



Stop the Steal California

A Committee organized to oppose the recall
of Governor Gavin Newsom

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STOP THE STEAL COMMITTEE WANTS PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF PETITIONS; THREATENS LEGAL ACTION

Stop the Steal Committee chair State Senate Pro Tem Emeritus Don Perata called upon the leaders of the Recall Gavin Newsom Committee to release the petitions to the public in accordance with the Right to Access Public Information and Meetings Constitutional Amendment or face legal action in the Courts to force public disclosure.

“We have been contacted by countless California voters who can’t recall whether they specifically signed the recall petition,” explained Perata. “If they did, many of them told us they weren’t told clearly by paid petition gatherers the cost or the timing of the recall. They now want to remove their signatures.”

“California law says that voters have right to remove their signatures. We are requesting on behalf of the voters that the Recall Committee publicly release the signed petitions so voters can have the opportunity starting on May 10 to remove their names. We trust that the proponents believe that absolute transparency in government can not be guaranteed unless the petitions are made public,” Perata added.

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The Right to Access Public Information was approved by 83.3% of the voters in November 2004. Proposition 59 provided that the people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business.

Prop 59 also stated that any statute, court rule, or other authority, including those in effect on the effective date of this measure, shall be broadly construed if it effectuates the people's right of access, and narrowly construed if it limits the right of access.

The Stop the Steal California committee believes that Prop 59 gives it full standing to ask the proponents, the County registrars, and the Secretary of State to release the petitions. If any or all refuse, the committee will proceed to litigation to guarantee full public access.

Perata says his committee has offered to pay for the cost of making copies. His committee is prepared to move forward with legal action seeking transparency and disclosure if the copies of the petitions are not made available.

"This is a public process where full disclosure is needed and necessary. There should be no reason the recall proponents hide the names from the voters. If they won't do it voluntarily, we will take legal action against the Recall Committee and the Secretary of State," Perata stated.

"In California, all dollars spent on political efforts are required to be reported and disclosed to the public. The signers of a Recall should be similarly disclosed. Bottom line, the public has a right to know who is trying to force an expensive and unnecessary election when we already have one set mere months away," Perata concluded.

The Stop the Steal California committee is a citizen-led effort, independent from political party politics. We are defending taxpayer dollars and the Governor's public service record as he has managed our state through a global pandemic.

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