

Published on *The National Law Review* <https://natlawreview.com>

They Say That Breaking Up Is Hard To Do...Will Californians Vote On Secession?

Article By:

Keith Paul Bishop

"It was that population that gave to California a name for getting up astounding enterprises and rushing them through with a magnificent dash and daring and a recklessness of cost or consequences, which she bears unto this day — and when she projects a new surprise the grave world smiles as usual and says, 'Well, that is California all over.'"

Mark Twain, *Roughing It*

Californians may be voting on whether to leave the United States and join the nations of the world as a stand alone country. Last week, the California Secretary of State's office [announced](#) that a proposed initiative has been cleared for circulation that would put the question on a future ballot. If 50% of registered voters participate in election; and 55% of those voting approve, the result would be treated as vote of "no confidence in the United States". Thus, an approval vote would not necessarily result in immediate secession (even assuming that the federal government would assent). The proponent has until March 8, 2021 to collect signatures of 623,212 registered voters (five percent of the total votes cast for Governor in the November 2018 general election) in order to qualify the initiative for the ballot.

© 2010-2025 Allen Matkins Leck Gamble Mallory & Natsis LLP

National Law Review, Volume X, Number 260

Source URL: <https://natlawreview.com/article/they-say-breaking-hard-to-dowill-californians-vote-secession>