

10-0015

March 23, 2010

Office of the Attorney General
Initiative Coordinator
1300 I Street
P.O. Box 944255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

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INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Re: Request for Title and Summary – Initiative Constitutional Amendment

The undersigned hereby requests preparation of a title and summary of the Chief purpose and points of the proposed initiative measure known as the "California Democracy Act" pursuant to Article II, Section 10(d), of the California Constitution. Enclosed is the text of the proposed initiative, the required signed statement pursuant to California Elections Code section 9608, and a check in the amount of \$200.

Please direct any questions to the proponent at the address provided below.

Sincerely,



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Berkeley, CA
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SECTION 1. Title.

This measure shall be known and cited as "The California Democracy Act."

SECTION 2. Findings and Declarations.

All legislative actions on revenue and budget must be determined by a majority vote.

SECTION 3. Purpose and Intent.

1. The intent of this initiative is to bring democracy to the California legislature by ensuring that all legislative actions on revenue and budget must be determined by a majority vote.
2. The current 2/3 vote requirement for revenue and budget allows 33.4 % of *either* the Assembly or Senate to block the will of the majority, which violates an essential tenet of democracy.

SECTION 4. CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 4, Section 12, subdiv. (d) is amended to read (change in italics):

No bill except the budget bill may contain more than one item of appropriation, and that for one certain, expressed purpose. Appropriations from the General Fund of the State, except appropriations for the public schools, are void unless passed in each house by rollcall vote entered in the journal, ~~two-thirds~~ *a majority* of the membership concurring.

SECTION 5. CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 13A, Section 3, is amended to read (change in italics):

From and after the effective date of this article, any changes in State taxes enacted for the purpose of increasing revenues collected pursuant thereto whether by increased rates or changes in methods of computation must be imposed by an Act passed by not less than ~~two-thirds~~ *a majority* of all members elected to each of the two houses of the Legislature, except that no new ad valorem taxes on real property, or sales or transaction taxes on the sales of real property may be imposed.

SECTION 6. Severability.

If any of the provisions of this measure or the applicability of any of this measure to any person or circumstances shall be found to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid, such finding shall not affect the remaining provisions or circumstances, and to that extent the provisions of this measure are deemed to be severable.

SECTION 7. Conflicting Law.

If, and to the extent, any other provision of California Law is in conflict with this amendment, this amendment shall prevail.