



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Redistricting. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

SACRAMENTO, CA --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley announced today that the proponent of a new initiative may begin collecting petition signatures for his measure.

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

REDISTRICTING. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

- Amends the state constitutional provisions governing redistricting of Congressional, Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization districts.
- Establishes criteria for drawing new election district boundaries, following next national census.
- Provides for appointment of 3-member panel of retired judges to prepare proposed redistricting plans; specifies panel selection criteria.
- Requires panel to consider proposals submitted by electors and/or legislators, hold public hearings, and submit proposed redistricting plan to Legislature.
- Provides process for redistricting plans to be approved by Legislature, Governor, and/or voters.
- Authorizes elector challenge to redistricting plan in California Supreme Court.

The summary of the estimate by the Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of the fiscal impact on state and local governments indicates that this measure would have the following major fiscal impacts: One-time state redistricting costs, potentially totaling several million dollars.

The proponent, Edward J. "Ted" Costa must collect 598,105 signatures of registered voters, which is eight percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions is October 29, 2004. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-482-6175.

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.