB07:112

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
December 21, 2007

CONTACT: Nicole Winger
(916) 653-6575

Fifth Redistricting Initiative Enters Circulation

Redistricting. Constitutional Amendment and Statute.

SACRAMENTO – Secretary of State Debra Bowen today announced that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for his 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:

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 select the commission members randomly 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 ten votes to approve final district maps. Establishes standards for drawing new lines, including respect for the geographic integrity of counties and cities. 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 07-0078.)

The Secretary of State's tracking number for this measure is 1308 and the Attorney General's tracking number is 07-0078.

The proponent for this measure, William "Bill" S. Price, III, 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 proponent has 150 days to circulate petitions for this measure, meaning the signatures must be collected by May 19, 2008.

The initiative proponent can be reached at 46 Peninsula Road, Belvedere, California 94920. No phone number was provided.

Two redistricting measures that cleared for circulation in April failed to qualify for the ballot. Two measures are currently in circulation. To view these measures, visit the Secretary of State's Initiative Update website at http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_j.htm.

###