



Chronicling civil-service life for California state workers

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[California pension reform group suspends initiative campaign](#)

A group that hoped to put a sweeping public employee [pension reform](#) measure on the November ballot is suspending its campaign.

"It's a sad day for [pension reform](#) in [California](#)," said [Aaron McLearn](#), spokesman for Sacramento-based [California Pension Reform](#).

Although the group had drafted two measures that qualified for signature collection, it couldn't raise the \$2 million or so needed to mount the petition effort for either one.

In November, California [Pension Reform](#) submitted a proposal to put future state and local public employees into [defined contribution plans](#) and another measure that would have shifted future workers into hybrid pensions. In January, it received the title and summary for both, intending to determine which would poll better and then shop that plan to potential campaign donors.

The language that came back from Attorney General **Kamala Harris'** office was worded to make it unpopular with voters, the [pension reform](#) group complained. The language was "false and misleading," it said in a press statement today.

And that made it harder to find money, McLearn said.