



Q: Will this measure really be on the ballot?

A: Yes. Proponents of this measure invested millions toward their goal of collecting 623,212 valid signatures, which were verified in the second half of 2020. While not yet assigned a proposition number, the initiative threat to eviscerate MICRA has qualified for the November 2022 ballot, which is why we need your commitment to oppose this dangerous initiative now more than ever.

Q: Isn't it time to adjust MICRA's cap on noneconomic damages?

A: This measure does not adjust the MICRA cap – it effectively eliminates it in the vast majority of cases by creating a new category of lawsuits not subject to the cap on noneconomic damages. When this measure is on the ballot, voters must choose between keeping or eliminating the cap.

Q: How does this measure affect me and my patients?

A: This dangerous initiative would substantially raise health care costs for all Californians, reduce access to health care and harm the patients most in need of care. It will raise insurance costs, forcing physicians in high-risk specialties to reduce or eliminate patient services. This measure maximizes profits for the proponents and his law firms, while creating incentives for more frivolous lawsuits against health care providers and hurting patients.

Q: Who else is opposed to this measure?

A: This dangerous initiative is opposed by a growing coalition of physicians, dentists, nurses, community health clinics, hospitals, local governments, public safety, business and labor groups who understand this measure is not what it claims to be.

Q: How can hospital medical staffs help defeat this measure?

A: We are asking medical staffs to donate to the California Medical Association (CMA) Political Education Fund (PEF), which supports CMA's work to champion the health of all Californians by upholding MICRA, defending physicians and advancing the practice of medicine. As we get closer to November 2022, you will be able to order campaign materials to educate your colleagues, patients and community. Your investment helps us defeat this dangerous measure.

Q: Why give money to the Political Education Fund?

A: The Political Education Fund fuels CMA's work to mobilize physicians and champion the health of all Californians by upholding MICRA and supporting the Association's advocacy, legal and political education efforts whenever and wherever needed. Medical staffs are particularly important supporters of PEF because medical staffs often cannot contribute to traditional political campaigns but can give to funds like the PEF.

Q: Can individuals give, too?

A: Absolutely. We ask that individuals contribute to the external political campaign, a link to donate can be found by visiting protectmicra.org. The external campaign will be focused on direct contact to all California voters, while contributions from medical staffs to PEF support the education and mobilization of physicians to defeat this initiative.

Q: Will our donations be publicly reported?

A: No. PEF is not subject to the reporting requirements of political campaigns or committees. It is independent from CALPAC, CMA's Political Action Committee.

Q: This initiative has qualified but 2022 is a long way off. Will you take loans or return contributions?

A: The proponents of the initiative invested millions of dollars in signature gathering expenses to qualify their proposition, leaving it highly unlikely they withdraw their measure from the ballot. We fully expect this measure to appear on the November 2022 ballot and need resources to ensure we are fully equipped, as early as possible, to educate the physician community on the importance of protecting MICRA.

Q: How can my medical staff stay involved?

A: Your Medical Staff Coordinator and leadership will receive regular updates on the status of this threat to MICRA and our campaign to protect it. They can also request educational materials and handouts when available, as well as link our team to medical professionals who want to get more engaged in our efforts to protect MICRA.