



San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance

Legislative Report

- AB 1998 (Brownley – D) Solid Waste: Single Use Carryout Bags

November 2010 Statewide Ballot Measures

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Current Legislation and Vote Records

**August 4, 2010
Legislative Report #8**

Prepared by:

Shaun Lumachi
shaun@chamberadvocacy.biz
562.843.0947

Legislative Report

AB 1998 (Brownley – D) Solid Waste: Single Use Carryout Bags

Summary

1. AB 1998 prohibits retailers from providing single-use bags to customers and authorizes retailers to provide reusable bags that meet specified standards to customers.

Background

2. Current law requires operators of grocery stores and large retail stores that include a pharmacy to operate in-store recycling programs to take back plastic bags.
3. The current law provides that local governments may not implement separate recycling programs or impose fees on stores that meet these requirements. This requirement sunsets on January 1, 2013.
4. AB 1998 prohibits retailers from providing customers with single-use plastic bags and after January 1, 2012, the AB 1998 prohibits operators of supermarkets and large retail stores from providing single-use plastic bags to customers.
5. After July 1, 2013, operators of supermarkets and large retail stores may only provide reusable bags that meet standards specified in the bill to customers.
6. Beginning in July 1, 2013, both of these requirements apply to other (smaller) retail stores.
7. AB 1998 also requires retailers to make recycled-content paper bags available to customers for not less than \$0.05 per bag.
8. Beginning on January 1, 2013, the bill requires manufacturers of reusable bags to meet standards set forth in the bill or developed by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (DRRR).
9. AB 1998 imposes a one-time certification fee on reusable bag manufacturers of not more than \$10,000 and imposes a biennial certification fee of not more than \$3,000.
10. AB 1998 authorizes the Department to audit retailers and manufacturers to ensure compliance with the provisions of the bill and test reusable bags for compliance with statutory and regulatory standards.
11. The bill authorizes the Department to impose civil penalties up to \$5,000 on retailers and civil penalties up to \$150,000 on reusable bag manufacturers that do not comply with the requirements of the bill.
12. Lastly, AB 1998 moves up the sunset of the existing in-store recycling requirement to January 1, 2012.

Arguments in Support

13. According to the author, plastic single-use bags are urban tumbleweeds in our communities as these bags are blown into the gutters and collect in our storm drain system, eventually making their way out to the ocean.
14. California taxpayers spend approximately \$25 million annually to collect and dispose of the 19 billion plastic bags used every year. However, these bags are rarely recycled as the DRRR estimates that less than 5% of all single use plastic bags in the state are actually recycled leading to local agencies to spend millions more to dispose of plastic bags and clean up discarded plastic bags.

Arguments in Opposition

15. The American Chemistry Council argues that at least 500 good paying plastic bag manufacturing jobs throughout the state, along with other suppliers, vendors and others would be put at risk if this bill passes.
16. AB 1998 creates extra costs to implement the proposed law such as auditing of the money collected by the stores to cover costs of providing bags. Furthermore, opponents believe that AB 1998 may create a competitive disadvantage

for small businesses (neighborhood markets, small stores, etc.) by allowing large stores to utilize their buying power when negotiating a lower price to carry the mandated recycled bags.

Supporting (Partial Listing)

Local Governments and Organizations

AFSCME
Amerigreenbag.com
Association of Communities United of South Los Angeles
Ballona Creek Renaissance
Bay Area Council
California Association of Environmental Health Administrators
California Coastal Coalition
California Coastkeeper Alliance
California Grocer's Association
California League of Conservation Voters
California State Lands Commission
Californians Against Waste
Chico Bag
Cities of Burbank, Del Mar, Long Beach, Newport Beach, Pasadena, San Buenaventura, Solana Beach, Ventura
Clean South Bay
Clean Water Action California
Defenders of Wildlife
Downtown Encinitas Main Street Association
Duro Bag Manufacturing Company
Earth Resource Foundation
Earthwise Bag Company
East Bay Municipal Utility District
Environment California
Envirosax
ForestEthics
Fresh and Easy Neighborhood Market Inc.
Friends of Five Creeks
Global Green USA
Green Sangha
Humboldt Coastkeepers
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles County
Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/ Integrated Waste Management Task Force
Marin County Board of Supervisors
Monterey County Board of Supervisors
Monterey Regional Waste Management District
Natural Resources Defense Council
Neighborhood Market Association
Northcoast Environmental Center
OCEANA
Orange County Coastkeeper
Ormond Beach Observers
Planning and Conservation League
Plastic Pollution Coalition
PW Supermarkets Inc. (San Jose)
Rainforest Action Network
Rite Aid
San Diego Coastkeeper
San Diego County Board of Supervisors
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
San Luis Obispo County Integrated Waste Management Authority
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Santa Monica Baykeeper
Save Mart Supermarkets
Seventh Generation Advisors
Sierra Club of California
Solid Waste Solutions Inc
State Lands Commission
Steven Bochco Productions
StopWaste.org - Alameda County Waste Management Authority
Suja Lowenthal - Councilmember - City of Long Beach
Super Food Inc. (Commerce)
Surfers' Environmental Alliance
Surfrider Foundation (plus Humboldt & Santa Barbara Chapter)
Urban Semillas
Washington Elementary PTA
Western States Council of the United Food & Commercial Workers
Wild Heritage Planners
WiLDCOAST
WinCo Foods Inc.
Wisdom Academy for Young Scientists
Youth Opportunities for High School and Associations of Communities United of South Los Angeles

Opposing (Partial Listing)

Businesses and Organizations

25 Avenue Liquors, San Mateo
3 Minute Mini Market, Los Angeles
4 U Market and Liquor, Stanton
7 Days Market, Los Angeles
7 Star Liquor, La Mirada
8th Day Mini Market, Gardena
98 Cent Discount, Los Angeles
A & B Liquor Store, Los Angeles
A.B. Mini Market, Long Beach
A.J. Hassan, small business person, Alhambra
A.R.D. Real Estate Management Company, Los Angeles
AB Liquor, Stanton
Airport Liquor and Groceries, Long Beach
Al's Liquor, South San Francisco

Alex Alchai, La Mirada
 Alhambra Market, Alhambra
 All Star Fish, Inglewood
 Alpin Market, Garden Grove
 Alta Dena Market, Bell
 Alta Dina Market, San Mateo
 American Chemistry Council
 American Forest & Paper Association
 Annie Nguyen, small business person, Garden Grove
 Archway Enterprises, Inc., Inglewood
 Arteymas.com Stationary and Fine Art, Sacramento
 B&J Liquor Market, Buena Park
 Barley Bin Liquor, Norwalk
 Bate's Fish Market, Gardena
 BB Jr. Market, Los Angeles
 Beer & Groceries, Garden Grove
 Bell Drugs, Bell
 Benny's Market, Los Angeles
 Best Food Market, Long Beach
 Biodegradable Products Institute
 Bradley Packaging Systems
 Beaches, and Parks
 Brookhurst Drive-In Liquor, Anaheim
 Brother Market, Los Angeles
 Bui Phong Bakery, San Jose
 California Film Extruders & Converters Association
 California Forestry Association
 California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
 Californians for Extended Producer Responsibility
 Calimex Market, Santa Ana
 Calimex, Los Angeles
 Cameo Liquor, Los Angeles
 Camitas Urnapan Market, Los Angeles
 Campus Market, San Jose
 Capuchino Plaza, San Mateo
 Capuehino Market, San Mateo
 Carlos Campo, small business person, Los Angeles
 Catalina Liquor, Los Angeles
 Centerwood Liquor, San Mateo
 Central California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Christina Branto, small business person
 Command Packaging
 Community Advocates, Los Angeles
 Corona Chamber of Commerce
 Crown Poly Inc.
 D.J. Market, Los Angeles
 Daman Sidhu, Pioneer Food Stores employee
 Delta's Beauty Salon, South Gate
 Dollar Club, South Gate
 Drive-in Liquor, Whittier
 Druzba Meat Market, Los Angeles
 Duy Phan, small business person, Garden Grove
 Ed's Liquor, Pico Rivera
 Eddie's Liquor, Buena Park
 Eddie's Mini Mart, Whittier
 Edie's Liquor, Long Beach
 El Dorado Liquor, San Jose
 El Progreso Market, Santa Ana
 El Puerta Ranch Market, Long Beach
 El Ranchito Market, Buena Park
 El Rancho Market, Lennox
 El Super Market, Highland Park
 El Toro Market, Santa Ana
 Father and Son Bakery, Los Angeles
 Felix Meats
 Fiesta Foods, Bakersfield
 Fiesta Latina Market, Shafter
 Figeroa Mini Market, Los Angeles
 First Stop Liquor, Buena Park
 Flash Mini Market, Anaheim
 Florence Chevron, Los Angeles
 Food Fair Market, Bakersfield
 Food Store 17, Buena Park
 Former Assembly member, Gerald Felando
 Foster City Mini Mart, Foster City
 Fran Loker, business owner, Inglewood
 Frank's Liquor, Los Angeles
 Fred Chyr, Board of Trustees, Mt. San Antonio College
 Friendly Liquor, Gardena
 Fusion Fine Clothing For Men, Santa Ana
 Gage Liquor, Bell
 Garden Grill Mediterranean, Montebello
 Garden Grove Superstore, Garden Grove
 Garden Ranch Market, Montebello
 Garden Ranch Market, Montebello
 Gil Perez Serrano, small business person, Los Angeles
 Gin's Liquor, Inglewood
 Global Housing Development, Inc., Los Angeles
 Golden Market, Los Angeles
 Golden Ninth Beer & Liquor, San Mateo
 Great American Packaging
 Greater La Puente Valley Meals on Wheels
 Green Circle Markets, Los Angeles
 Greg & Jim's Meat Co., Whittier
 Grog Shop Liquor, Norwalk
 Guatemala Imports, Los Angeles
 Guerrero Market, Los Angeles
 H & C Liquor, Garden Grove
 Hank's Liquor, Santa Ana
 Happy Hollow Market, San Jose
 Happy Time Liquor, Los Angeles
 Health Store Sales Associate, South Gate
 Health Store, South Gate
 Heritage Bag
 Hi Crest, Anaheim
 Hill's Deli Market, San Mateo
 Hilliker's Ranch Fresh Eggs, Lakeside
 Hillside Market, Los Angeles
 Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 HispanoAmerica Jewelers
 Holy Park Fish Market, Long Beach
 Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association
 Huntington Food & Liquors, San Bruno
 Iberoamerica Market Latino, Anaheim
 Irene's Market, Los Angeles
 Isabel Garcia, small business person, Anaheim
 J&J Market
 Jacinto Ruiz, small business person, Anaheim
 Jail House Deli

James Duran, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Silicon Valley
 JK Liquor, Los Angeles
 Joe's Market, Long Beach
 John Hanna, Trustee, Rancho Santiago Community College District
 Jong Sunk Dim, market owner, Long Beach
 Jordan Brandman, Trustee, Anaheim Union High School District
 Joshua Castro, small business owner, Los Angeles
 JR Market, Santa Ana
 Jr. Market, Los Angeles
 K- Healthy Food Center, San Jose
 K S Market, Los Angeles
 Ka Vue, Manager, Orange
 Katella Groceries, Stanton
 Kern County Black Chamber of Commerce
 Key Pharmacy, Los Angeles
 Kid Avenue, Santa Ana
 King's Liquor, Gardena
 L'Amour Bakery, San Jose
 La Barata Market, Delano
 La Gaviota, Santa Ana
 La Mexicana Meat Market, Anaheim
 La Mexicana Meat Market, Norwalk
 La Vaquita Market, Bell
 Lao Asia Market, Anaheim
 Larry's Liquor Store, South Gate
 Latinos Market, Cudahy
 Leticia's Mini Market, Los Angeles
 Liborio Markets, Los Angeles
 Lincoln Park Market, Los Angeles
 Linda Michoacan Market. Delano
 Liquors, Los Angeles
 Los Angeles International Charter High School
 Los Angeles Metropolitan Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
 Los Jaliseieuses Meat Market, Lawndale
 Lu Lee, small business person, Santa Ana
 Lucky Liquor, Los Angeles
 Luna's Shoe Repair, South Gate
 M & M Mini Mart Liquor, Pico Rivera
 Many Market, Los Angeles
 Marhabta Market, Norwalk
 Marina Liquors, San Mateo
 Market Produce, Bell
 Market, Anaheim
 Marketita Mazatlan, Los Angeles
 Mart 99 Cents, Los Angeles
 Melrose Strip Carwash, Los Angeles
 Mercado La Plaza, Santa Ana
 Metabolix
 MG Graphics, Huntington Beach
 Mi Ranchito Market, McFarland
 Michael Miller, past president, Deterding Arts and Resource Team (DART), Sacramento County
 Mix It Up Market - Willow Glen, San Jose
 Mobile fuel station, Figueroa Street, Los Angeles
 More For Less, Half Moon Bay
 Mr. B's Liquor Market, Inglewood
 Mr. J's Liquor, Lawndale
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Stockton
 Nelson's Liquor, Los Angeles
 New Orleans Market, Los Angeles
 Nguoi Vet Supermarket, Garden Grove
 NHA Trang Pure Water & Gift Shop, San Jose
 Nicole Suydam, Vice President, Development, Goodwill of Orange County
 Nifty Fifty's Hollywood Collectibles, Santa Ana
 Noland Castellán, small business person, Los Angeles
 Nold's Liquor, Los Angeles
 Norwalk Liquor, Santa Fe Springs
 Nuevo Mundo Market, Los Angeles
 Nutritional Products, Los Angeles
 Ocean Grocery Market, Los Angeles
 OK Liquor, Long Beach
 Oli's Gift Shop, Santa Ana
 Oligarc Wine & Spirits, Los Angeles
 Olympic Meat Market, Montebello
 Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 P.M. Liquor, Los Angeles
 Palle, Inc., Whittier
 Papabear Loungeabouts, Los Angeles
 Paquita's Bridal Shop, Bell
 Parent and Community Action Team, Inglewood
 Pasarella Bridal, Inc., Santa Ana
 Pastor's Carniceria & Restaurant, Pico Rivera
 Pat's Liquor, Garden Grove
 Patsy Valbuena, Stanton
 Paul Sampson, grocery store manager, Montclair
 Payless Market, Los Angeles
 Peace 4 Kids, Compton
 Penaloza's Meat Market, Los Angeles
 People Who Care Youth Center
 Phillip Elliot Yarbrough, Trustee, Rancho Santiago Community College District
 Phu Nguyen, Pharmacist, San Jose
 Pico Dairy, Pico Rivera
 Pico Liquor, Pico Rivera
 Poblanos Mini Market, Los Angeles
 Porche Liquor, Los Angeles
 Prince Market, Los Angeles
 Product Super Market, Los Angeles
 Public Allies Los Angeles
 Quality Market, Anaheim
 R & G's Food Basket, Norwalk
 Ralph's Liquor, Los Angeles
 Red's Market, Los Angeles
 Redondo Beach Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau
 Reggie's Liquor, Los Angeles
 RG's Food, Norwalk
 Rodregas Market, Los Angeles
 Rome Inn Liquor, Buena Park
 Rosa Russell, Chair, 47th Assembly District, Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee
 Rosen Group, Inc., Los Angeles
 Sag, Inc., Hawthorne
 Sai Gom Nho Save Max, San Jose

Sam's Market and Liquor, Long Beach
San Antonio Panaderia, Santa Ana
San Diego Urban Economic Corporation
San Mateo Liquors, San Mateo
Sara's Markets, Los Angeles
School House Deli, South San Francisco
Security and Spy Outlet, Inc., Santa Ana
Shoe Rax, Los Angeles
Shoreview Liquor and Wine, San Mateo
Sierra Produce, La Mirada
Skis Liquor, Norwalk
Soto Street Market, Boyle Heights
South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles
T & S Market, Norwalk
T & T Aquarium & Koi Pond, San Jose
Take-Out Market, Los Angeles
Tan Lap Store, San Jose
Taykazuni Fish and Meat Market, Los Angeles
Telas – Fabric, Santa Ana
Teresa's Jeweler's, Santa Ana
Tesoro, Santa Ana
The American Legion, Post 252, Los Angeles
The Corner Store Groceries, Los Angeles

The Latino Coalition
The Liquor Bank, Los Angeles
The Skate Lounge, South Gate
Thien Thanh Supermarket, San Jose
Tom and Pete's Produce, Half Moon Bay
T-Shirt Mart, Santa Fe Springs
Twin's Produce, Los Angeles
Uptown Liquor, Whittier
Value Express Market, Los Angeles
Van Liquor, Los Angeles
Vanessa's Market, Bell
Veronica Trigueros, Community Leader, Compton
Walker's Liquor & Deli, Anaheim
Wes Liquores, San Mateo
Whitehurst Fish, Inglewood
Whittier Farms
Xpress Market
Yama Seafood, San Gabriel
Yeni Perdomo, small business person, Los Angeles
Youth Speak! Collective, Pacoima
Yummy.com Grocery Store, Santa Monica
Zacatecas Market, Los Angeles
Zagofa Liquor, Santa Ana

November 2010 Statewide Ballot Measures

Proposition 18: Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010

Summary

1. Proposition 18, if passed, would allow the state government to borrow \$11.1 billion to overhaul the state's water system and make improvements to the state's various groundwater and water quality projects.
2. The Governor has asked the Legislature to postpone Proposition 18 until the November 2012 election. The Legislature will need to act on the request by passing special legislation.

Background

3. The bond authorization was approved through SBX7 2 (Cogdill; D-Modesto).
4. The bond funding includes the following proposals and the proposed money allocated towards each project:
 - a. \$455 million for drought relief projects, disadvantaged communities, small community wastewater treatment improvements and safe drinking water revolving fund
 - b. \$1.4 billion for "integrated regional water management projects"
 - c. \$2.25 billion for projects that "support delta sustainability options"
 - d. \$3 billion for water storage projects
 - e. \$1.7 billion for ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects in 21 watersheds
 - f. \$1 billion for groundwater protection and cleanup
 - g. \$1.25 billion for "water recycling and advanced treatment technology projects"

Historical perspective:

5. California voters approved a water bond with Proposition 84 in 2006 which authorized \$5.4 billion in spending on water projects.
6. Proposition 50 in 2002; voters approved \$3.4 billion for water projects.

Arguments in Support

7. Proponents state that California's water system is outdated and straining to meet the needs of its residents, farms, businesses and environment. The current water system was designed 30 years ago to serve 16 million people and now serves 38 million.
8. Many immediate investments are needed to repair and upgrade the network of waterways, levees and other water infrastructure including drinking water sources, local supplies and restoring key ecosystems.

Arguments in Opposition

9. Opponents argue that this is a terrible time to burden California with more debt due to cuts in education, health care and public safety.
10. Furthermore, traditionally water users would pay for such projects as dams, which are included in the bond, and with 80% of the water used by agriculture businesses; they should be the ones paying for these types of projects.

Supporting (*Partial Listing*)

Business Organizations and Local Government

American Society of Civil Engineers (Region 9)
Asian Business Association of Los Angeles
Associated General Contractors of California
Bay Area Council
Brown and Caldwell

Building Industry Association of Fresno/Madera Counties
Building Industry Association of San Diego County
Building Industry Association of Southern California
California Alliance for Jobs
California Building Industry Association

California Business Properties Association
California Business Roundtable
California Chamber of Commerce
California Landscape Contractors Association
California League of Food Processors
California Retailers Association
Central City Association of Los Angeles
Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
City of Calimesa
City of Canyon Lake
City of Corona
City of Fresno
City of Huron
City of Kingsburg
City of Menifee
City of Modesto
City of Port Hueneme
City of Sanger
City of Selma
City of Tulare
Engineering and Utility Contractors Association
Fenway Properties
Fullerton Chamber of Commerce

Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
Home Builders Association of Tulare & Kings Counties
Kern County
Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Business Council
Los Angeles County Business Federation
Neighborhood Market Association
Orange County Business Council
Oxnard Chamber of Commerce
Palm Desert Chamber of Commerce
Riverside County
Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Regional Economic Development Corporation
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce
Sierra Business Council
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Valley Industry and Commerce Association
Western Electrical Contractors Association

Individuals

Congressman Dennis Cardoza
Congressman Jim Costa
United States Senator Dianne Feinstein
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Senate President pro Tem Darrell Steinberg
Senator Elaine Alquist
Senator Roy Ashburn
Senator Gilbert Cedillo
Senator Dave Cogdill
Senator Lou Correa
Senator Denise Ducheny
Senator Bob Dutton
Senator Dean Florez
Senator Tom Harman
Senator Dennis Hollingsworth
Senator Bob Huff
Senator Christine Kehoe
Senator Carol Liu
Senator Alan Lowenthal
Senator Abel Maldonado
Senator Gloria Negrete-McLeod
Senator Alex Padilla
Senator Curren Price
Senator Joe Simitian
Senator Tony Strickland
Senator Mimi Walters
Senator Rod Wright
Senator Mark Wyland
Speaker of the Assembly John A. Perez
Assemblymember Anthony Adams
Assemblymember Juan Arambula
Assemblymember Karen Bass
Assemblymember Jim Beall, Jr.
Assemblymember Sam Blakeslee

Assemblymember Marty Block
Assemblymember Bob Blumenfield
Assemblymember Steven Bradford
Assemblymember Julia Brownley
Assemblymember Ana Caballero
Assemblymember Wilmer Carter
Assemblymember Connie Conway
Assemblymember Joe Coto
Assemblymember Paul Cook
Assemblymember Mike Davis
Assemblymember Hector De La Torre
Assemblymember Kevin de Leon
Assemblymember Bill Emmerson
Assemblymember Mike Eng
Assemblymember Mike Feuer
Assemblymember Nathan Fletcher
Assemblymember Felipe Fuentes
Assemblymember Jean Fuller
Assemblymember Warren Furutani
Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani
Assemblymember Martin Garrick
Assemblymember Danny Gilmore
Assemblymember Curt Hagman
Assemblymember Isadore Hall
Assemblymember Diane Harkey
Assemblymember Ed Hernandez
Assemblymember Kevin Jeffries
Assemblymember Ted Lieu
Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal
Assemblymember Fiona Ma
Assemblymember Tony Mendoza
Assemblymember Pedro Nava
Assemblymember Brian Nestande
Assemblymember Jim Nielsen

Assemblymember Manuel V. Perez
Assemblymember Anthony Portantino
Assemblymember Mary Salas
Assemblymember Lori Salda a
Assemblymember Jim Silva
Assemblymember Cameron Smyth
Assemblymember Jose Solorio

Assemblymember Audra Strickland
Assemblymember Norma Torres
Assemblymember Alberto Torrico
Assemblymember Van Tran
Assemblymember Mike Villines
Carly Fiorina, California Senatorial Candidate
Meg Whitman, California Gubernatorial Candidate

Opposing (Partial Listing)

Organizations

Butte Environmental Council
California Fisheries Network
California Sea Urchin Commission
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
California Teachers Association
Cultivating Sustainable Communities
Ebbetts Pass Forest Watch
Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
Friends of the River
Friends of Trinity River
Half Moon Bay Fishermen's Association
Hispanics for Political Action
Klamath Riverkeeper
La Raza Centro Legal
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations

Restore the Delta
Sacramento Audobon Society
Sacramento City Taxpayer's Rights League
Salmon Water Now
San Francisco Crab Boat Owners Association
San Francisco Tomorrow
Sierra Foothills Audobon Society
Sierra Nevada Alliance
Small Boat Commercial Salmon Fishermens' Association
Sonoma County Abalone Network
Southern California Watershed Alliance
The Downstream Coalition
Urban Semillas
Winnemem Wintu Tribe

Individuals

Assembly Member Alyson Huber (D-Lodi)
Assembly Member Bill Berryhill (R-Ceres)
Assembly Member Chuck DeVore (R-Irvine)
Assembly Member Joan Buchanan (D-Livermore)
Assembly Member Mariko Yamada (D-Davis)
Assembly Member Noreen Evans (D-Santa Rosa)
Assembly Member Roger Niello (R-Sacramento)
Assembly Member Ted Gaines (R-Roseville)
Assembly Member Tom Ammiano (D-San Francisco)
Assembly Member Wes Chesbro (D-Eureka)
Darryl Moore, Councilmember, City of Berkeley
Don Saylor, Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Davis
John Avalos, San Francisco Board of Supervisors
Kim-Shree Maufas, Commissioner of the San Francisco
Board of Education

Kriss Worthington, Councilmember, City of Berkeley
Matt Gonzalez, former President San Francisco Board of
Supervisors
Mike Rotkin, Mayor of Santa Cruz
Nancy Nadel, Councilmember, City of Oakland
Ruth Asmundson, Mayor of Davis
Senator Dave Cox (R-Fair Oaks)
Senator Leland Yee (D-San Francisco)
Senator Lois Wolk (D-Davis)
Senator Mark Leno (D- San Francisco)
Senator Patricia Wiggins (D-Santa Rosa)
Shane Brinton, Councilmember, City of Arcata
Stephen Souza, Councilmember, City of Davis
Terry O'Day, City Councilmember, City of Santa Monica
Tom Bates, Mayor of Berkeley

Proposition 22: Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act

Summary

1. Proposition 22, if passed, would prohibit the state government from taking, borrowing or redirecting local taxpayer funds dedicated to public safety, emergency response and other vital local government services.

Background

2. Currently, the State has borrowed local funding in the past and continues to do so as allowed under current law.
3. Proposition 22 would prevent the State, as allowed under current law (Proposition 1A), from borrowing local funds and redirecting transportation and public transit funding (Proposition 42 and Highway User Tax on gasoline also known as HUTA Funds) in the state budget to other funds such as the general fund.

4. Proposition 22 would reduce or eliminates the state’s authority to:
 - a. Use state fuel tax revenues to pay debt service on state transportation bonds.
 - b. Borrow or change the distribution of state fuel tax revenues.
 - c. Redirect redevelopment agency property taxes to any other local government.
 - d. Temporarily shift property taxes from cities, counties, and special districts to schools.
 - e. Use vehicle license fee (VLF) revenues to reimburse local governments for state mandated costs.
5. If enacted, the Proposition would also affect the resources in the state’s General Fund and transportation funds.
6. The General Fund is the state’s main funding source for schools, universities, prisons, health, and social services programs.
7. Transportation funds are placed in separate accounts and used to pay for state and local transportation programs. The State has borrowed these funds and local government (Cities) have continued to file lawsuits against the State requesting the return of such funds.
8. The League of California Cities is the primary sponsor and proponent for the ballot measure.

Arguments in Support

9. The proponents of the measure argue that for too long, Sacramento politicians have used loopholes in the current law to take billions in taxpayer funds dedicated to local government and transportation services. Continued State raids jeopardize the vital local services we rely upon, like emergency response, police, fire, parks, libraries and senior services.
10. Proposition 22 would stop the State from taking or borrowing local tax dollars dedicated to cities and counties to fund vital local services like 9-1-1 response, police, and fire protection. The measure also would stop the State from taking or diverting gas taxes that are paid at the pump that voters in the past have dedicated to local road repairs, transportation improvements, and public transportation.

Arguments in Opposition

11. According to the opposition and the California Teachers Association Proposition 22 would "create a wall that will prevent borrowing in times of economic crisis and would place an even greater burden of cuts on public education and the backs of students."
12. Furthermore, by protecting one part of the budget, Proposition 22 puts health, education and other core services at greater risk due to the inflexibility of using other funds (such as the funds named above in the background) in the budget to pay for such services.

Supporting

Alameda County Mayors’ Conference
 Alliance for a United Montebello
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1027, Fresno
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1225, Monterey-Salinas
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1555, Oakland
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1575, San Rafael
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1704, San Bernardino
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1756, Arcadia
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 192, Oakland
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 256, Sacramento
 Amalgamated Transit Union Local 276, Stockton
 American Federation of State County Municipal Employees MTA/PTSC LOCAL 3634, Los Angeles
 American Public Works Association; Monterey Bay Chapter

Anaheim Transportation Network
 Arcadia Chamber of Commerce
 Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs
 Association of California Water Agencies
 Association of Monterey Bay Area Governments
 Auburn Public Cemetery District
 Automobile Club of Southern California
 Azusa Chamber of Commerce
 Beaumont Chamber of Commerce
 Bell Gardens Chamber of Commerce
 Beverly Hills Fire Department
 Blythe Area Chamber of Commerce
 Boulder Creek Fire Protection District
 Brea Chamber of Commerce
 Building Industry Association of Central California
 Business Council of San Joaquin County

California Alliance for Jobs
 California Association of Code Enforcement Officers
 California Association of Professional Employees, AFL-CIO
 California Association of Public Cemeteries
 California Association of Recreation and Parks District
 California Association of Sanitation Agencies
 California Building Industry Association
 California Business Properties Association
 California Chamber of Commerce
 California Contract Cities Association
 California Downtown Association
 California Fire Chiefs Association
 California Park and Recreation Society
 California Police Chiefs Association
 California Redevelopment Association
 California Society of Municipal Finance Officers
 California Special Districts Association
 California Taxpayer Protection Committee
 California Teamsters Public Affairs Council
 California Transit Association
 Camp Meeker Recreation and Park District
 Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority
 Cathedral City Chamber of Commerce
 Central Valley Fire Chiefs Association
 Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Chino Valley Independent Fire District
 Chula Vista Civic Association
 City Clerks Association of California
 Coachella Valley Association of Governments
 Conejo Recreation and Park District
 Contra Costa County Mayors' Conference
 Corona Chamber of Commerce
 Costa Mesa Chamber of Commerce
 Costa Mesa Sanitary District
 Council of Fresno County Governments
 Culver City Chamber of Commerce
 Desert Hot Springs Chamber of Commerce
 Downtown Association of Santa Cruz
 Downtown Stockton Alliance
 Eastern Contra Costa Transit Authority
 Economic Development Committee of the City of Banning
 Escondido Firefighters Association, Local 3842
 Fairfield Suisun Chamber of Commerce
 Fillmore Realty and Financial Services
 Fire Districts Association of California
 Fontana Chamber of Commerce
 Foster City Chamber of Commerce
 Fullerton Chamber of Commerce
 Garden Grove Chamber of Commerce
 Gateway Cities Council of Governments
 Glendale City Employees Association
 Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Merced Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Riverside Chambers of Commerce
 Greater Riverside Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Greater Tehachapi Economic Development Council
 Greenbelt Alliance

Hegg Team Realty Inc.
 Hemet / San Jacinto Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Hermosa Beach Community Alliance
 Human Care Alliance (HCA)
 Independent Cities Association
 Indian Wells Chamber of Commerce
 Indio Chamber of Commerce
 Inland Empire African American Chamber of Commerce
 Inland Empire Chamber Legislative Alliance
 Inland Valley Business Alliance
 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local #47, Diamond Bar
 Irvine Chamber of Commerce
 JSA Consulting Services
 Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 La Quinta Chamber of Commerce
 La Verne Chamber of Commerce
 Lake Elsinore Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
 League of California Cities
 Livermore Amador Valley Transit Authority
 Lodi Chamber of Commerce
 Long Beach Transit
 Los Altos Chamber of Commerce
 Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
 Los Angeles Area Fire Chiefs Association
 Los Angeles County Police Chiefs Association
 Marin County Council of Mayors and Council Members
 Marin County Council of Mayors and Council Members
 Mendocino Transit Authority
 Merced County Association of Governments
 Milpitas Chamber of Commerce
 Montclair Chamber of Commerce
 Montebello Mid-Management Association
 Monterey County Deputy Sheriff's Association
 Monterey County Hospitality Association
 Monterey County Mayors Association
 Monterey County Mayors Association
 Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
 Monterey Regional Waste Management District
 Monterey-Salinas Transit
 Moreno Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Morgan Hill Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center
 Moss Landing Harbor District
 Mountain View Chamber of Commerce
 Municipal Water District of Orange County
 Murrieta Chamber of Commerce
 Nationwide Realty Management LLC
 North County Transit District
 North Orange County Legislative Alliance
 Northern California Carpenters Regional Council
 Novato Fire Protection District
 Omnitrans, San Bernardino Valley
 Ontario Chamber of Commerce
 Orange County Employees Association
 Orange County Fire Authority
 Orange County Fire Chiefs Association
 Orange County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Orange County Sanitation District
 Pacific Grove Chamber of Commerce

Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce
Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
Peace Officers Research Association of California
Planning Director's Association of Orange County
Police Officers Association of Lodi
Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce
Rancho Mirage Chamber of Commerce
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Red Bluff/Tehama County Chamber of Commerce
Redevelopment Agency of the City of Vacaville
Redlands Chamber of Commerce
Redwood City – San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce
Regional Chamber Alliance, Serving cities of Santa Fe Springs, Whittier, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, and La Mirada
Riverside County Fire Chiefs Association
Salinas Police Officers Association
Salinas Valley Builders Exchange
Salinas Valley Chamber of Commerce
San Benito County Chamber of Commerce
San Benito County Governments
San Benito County Local Transportation Authority
San Bernardino Area Chamber of Commerce
San Bernardino County Safety Employees' Benefit Association
San Bernardino Public Employees Association
San Carlos Chamber of Commerce
San Diego County Fire Chiefs' Association
San Diego County Taxpayers Association
San Diego South County Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Tax Fighters
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Gabriel Valley Legislative Coalition of Chambers
San Joaquin Building Trades Council
San Joaquin Partnership, Inc.
San Luis Obispo Council of Governments
San Luis Obispo Employees Association
San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce
Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Santa Cruz County Fire Chiefs Association
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
Santa Cruz Police Management Association
Santa Cruz Public Libraries Joint Powers Board
Santa Fe Springs Fire Rescue
Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce
Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce
Santa Rosa City Employees Association

Scotts Valley Fire Protection District
Shasta County Regional Transportation Planning Agency
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Small Business Action Committee
South Bay Association of Chambers of Commerce
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
South Bay Fire Chiefs' Association
South Gate Chamber of Commerce
South Orange County Regional Chambers of Commerce
South San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
South Tahoe Area Transit Authority
Southern California Transit Advocates
Southern Sierras Chapter, National Electrical Contractors Association
Southwest California Legislative Council
Sunnyvale Chamber of Commerce
Tehachapi Valley Healthcare District
Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District
Temecula Valley Chamber of Commerce
The Transit Coalition
Thomas and Associates
Transit Alliance for a Better North County
Transportation Agency for Monterey County
Transportation California
Transportation Now Committee, Corona/Norco/District 2 Chapter
Truckee North Tahoe Transportation Management Association
Tuolumne County Chamber of Commerce
Uni Quest Capital Inc.
United Public Employees - Political Action Committee
United Transportation Union
United Transportation Union, Local 23, Santa Cruz
Valley Center Water District
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
Ventura County Fire Chief's Association
Victor Valley Transit Authority
Victorville Chamber of Commerce
Vista Irrigation District
West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee
Western Contra Costa Transit Authority
Western Riverside Council of Governments
Whittier City Employees' Association
Wildomar Chamber of Commerce
Yorba Linda Chamber of Commerce
Yucca Valley Chamber of Commerce
Yuima Municipal Water District

Opposing (Partial Listing)

California Professional Firefighters
California Teachers Association
Contra Costa Board of Supervisors

Proposition 25: Legislative Vote Requirement for Passage of State Budget

Summary

1. If passed, Proposition 25 would change the Legislature’s vote requirement when sending the State Budget to the Governor from a two-thirds vote requirement to a majority vote requirement of each house of the Legislature.

Background

2. If Proposition 25 fails, the Legislature’s vote requirement would remain unchanged; keeping the two-thirds vote requirement of each house of the Legislature when sending the State Budget to the Governor.
3. Currently, the State Constitution gives the Legislature the power to appropriate state funds and the annual state budget is the Legislature’s primary method of authorizing state expenses for a fiscal year (July 1 to June 30).
4. The Constitution requires that the Governor propose a budget by January 10 for the next fiscal year.
5. Each of the two houses of the Legislature (the State Assembly and the State Senate) then is required to pass the annual budget bill by June 15 and send it to the Governor.
6. The Governor may either sign the budget approved by the Legislature or veto all or a part of it; which then allows for each house of the Legislature by a two-thirds (67 percent) vote to overturn the Governor’s veto.
7. Furthermore, current law in the State Constitution requires a two-thirds vote of each house of the Legislature for the passage of “urgency” measures that take effect immediately, bills that increase state tax revenues, and General Fund appropriations (except appropriations for public schools).
8. Due to the state budget including General Fund appropriations and the need for it to take effect immediately, it requires a two-thirds vote for passage.
9. Certain budget actions, such as a decision to change the services that a state department is mandated to provide, require changing state law.
10. These changes often are included in “trailer bills” that accompany passage of the budget each year.
11. In general, bills passed by the Legislature take effect on January 1 of the next year.
12. In order for trailer bills to take effect immediately, however, they must be passed by a two-thirds vote of each house of the Legislature.

Historical Perspective:

13. Since 1980, the Legislature has met its June 15 constitutional deadline for sending a budget to the Governor five times and during that same period, a final budget—passed by the Legislature and approved by the Governor—was in place prior to the July 1 start of the fiscal year on ten occasions, including three times since 2000.
14. When a fiscal year begins without a state budget in place, some state expenses are not paid as scheduled.
15. For example, state elected officials (such as the Governor and Members of the Legislature) have not received salaries after July 1 until a final budget is in place and salary payments withheld from these officials have been paid in full when the final budget goes into effect.

The intent of Proposition 25:

16. Proposition 25 amends the Constitution to lower the vote requirement necessary for each house of the Legislature to pass a budget bill and send it to the Governor.
17. The vote requirement would be lowered from two-thirds to a majority (50 percent plus one) of each house of the Legislature.
18. The lower vote requirement also would apply to trailer bills that appropriate funds and are identified by the Legislature “as related to the budget in the budget bill.”

19. Both the budget bill and these trailer bills would take effect immediately after being signed by the Governor (or on a later date specified in the bill).
20. A two-thirds vote of the Legislature would still be required to override any veto by the Governor.
21. This measure’s constitutional provisions do not specifically address the legislative vote requirement for increasing state tax revenues, but the measure states that its intent is not to change the existing two-thirds vote requirement regarding state taxes.
22. Also included in Proposition 25 is in any year when the Legislature has not sent a budget bill to the Governor by June 15, it would prohibit Members of the Legislature from collecting any salary or reimbursements for travel or living expenses.
23. This prohibition would be in effect from June 15 until the day that a budget is presented to the Governor and these salaries and expenses could not be paid to legislators at a later date.

Arguments in Support

24. Organized proponents, which dub Proposition 25 the Majority Vote Budget Initiative, argues that Proposition 25 reforms California’s badly broken state budget process, so taxpayers, schools and services are protected, while legislators are held accountable if they fail to pass the budget on time. No budget, no pay —and no payback later.
25. Furthermore, proponents state Proposition 25 is a simple budget reform that breaks legislative gridlock by allowing a simple majority of legislators to approve the budget —just like in 47 other states and argues Proposition 25 preserves the 2/3 vote required to raise taxes.

Arguments in Opposition

26. Organized opposition called “Stop the Hidden Taxes” Coalition, headlined by the California Chamber of Commerce, opposes Proposition 25 and cites a legal analysis that concludes Proposition 25 would do the following: (1) Effectively eliminate the right of voters to use the referendum to force a vote and stop taxes disguised as “fees;” (2) Allow the state Legislature to enact taxes as part of the budget with a bare majority vote, circumventing the state Constitution’s two-thirds vote requirement for passing new or increased taxes; and (3) Make it easier for politicians to increase their lavish travel and expense accounts.
27. The opposition further argues that the Legislature can increase their travel and expense perks only with a two-thirds vote of the Legislature, but under Proposition 25, they would be able to increase them with a bare majority vote.

Supporting (Partial Listing)

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
 California Faculty Association
 California Federation of Teachers

California Nurses Association
 California Professional Firefighters
 California School Employees Association

Opposing (Partial Listing)

The following organizations have signed onto the “Stop the Hidden Taxes” Coalition, which opposes Proposition 25 and supports Proposition 26.

California Chamber of Commerce
 California Taxpayers’ Association
 American GI Forum of California
 American Rental Association
 Americans for Prosperity
 Americans for Tax Reform
 Anaheim Chamber of Commerce
 Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies

California Association of Business, Property and Resource Owners (CABPRO)
 California Automotive Wholesalers’ Association
 California Beer & Beverage Distributors
 California Black Chamber of Commerce
 California Business Alliance
 California Business Properties Association
 California Business Roundtable
 California Cable & Telecommunications Association (CCTA)

California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association
 California Delta Chambers & Visitor's Bureau
 California Distributors Association
 California Forestry Association
 California Grocers Association
 California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
 California Hotel & Lodging Association
 California Landscape Contractors Association
 California League of Food Processors
 California Manufacturers & Technology Association
 California Metals Coalition
 California Restaurant Association
 California Retailers Association
 California Service Station & Automotive Repair Association
 California Small Brewers Association
 California Taxpayer Protection Committee
 California Trucking Association
 Cambodian-American Chamber of Commerce
 Central Solano Citizen/Taxpayer Group
 Chemical Industry Council of California
 Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Citizens for California Reform
 Coalition of Labor, Agriculture & Business of Santa Barbara County
 Contra Costa Taxpayers Association
 Dana Point Chamber of Commerce
 Family Winemakers of California
 Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce
 Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association
 Industrial Environmental Association
 Inland Empire Taxpayers Association
 Korean American Grocers Association
 Latin Business Association

Los Angeles Metro Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Milpitas Chamber of Commerce
 National Federation of Independent Business – California
 National Taxpayers Union
 Neighborhood Market Association
 Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce
 Nicaraguan-American Chamber of Commerce, Northern California
 Nisei Farmers League
 North Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Orange County Taxpayers Association
 Oxnard Chamber of Commerce
 Pleasant Hill Taxpayers Association
 Pomona Chamber of Commerce
 Redlands Chamber of Commerce
 Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Sacramento Asian American Minority, Inc.
 Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 San Diego County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 San Diego Tax Fighters
 Santa Barbara Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
 Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce
 Santa Maria Valley Wine Country
 Small Business Action Committee
 South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce
 Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association
 The Wine Group
 Valley Industry & Commerce Association
 Valley Taxpayer's Coalition
 Ventura County Taxpayers Association
 Western Agricultural Processors Association
 Western Home Furnishings Association
 Wine Institute

Proposition 26: Legislative Vote Requirement for State Levies and Charges
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Summary

1. Proposition 26, if passed, means the definition of taxes would be broadened to include many payments currently considered to be fees or charges. As a result, more state and local proposals to increase revenues would require approval by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature or by local voters.

Background

2. Proposition 26 would result in more state and local proposals that increase revenues would require approval by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature or by local voters.
3. Currently, state and local governments impose a variety of taxes, fees, and charges on individuals and businesses.
4. Taxes – such as income, sales, and property taxes – are typically used to pay for general public services such as education, prisons, health, and social services. Fees and charges, by comparison, typically pay for a particular service or program benefitting individuals or businesses.
5. Three broad categories of fees and charges exist to include:
 - a. User fees – such as state park entrance fees and garbage fees, where the user pays for the cost of a specific service or program.
 - b. Regulatory fees – such as fees on restaurants to pay for health inspections and fees on the purchase of beverage containers to support recycling programs. Regulatory fees pay for programs that place

requirements on the activities of businesses or people to achieve particular public goals or help offset the public or environmental impact of certain activities.

- c. Property charges – such as charges imposed on property developers to improve roads leading to new subdivisions and assessments that pay for improvements and services that benefit the property owner.

Major Provisions of Proposition 26 (As provided by the Legislative Analyst Office)

- Expands the Scope of What Is a State or Local Tax
- Classifies as taxes some fees and charges that government currently may impose with a majority vote.
- As a result, more state revenue proposals would require approval by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature and more local revenue proposals would require local voter approval.
- Raises the Approval Requirement for Some State Revenue Proposals
- Requires a two-thirds vote of each house of the Legislature to approve laws that increase taxes on any taxpayer, even if the law’s overall fiscal effect does not increase state revenues.
- Repeals Recently Passed, Conflicting State Laws
- Repeals recent state laws that conflict with this measure, unless they are approved again by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature. Repeal becomes effective in November 2011.

6. As stated, Proposition 26 broadens the definition of a state or local tax to include many payments currently considered to be fees or charges.
7. As a result, the measure would have the effect of increasing the number of revenue proposals subject to the higher approval (The two-thirds requirement).
8. Generally, the types of fees and charges that would become taxes under the measure are ones that government imposes to address health, environmental, or other societal or economic concerns.
9. Some regulatory fees could be considered taxes, in part or in whole, under the measure because these fees pay for many services that benefit the public broadly, rather than providing services directly to the fee payer.
10. The state currently uses these types of regulatory fees to pay for most of its environmental programs.
11. Certain other fees and charges also could be considered to be taxes under the measure.
12. For example, some business assessments could be considered to be taxes because government uses the assessment revenues to improve shopping districts (such as providing parking, street lighting, increased security, and marketing), rather than providing a direct and distinct service to the business owner.
13. Furthermore, the change in the definition of taxes would not affect most user fees, property development charges, and property assessments.
14. This is because these fees and charges generally comply with Proposition 26’s requirements already, or are exempt from its provisions and most other fees or charges in existence at the time of the November 2, 2010 election would not be affected unless:
 - a. The state or local government later increases or extends the fees or charges. (In this case, the state or local government would have to comply with the approval requirements of Proposition 26.)
 - b. The fees or charges were created or increased by a state law—passed between January 1, 2010 and November 2, 2010—that conflicts with Proposition 26.
15. The State Constitution currently specifies that laws enacted “for the purpose of increasing revenues” must be approved by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature. Under current practice, a law that increases the amount of taxes charged to some taxpayers but offers an equal (or larger) reduction in taxes for other taxpayers has been viewed as not increasing revenues. As such, it can be approved by a majority vote of the Legislature.
16. Proposition 26 specifies that state laws that result in any taxpayer paying a higher tax must be approved by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature.

Historical Perspective:

17. For example, earlier this year a state lawmaker proposed a tax hike on alcohol (a 1,060% increase on beer, 2,560% increase on wine and 516% increase on hard liquor), and called it a "mitigation fee" in an attempt to pass it on a majority vote rather than a two-thirds vote.
18. There also have been numerous attempts to increase local taxes on vehicles by disguising them as "fees."

Arguments in Support

19. Proponents of the Proposition 26 have dubbed the measure as the "Hidden Taxes Initiative" and state that for years, state and local politicians have been using a loophole in the law to raise taxes by disguising them as "fees" – circumventing the Constitutional requirements for passing taxes on goods like food, gas, cell phones, and even emergency services – which have added billions of dollars in higher costs that consumers pay.

Arguments in Opposition

20. The California Tax Reform Association is one of "an array of good-government and environmental groups, who see the latest proposal (Proposition 26) as simply a vast corporate loophole and further contend that companies cloak themselves as the defenders of jobs and fairness, when in fact they are gaming the system to maximize profits.

Supporting (Partial Listing)

The following organizations have signed onto the "Stop the Hidden Taxes" Coalition, which opposes Proposition 25 and supports Proposition 26.

California Chamber of Commerce	California Small Brewers Association
California Taxpayers' Association	California Taxpayer Protection Committee
American GI Forum of California	California Trucking Association
American Rental Association	Cambodian-American Chamber of Commerce
Americans for Prosperity	Central Solano Citizen/Taxpayer Group
Americans for Tax Reform	Chemical Industry Council of California
Anaheim Chamber of Commerce	Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce
Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies	Citizens for California Reform
California Association of Business, Property and Resource Owners (CABPRO)	Coalition of Labor, Agriculture & Business of Santa Barbara County
California Automotive Wholesalers' Association	Contra Costa Taxpayers Association
California Beer & Beverage Distributors	Dana Point Chamber of Commerce
California Black Chamber of Commerce	Family Winemakers of California
California Business Alliance	Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce
California Business Properties Association	Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association
California Business Roundtable	Industrial Environmental Association
California Cable & Telecommunications Association (CCTA)	Inland Empire Taxpayers Association
California Cotton Ginners and Growers Association	Korean American Grocers Association
California Delta Chambers & Visitor's Bureau	Latin Business Association
California Distributors Association	Los Angeles Metro Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
California Forestry Association	Milpitas Chamber of Commerce
California Grocers Association	National Federation of Independent Business – California
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce	National Taxpayers Union
California Hotel & Lodging Association	Neighborhood Market Association
California Landscape Contractors Association	Newport Beach Chamber of Commerce
California League of Food Processors	Nicaraguan-American Chamber of Commerce, Northern California
California Manufacturers & Technology Association	Nisei Farmers League
California Metals Coalition	North Valley Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
California Restaurant Association	Orange County Taxpayers Association
California Retailers Association	Oxnard Chamber of Commerce
California Service Station & Automotive Repair Association	Pleasant Hill Taxpayers Association
	Pomona Chamber of Commerce
	Redlands Chamber of Commerce

Regional Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Sacramento Asian American Minority, Inc.
Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
San Diego County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Tax Fighters
Santa Barbara Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
Santa Clara Chamber of Commerce
Santa Maria Valley Wine Country
Small Business Action Committee

South Bay Latino Chamber of Commerce
Temecula Valley Winegrowers Association
The Wine Group
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
Valley Taxpayer's Coalition
Ventura County Taxpayers Association
Western Agricultural Processors Association
Western Home Furnishings Association
Wine Institute

Opposing (*Partial Listing*)

The following organization opposes Proposition 26 and is currently seeking coalition members to sign onto its campaign against Proposition 26.

Taxpayers Against Protecting Polluters

Complete List of November 2010 Statewide Ballot Measures

The following 10 Propositions have qualified for the November 2010 ballot. Also included is a notation on when a complete background of the Proposition was included in the San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report.

Proposition 18: Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2010

The bond authorization appears in SBX7 2 (Cogdill; D-Modesto). Bond funding includes \$3 billion for new water storage (including reservoirs), \$2.25 billion for Delta restoration, \$1.785 billion for conservation and watershed protection projects throughout the state, \$1.4 billion for water supply reliability, \$1.25 billion for water recycling and conservation, \$1 billion for groundwater protection and water quality projects, and \$455 million for drought relief.

The Governor has asked the Legislature to postpone Proposition 18 until the November 2012 election.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: August 2010

Proposition 19: Legalization and Taxation of Marijuana

Proposition 19 allows people 21 years old or older to possess, cultivate, or transport marijuana for personal use while permitting local governments to regulate and tax commercial production and sale of marijuana to people 21 years old or older. Furthermore, prohibits people from possessing marijuana on school grounds, using it in public, smoking it while minors are present, or providing it to anyone under 21 years old and maintains current prohibitions against driving while impaired.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: September Legislative Report

Proposition 20: Voters FIRST Act for Congress

The Proposition 20 extends the responsibilities of the Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission) and gives the Commission the authority to draw the boundaries for the United States Congressional Districts.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: July 2010

Proposition 21: Annual Vehicle License Surcharge to Fund State Parks

Proposition 21 establishes an \$18 annual state vehicle license surcharge and grants free admission to all state parks to surcharged vehicles and requires deposit of surcharge revenue in a new trust fund. The trust funds would be used solely to operate, maintain and repair the state park system, and to protect wildlife and natural resources. The Proposition exempts commercial vehicles, trailers and trailer coaches from the surcharge and requires annual independent audit and review by citizens' oversight committee.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: July 2010

Proposition 22: Local Taxpayers, Public Safety, and Transportation Act

This Proposition would prohibit the State from taking, borrowing or redirecting local taxpayer funds dedicated to public safety, emergency response and other vital local government services. Furthermore, the act would protect vital, dedicated transportation and public transit funds from state raids.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: August 2010

Proposition 23: Suspension of AB 32

Also known as the California Jobs Initiative, Proposition 23 would delay the operation and implementation of AB 32 until California's unemployment rate returns to the levels that existed at the time of its adoption, 5.5% or less, for four consecutive calendar quarters.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: June 2010

Proposition 24: Repeal of Corporate Tax Breaks

Proposition 24 would repeal several corporate tax reforms that are slated to go into effect in 2010 and 2012. The corporate tax reforms were approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in February 2009 as part of the budget agreement.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: July 2010

Proposition 25: Legislative Vote Requirement for Passage of State Budget

The Proposition changes the legislative vote requirement necessary to pass the state budget from two-thirds to a simple majority. Furthermore, it provides that if the Legislature fails to pass a budget bill by June 15, all members of the Legislature will permanently forfeit any reimbursement for salary and expenses for every day until the day the Legislature passes a budget bill.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: August 2010

Proposition 26: Legislative Vote Requirement for State Levies and Charges

Proposition 26 increases legislative vote requirement to two-thirds for state levies and charges, with limited exceptions, and for certain taxes currently subject to majority vote. This Proposition changes the State Constitution to require voters to approve, either by two-thirds or majority, local levies and charges with limited exceptions.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: August 2010

Proposition 27: Elimination State Commission on Redistricting

Proposition 27 eliminates 14-member redistricting commission (created by Proposition 11, 2008) selected from applicant pool picked by government auditors and consolidates authority for establishing state Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization district boundaries with elected state representatives responsible for drawing congressional districts.

San Mateo County Chamber of Commerce Alliance Legislative Report: September 2010

Current Legislation and Vote Records

The following bills have been provided in past Legislative Reports since January 2010 and have been updated with the most recent vote record of area elected officials as of August 2, 2010.

July 1, 2010 – August 2, 2010 marked the summer recess for the State Legislature. Only bills from the July Legislative Report are included with a recent vote record of area legislators.

A complete updated Vote Record will be included the September Legislative Report.

Vote Record Key

- *Not voting = Elected official did not vote.*
- *N/A = Legislative proposal has not come before the elected official in committee and/or floor. Also, the legislative proposal may have failed before elected official had an opportunity to vote.*
- *YES = Voted in favor of the legislative proposal. (In the case of the Governor, he has signed the bill into law)*
- *NO = Voted against the legislative proposal. (In the case of the Governor, he has Vetoed the bill)*

AB 68 (Brownley) Solid Waste: Single-Use Carryout Bags and AB 87 (Davis) Single Use Carryout Bags

AB 68 and AB 87 establishes a statewide fee of 25 cents for single-use carryout bags (bags), of all types and restricts grocery and convenience stores from providing single-use carry out bags to their customers.

Status: FAILED/FAILED

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	N/A
State Senator Leland Yee:	N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes/Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	N/A/ N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	N/A/ N/A

AB 212 (Saldana) Energy: Building Standards: Zero Net Energy Buildings

AB 212 requires the California Energy Commission (CEC), in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the utilities, and interested parties, to adopt standards requiring new residential construction to utilize "zero net energy."

Status: FAILED

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	N/A
State Senator Leland Yee:	N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	N/A

AB 482 (Mendoza) Employment: Credit Reports

AB 482 would expand employer liability by increases to exposure for hiring decisions by unduly restricting the ability of businesses to use consumer credit reports as part of the background check process, with the exception of certain financial institutions.

Status: Pending hearing in Senate Appropriations Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	Yes
State Senator Leland Yee:	Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	Yes

Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

AB 898 (Lieu) Documents: Notaries Public: Solicitations

AB 898 would clarify the definition of “conspicuous” and strengthens disclaimer requirements on font size, placement of the disclaimer and restrictions on surrounding text on solicitations.

Status: Currently in the Senate

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

AB 903 (Chesbro) Compostable Plastic Bags

AB 903 requires manufacturers of compostable plastic bags to ensure that bags are readily identifiable by consumers. AB 903 requires manufacturers to submit reports to the state showing that their bags meet specified certifications. The bill gives the Integrated Waste Management Board the authority to audit manufacturers to ensure compliance with reporting requirements.

Status: Pending hearing in Senate Appropriations Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

AB 1594 (Huber) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Peripheral Canal

AB 1594 would prohibit the construction of a peripheral canal, as defined, that conveys water from a diversion point in the Sacramento River to a location south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, unless expressly authorized by the Legislature.

Status: FAILED

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

AB 1639 (Nava) Mediated Mortgage Workout Program

AB 1639 bill establishes the Mediated Mortgage Workout Program (MMWP) for borrowers facing foreclosure of their primary residence, where the borrower can request to participate in mediation sessions with their lender to examine mortgage loan modification options or foreclosure alternatives.

Status: FAILED

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: No

AB 1733 (Hill) Director of California Biotechnology: Duties

AB 1733 creates the Director of California Biotechnology Retention and Recruitment within the Governor’s Office to foster the growth of California’s biomedical industry through increased assistance and collaboration between state government, universities and the private sector.

Status: FAILED

Vote Record

State Senator Leland Yee:	N/A
State Senator Joseph Simitian:	N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	Yes

AB 1778 (Lieu – D) State Agency Promotions: Commercials

AB 1778 requires state promotional commercials to be filmed in California.

Status: To Suspense File

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	Yes
State Senator Leland Yee:	N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	Yes

AB 1846 (V. Perez) Environment: Expedited Environmental Review

AB 1846 expands current law to allow use of a "focused" environmental impact report (EIR) for installation of pollution control equipment that reduces greenhouse gas emissions (GHGs) to comply with AB 32.

Status: Currently in the Senate

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	Yes
State Senator Leland Yee:	N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	Yes

AB 1881 (Monning) Recovery of Wages: Liquidated Damages

AB 1881 would allow the Legislature to double the amount of liquidated damages that can be awarded to an individual when his or her employer pays less than the minimum wage.

Status: Currently in the Senate

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	N/A
State Senator Leland Yee:	Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	Yes

AB 2063 (Huffman) Fish: Chinook Salmon

AB 2063 would name the Chinook salmon as the official state anadromous fish and establishes a state goal to restore the Chinook salmon population. AB 2063 further expands on the state goal as to restore Chinook salmon to thriving and sustainable levels, sufficient to support tribal, recreational and commercial fisheries, within a decade.

Status: Pending hearing in Senate Appropriations Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian:	Not Voting
State Senator Leland Yee:	Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill:	Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma:	Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin:	Yes

AB 2187 (Arambula – I) Employment: Payment of Wages

AB 2187 increases criminal penalties for willful failure to pay wages and establishes a misdemeanor penalty for an employer or person who willfully fails to pay all wages due to an employee who has been discharged or who has quit within 90 days of the date wages are due.

Status: **Currently in the Senate**

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

AB 2492 (Ammiano) Property Taxation: Change in Ownership

AB 2492 makes changes to Proposition 13 (1978) which imposes a “split roll” property tax under new, complex change-in-ownership rules that create a administrative bureaucracy for taxpayers and assessors alike

Status: **Originally on Assembly Inactive File. Currently awaiting action on by Assembly; could be considered during budget negotiations.**

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

AB 2561 (Villines) Energy: Energy Commission and Department

AB 2561 reforms the California Energy Commission (CEC) into a cabinet-level Department of Energy, headed by a Governor-appointed Secretary and will consolidate the state’s authority for energy policy and related functions to allow for a singular statewide energy policy.

Status: **Pending hearing in Senate Rules Committee**

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: No
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

SB 518 (Lowenthal) Vehicles: Parking Services and Fees

SB 518 provides incentives for cities and counties to adopt certain measures that reduce or eliminate subsidies for parking. SB 518 requires any lease of real property which the state enters into on or after January 1, 2011, to list the full cost of any parking spaces as a separate line item. Furthermore, it would allow a city, county, or city and county to adopt and implement measures to reduce or eliminate subsidies for parking as explained in a menu of points as referenced in SB 518 that awards points through ARB’s cap-and-trade program

Status: **Gut And Amended: No Longer Original Bill Language As Stated Above.**

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
State Senator Leland Yee: N/A
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

SB 657 (Steinberg) Human Trafficking

SB 657 would require retail sellers and manufacturers doing business in the state to develop, maintain and implement policies related to their compliance with federal and state law regarding the eradication of slavery and human trafficking from their supply chain.

Status: **Currently in the Assembly**

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
 State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
 Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
 Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
 Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

SB 885 (Corbett) Gift Certificates: Redemption

SB 885 allows any gift certificate or gift card with a remaining cash value of less than \$20 to be redeemed in cash for its cash value, and would require that a gift certificate contain a statement to that effect.

Status: Currently in the Assembly

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
 State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
 Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
 Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
 Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

SB 967 (Correa) Public Contracts: Bid Preferences

SB 967 provides that bid preferences for bidders that will commitment that 90 percent of the work included in the contract or proposal will be performed by California employees.

Status: Pending hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
 State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
 Assembly Member Jerry Hill: Yes
 Assembly Member Fiona Ma: Yes
 Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: Yes

SB 974 (Steinberg) Income Tax Credit: Career Pathways Investment Credit

SB 974 will make changes to existing tax credits for Enterprise Zones, funding tax incentives for businesses that partner with schools to train students for the jobs of the future.

Status: Pending hearing in Assembly Jobs, Economic Development and the Economy Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
 State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
 Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
 Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
 Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

SB 1335 (Cox) Employment: Working Hours

SB 1335 would permit an employee to request an employee-selected flexible work schedule providing for workdays up to 10 hours per day within a 40-hour workweek, and would allow an employer to implement this schedule without any obligation to pay overtime compensation.

Status: FAILED

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: N/A
 State Senator Leland Yee: No
 Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
 Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
 Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

SB 1381 (Simitian) Kindergarten: Age of Admission

SB 1381 revises the age of admission to kindergarten and first grade by one month in each of three years so that in 2014 and later years, a child will have to be five years old on or before September 1 in order to attend kindergarten.

Status: Pending hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
State Senator Leland Yee: No
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

SB 1474 (Steinberg) Labor Representatives: Elections

SB 1474 would permit agricultural employees, as an alternative procedure, to select their labor representatives by submitting a petition to the board accompanied by representation cards signed by a majority of the bargaining unit.

Status: Pending hearing in Assembly Appropriations Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A

SB 1036 (Cedillo – D) Tax Administration: Disclosure Information

SB 1036 allows cities to contract with third parties to view taxpayer information received from the Franchise Tax Board.

Status: Pending hearing in Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee

Vote Record

State Senator Joseph Simitian: Yes
State Senator Leland Yee: Yes
Assembly Member Jerry Hill: N/A
Assembly Member Fiona Ma: N/A
Assembly Member Ira Ruskin: N/A