

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

SUFFOLK, ss

SUPREME JUDICIAL
COURT FOR
SUFFOLK COUNTY
No.

John B. Kelly et. al.,

Petitioners,

v.

MARTHA COAKLEY, as she is the
ATTORNEY GENERAL, and WILLIAM
FRANCIS GALVIN, as he is the
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH,

Defendants.

PETITION TO AMEND THE BALLOT QUESTION TITLE
AND THE ONE-SENTENCE YES STATEMENT
FOR THE PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE INITIATIVE

I. INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

Ballot question 11-12 (Petition G) seeks to legalize
physician-assisted suicide in Massachusetts.

The defendants, the Attorney General and the Secretary of
the Commonwealth, have prepared and published a proposed ballot
question title and proposed one-sentence yes/no statements for
the November election. This petition requests an order requiring
the defendants to amend the title and the yes statement because
the language contained therein is misleading. This petition is
brought per G.L. c. 54, § 53.

II. PARTIES

1. The plaintiffs are fifty or more registered voters.
2. Defendant Martha Coakley is the duly elected Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts having her usual place of business at One Ashburton Place, Boston Massachusetts.
3. Defendant William F. Galvin is the duly elected Secretary of the Commonwealth having his usual place of business at One Ashburton Place, Boston Massachusetts.

III. JURISDICTION

4. This court has jurisdiction per G.L. c. 54, § 53, which states:

Any fifty voters may petition the supreme judicial court for Suffolk county to require that any such title or statement be amended; provided, however, that such petition must be filed within twenty days after the publication of said title and statement.

5. In the case at bar, the title and one-sentence yes statement were published in the Massachusetts Register on April 27, 2012.
6. The instant petition, filed on or before May 17, 2012, is timely so as to give the court jurisdiction.

IV. MOTION FOR RELIEF

7. The petitioners's arguments will be presented in a formal motion with supporting documentation, to be filed next week.

WHEREFORE, the voter petitioners respectfully request that this Court:

1. Require the defendants to amend the ballot question title and one-sentence yes statement so as to render them non-misleading; and
2. For other just and equitable relief.

Dated this 17th day of May, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

John B. Kelly, Petitioner/Voter
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