



# NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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Contact: Terri Carbaugh  
Doug Stone  
916-653-6575

## **Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation**

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today the proponents of a new initiative received clearance to begin collecting petition signatures for their measure.

The Attorney General's official title and summary is as follows:

EMERGENCY AND MEDICAL SERVICES. FUNDING. TELEPHONE SURCHARGE. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE. Provides funding for emergency personnel training and equipment, reimbursement for uncompensated emergency physician care, uncompensated community clinic care, emergency telephone system improvements and to hospitals for emergency services. Commission to administer physician funding. Funded by: Addition of 3% to surcharge rate on telephone use within California; portions of tobacco taxes; criminal and traffic penalties. Monthly cap of 50 cents on surcharge collected by residential service providers, but not cell phone or business lines. Excludes funding from government appropriations limitations, and telephone surcharge from Proposition 98's school spending requirements.

The proponents, John Whitelaw, Kacey Hansen and William Wesley Fields, must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, 8 percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, for their measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is April 12, 2004. The initiative proponents can be reached at 916-442-7757.

For a copy of the complete text, title & summary, and circulation calendar, please contact the Secretary of State's Press Office at 916-653-6575.

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