

Date: November 18, 2009
Initiative 09-0044

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

CHANGES CALIFORNIA LAW TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA AND RELEASE NON-VIOLENT MARIJUANA OFFENDERS FROM JAIL. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Repeals state laws that make it a crime to possess, cultivate, transport, distribute, or use marijuana or hemp. Provides persons convicted or serving time for non-violent marijuana offenses be immediately released from prison, jail, parole, or probation, and have their convictions erased. Authorizes Legislature to adopt laws to license and tax commercial marijuana sales. Allows doctors to prescribe or recommend marijuana to patients, regardless of age. Prohibits testing for marijuana for employment or insurance purposes. Bars state from aiding enforcement of federal marijuana laws. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Savings in the several tens of millions of dollars annually to state and local governments on the costs of incarcerating and supervising certain marijuana offenders. Unknown but potentially major tax and fee revenues to state and local government related to the production and sale of marijuana products. (09-0044.)