

SA2003RF0079



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Initiative Coordinator
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I hereby request the preparation of a title and summary for the enclosed proposed initiative measure.

Carmen Balber
Proponent

RECEIVED

DEC 23 2003

INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

I, Carmen Balber, acknowledge that it is a misdemeanor under state law (Section 18650 of the Elections Code) to knowingly or willfully allow the signatures on an initiative petition to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the proposed measure for the ballot. I certify that I will not knowingly or willfully allow the signatures for this initiative to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the measure for the ballot.

Dated this 17th day of December, 2003

Encl: Proponent's Voter Registration Address
Text of Proposed Initiative Measure
Check

The Politician Reform Act of 2004

SECTION 1. Title.

This Act shall be known as the "Politician Reform Act of 2004."

SECTION 2. Findings and Declarations.

The People of California find and declare the following:

- (a) Legislators who refuse to vote for or against legislation are avoiding their duties and do not deserve to be paid.
- (b) The existing laws do not penalize legislators who refuse to vote and do not make transparent enough legislators' non-voting records and fundraising practices.
- (c) Therefore, the People of California declare that politicians who are in attendance but do not vote on legislation should not be paid for that day. In addition, new public disclosures of fundraising practices and voting records are needed for the public to hold their public officials more accountable.

SECTION 3. Purpose and Intent.

The People of California enact the Politician Reform Act of 2004 to accomplish the following purposes:

- (a) To compel state legislators to be active participants in the legislative process and fully disclose their votes and campaign contributors.
- (b) To penalize elected officials who fail to fulfill their duty to vote on legislative matters placed before them.
- (c) To ensure that the fundraising practices and voting records of elected officials are transparent and accessible to the citizens of California.
- (d) To create an easily accessible database in which citizens can access legislators' voting records.

SECTION 4. Chapter 8.5 is added to Title 9 of the Government Code, to read:

88500. This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the Politician Reform Act of 2004.

Article 1. No Vote, No Pay

88501. (a) No Member shall be entitled to any salary, per diem, or other expense allowance for any day in which he or she fails to vote on one or more occasions.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of each Member to notify Legislative Counsel if he or she failed to vote due to an excused absence, as defined in Section 88900(a). Members shall submit a sworn affidavit to Legislative Counsel, under penalty of perjury, for an excused absence.

Article 2. Politician Transparency

88550. (a) Each Member's Not Voting Record shall be calculated, updated, and made publicly available by Legislative Counsel, pursuant to Section 10248 of the Government Code, on a weekly and cumulative basis.

- (1) A Member's weekly Not Voting Record shall be calculated beginning with Monday and ending with Sunday of each week of each current legislative session.
- (2) A Member's cumulative Not Voting Record shall be calculated beginning with the start of each current legislative session and ending with the most recent Sunday of each current legislative session.