

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO VOTERS

The Attorney General of California has prepared the following title and summary of the chief purpose and points of the proposed measure:

PUBLIC BENEFITS. DRIVER LICENSE. ELIGIBILITY. IMMIGRATION STATUS AND IDENTITY VERIFICATION. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Amends Constitution to require providers of public benefits to verify whether applicants are lawfully present in the United States. Prohibits state or local public benefits for any aliens classified as ineligible under federal law. Requires state and local officials to report immigration law violations to federal authorities; failure to report is a misdemeanor. Requires state to verify driver's license applicant's identity and lawful presence in the United States. Prohibits the state and its political subdivisions from accepting identification documents not issued by a state or federal jurisdiction. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local governments: This measure could result in increased annual costs to the state and local governments in the tens of millions of dollars to verify citizenship or immigration status of persons receiving specified public services. This measure could also result in program savings over \$100 million annually to the state and local governments, primarily counties, due to reduced expenditures for certain public services.

To the Honorable Secretary of State: We, the undersigned, registered, qualified voters of California, residents of the afore-described County (or City and County), hereby propose amendments to the Constitution of California and petition the Secretary of State to submit the same to the voters of California for their adoption or rejection at the next succeeding general election or at any special statewide election held prior to the general election or otherwise provided by law. The proposed constitutional amendments read as follows:

PROPOSED LAW

SECTION 1. Title

This article shall be known and may be cited as the "Save Our State" Initiative.

SECTION 2. Findings and declaration

The People of California find that they have suffered and are suffering from economic hardships caused by the presence of illegal aliens in their State, and that illegal immigration is encouraged by public agencies within the State that provide public benefits without verifying immigration status. The People find further that illegal aliens have been given a safe haven in California with the aid of identification cards, including driver's licenses, that are issued without verifying immigration status. The People are frustrated by the conduct of their State that contradicts Federal immigration policy, undermines the security of our borders, and demeans the value of American citizenship. Therefore, the People of California declare that the public interest of the State requires all public agencies within the State to cooperate with Federal immigration authorities to discourage illegal immigration.

SECTION 3. Verifying applications for public benefits

Article XVI A is added to the Constitution to read:

Article XVI A Verifying Applications for Public Benefits

Section 1. Verification of identity and eligibility

It is a compelling government interest to remove the incentive for illegal immigration provided by the availability of public benefits. Neither the State nor any of its political subdivisions shall contradict the objectives of Federal immigration policy, nor shall they provide any State or local public benefit, as defined in Title 8 of the United States Code, to any alien classified as ineligible for Federal public benefits by that Code. Therefore, all agencies of the State and its political subdivisions that provide State and local public benefits shall:

- (a) Verify the identity of each applicant for such benefits and that the applicant is eligible for benefits in accordance with this article.*
- (b) Provide any employee or agent of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, with information to verify the immigration status of any applicant for such benefits and to assist the employee or agent in obtaining such information from Federal immigration authorities.*

- (c) Hold all employees and agents of the State and its political subdivisions responsible for making a written report to Federal immigration authorities of any discovered violation of Federal immigration law by any applicant for such benefits; any employee or agent who fails to report, or any supervisor who, knowing of such failure to report, fails to direct the employee to report is guilty of a misdemeanor.*

Section 2. Additional verification requirements

To prevent fraudulent applications for public benefits, additional verification procedures shall be required as follows:

- (a) The State shall verify the identity of each applicant for a California driver's license or identification card and that the applicant's presence in the United States is authorized under Federal law.*
- (b) All agencies of the State and its political subdivisions that provide State and local public benefits shall refuse to accept any document for any purpose of identification unless it is issued by a state or federal jurisdiction that is recognized by the United States Government and is verifiable by state or federal agencies.*

SECTION 4. Application and enforcement

The provisions of this article shall be enforced uniformly without regard to race, religion, gender, ethnicity, or national origin. Any person who is a resident of the State shall have standing in any court of record to bring suit against any agent or agency of the State, or any political subdivision thereof, to remedy any violation of any provision of this amendment, including but not limited to an action for mandamus. Courts of record shall give preference to actions brought under this article over other civil actions or proceedings pending in the court.

SECTION 5. Severability

If any provision of this amendment or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of the amendment which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end the provisions of this amendment are severable.

Thank you for circulating this petition. After filling out the Declaration of Circulator, please mail the petition to: **Petition Processing Center, P.O. Box 5250, Buena Park, CA 90622** • For more petitions, call Save Our State at: **(714) 899-9631**