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### Your Responsibility When Using the Information Provided Below:

When we wrote this Informational Material we did our best to give you useful and accurate information because we know that prisoners often have difficulty obtaining legal information and we cannot provide specific advice to all the prisoners who request it. The laws change frequently and are subject to differing interpretations. We do not always have the resources to make changes to this material every time the law changes. If you use this pamphlet it is your responsibility to make sure that the law has not changed and is applicable to your situation. Most of the materials you need should be available in your institution law library.

### **INFORMATION RE: *THREE STRIKES REFORM INITIATIVE*** January 2016

We have received your letter asking for information, advice, or assistance in regards to a new initiative to amend the Three Strikes Law.

Below is the text of an article from the Los Angeles Times about a proposal for three-strikes reform that may qualify to be placed on the November 2016 election ballot. As stated in the article, at the present time, the reform proposal has not qualified for the ballot. If the proposal gets on the ballot, it would have to be approved by the voters before it could take effect. We have no other information about this initiative at the present time.

More information and periodic updates about the initiative are available on the *Choose1 Initiative* website at <http://www.choose1.org/>.

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**Los Angeles Times**  
**October 20, 2015**  
**Paige St. John**

### **Petition drive to scale back California's three strikes law cleared for circulation**

Supporters of a proposed ballot initiative gained clearance Tuesday to seek signatures for a measure that would further roll back California's three strikes law.

The secretary of state's office Tuesday gave the green light for supporters to collect signatures for a proposed ballot initiative that would further soften California's three strikes law.

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A review of the 19-page proposal by the Legislative Analyst's Office estimates that if passed it would save the state several hundred million dollars a year, but cost counties some \$100 million a year as offenders go to jail instead of prison.

The three strikes law requires sentences of 25 years to life for those convicted of three violent felonies. The ballot initiative would drop the expanded penalty for convictions that predated the 1994 law. Some crimes such as burglary of an unoccupied building or making criminal threats would no longer be serious felonies. And the initiative would make it easier for prisoners to petition judges to have their sentences reconsidered.

The proposal would also prevent offenders from being given multiple strikes in a case that involves more than one felony, even though the state Supreme Court already ruled in July 2014 that multiple strikes cannot be charged in a single case.

The request for approval to circulate petitions to put the initiative on the November 2016 ballot was filed by Julie Piccolotti, a resident of Half Moon Bay.

On the application, Piccolotti included the Web address of [www.choose1.org](http://www.choose1.org), which includes links to a GoFundMe crowd-funding account to raise money for the effort and material supporting Proposition 36, a 2012 ballot measure that restricted the extended three strikes sentences to violent felonies.

As of Tuesday afternoon, the GoFundMe account showed 16 donations totaling \$480.