

KS03:014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, March 17, 2003 Contact:

Terri Carbaugh Debbie O'Donoghue 916/653-6575

Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Statewide Elections. Fines for Failure to Register or Vote. Initiative Statute.

SACRAMENTO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today that the proponent of a new initiative has received clearance to begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

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

STATEWIDE ELECTIONS. FINES FOR FAILURE TO REGISTER OR VOTE. INITIATIVE STATUTE. Provides that eligible voters who fail to register for, or vote in, a statewide election shall be fined no less than fifty dollars (\$50.00).

The proponent, Reverend Christopher DeMars, must collect 373,816 signatures of registered voters for his measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is August 14, 2003. The proponent can be reached at 209/533-1564.

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.

-30-