

**BALLOT TITLE  
INITIATIVE PETITION 51**

**LIMITS AMOUNT OF CONTINGENT FEES THAT LAWYERS MAY  
CHARGE CLIENTS FOR REPRESENTATION IN CIVIL CASE**

**RESULT OF "YES" VOTE:** "Yes" vote limits contingent fee plaintiffs' lawyers may charge in civil cases to 25% of first \$25,000 recovered, 10% of additional recovery.

**RESULT OF "NO" VOTE:** "No" vote rejects modifications to current law, which prohibits all lawyers from charging illegal or clearly excessive fees and contingent fees in domestic relations cases.

**SUMMARY:** Current law does not define the phrase "contingent fee" in lawyer-client context; prohibits all lawyers from charging illegal or clearly excessive fees and from charging contingent fees in domestic relations cases; does not otherwise limit specific percentage of recovery or award a lawyer can charge as a contingency fee. Measure defines "contingent fee" as a fee where a lawyer is paid a percentage of money awarded to client in a legal case; limits the contingent fee that plaintiffs' lawyers may charge clients in civil cases to: 25% of the first \$25,000 recovered by the client, 10% of any recovery above \$25,000. Measure does not limit lawyer's ability to be reimbursed for costs and expenses incurred by the lawyer. Other provisions.