



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

KS05:016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Friday, March 4, 2005

Contact: Caren Daniels-Meade
Carol Dahmen
916-653-6575

Proposed Initiative Enters Circulation

Political Activities of Public Employee Unions. Funding. Initiative Statute.

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:

**POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEE UNIONS. FUNDING.
INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

- Requires public employee unions to fund political activities from separate fund registered as political committee.
- Solicitation of funds from employees must disclose that contributions are voluntary, and the political purpose of fund.
- Unions must obtain written confirmation that employee received disclosure.
- Prohibits use of union dues/fees for political activities.
- Creates exception for union's direct communication with members and expenditures for charitable organizations or health care insurance.
- Union expenditure records must be submitted to Fair Political Practices Commission, but are not subject to public disclosure.
- Establishes criminal/civil penalties for violations.

The summary of the estimated fiscal impact on state and local governments, as determined by the Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance, indicates probable minor state implementation costs, potentially offset in part by revenues from fees and/or fines.

The proponent, Lewis K. Uhler, must collect 373,816 signatures of registered voters, which is five percent of the total votes cast for governor in the 2002 gubernatorial election, in order to qualify the measure. The 150-day deadline to circulate petitions for this measure is August 1, 2005. The initiative proponent can be reached at 916-786-9400.

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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