09-0037

September 23, 2009

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INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

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

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,

George Lakoff
1435 Euclid Avenue
Berkeley, CA
510-848-7465
lakoff@berkeley.edu

AN INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE VOTERS

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. 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 express purpose. Appropriation from the General Fund of the State, except appropriations for the public school, are void unless passed by each house by rollcall vote entered in the journal, ~~two-thirds~~ ***a majority*** of the membership concurring.

SECTION 4. CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTION ARTICLE 13A, Sec. 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 on increasing revenues collected pursuant thereto whether by increased rates or changes in the methods of computation must be imposed by 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 sale of new property may be imposed.

SECTION 5. 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 effect the remaining provisions or circumstances, and to that extent the provisions of this measure are deemed to be severable.

SECTION 6. Conflicting Initiatives

In the event that this measure and another measure or measures relating to their legislative votes required to pass the state budget, increase taxes, or enact or increase fees shall appear on the statewide election ballot, the provisions of the other measure or measures shall be deemed to be in conflict with this measure. In the event that this measure receives a greater number of affirmative votes, the provisions of this measure shall prevail in their entirety, and the other measure shall be null and void.

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.