



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS  
HOLLY J. MITCHELL  
LINDSEY P. HORVATH  
JANICE HAHN  
KATHRYN BARGER

**Correspondence Received**

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
18.		<b>Favor</b>	Alfred Torregano	<p>Dear Board of Supervisors,</p> <p>My name is Alfred Torregano, and I am the founder of Elevate Culture Corporation, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering our community through education and cultural enrichment.</p> <p>I am writing to express our strong support for Agenda Item 18: Ballot Transparency and Consistency: Providing Voters with a Fiscal and Programmatic Analysis on County Ballot Measures. This motion represents a significant advancement in ensuring that our voters have the necessary information to make informed decisions on County ballot measures.</p> <p>Transparency is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy. By including fiscal impact statements on Countywide ballot initiatives, we can provide voters with a clear understanding of the financial implications of their choices. This initiative will help bridge the information gap and foster a more engaged and informed electorate.</p> <p>Elevate Culture Corporation firmly believes in the power of informed voting and community involvement. We urge the Board of Supervisors to pass this motion and set a precedent for other counties to follow. Your commitment to transparency and voter education is deeply appreciated, and we are confident that this motion will lead to more responsible and effective governance.</p> <p>Thank you for your time and consideration.</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>Alfred Torregano Founder, Elevate Culture Corporation 501(c)(3)</p>
			Angel Mortel	
			Benjamin Torres	Support Item 18 on the agenda for July 23, 2024.
			Dr Lynnette M Long	<p>If this County loses it's ability to be Transparent and Consistent, what will hold it in place. Once you have lost the heart of the people who work and live in LOS ANGELES COUNTY then you lose the ability to lead them to a promise place, that brings wholeness to them and their families.</p> <p>~Dr.LML~</p>



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Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
18.		<b>Favor</b>	Foyinsola Ani	On behalf of Rising Communities, formerly Community Health Councils, we fully support having fiscal impact statements of countywide ballot initiatives printed in all the required languages on County sample ballots as early as the November 2024 ballot. This action would support LA County's commitment to advancing equity for all Angelenos. Language justice is also critical to honoring diversity and demonstrating that our systems can be more inclusive.
			Genee Farr	
			Guadalupe Gracian	
			Imelda Rodriguez	
			Isis Hernandez	
			Jerard D Wright	This is a no brainer. There should be transparency for all ballot measures to ensure that whatever promises are made to taxpayers will be kept.  A number of my members don't have much faith or trust with Measure A at the moment - we have no official position- because of the rushed nature of this proposal done by non-profit organizations who will seek to immediately profit from the sales tax measure and not go to the services needed to solve the crisis such as the lack of a defined consistent percentage of sales tax dollars that will go back to the local cities to help them solve their cities homelessness problems.
			jessica gracian	
Joann Lo	I support this item to ensure that I and other residents of LA County have full information about proposed ballot measures so we can make informed decisions on how we want to vote.			



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The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
18.		Favor	John J Pitney	<p>I strongly support Agenda Item 18. The principle is straightforward: in America's largest county, with a budget larger than that of most states, citizens need to know what they are voting on. Too often, however, they lack useful information about the likely impact of county ballot measures. They need exactly the kind of impartial analysis that this motion would provide.</p> <p>Indeed, never has the need been greater. Because of economic pressures, news media have had to cut back on coverage of local government. Social media does not provide much of a remedy. Citizens have to pick out nuggets of valid material from a slurry of misinformation. By definition, opponents and proponents of a measure do not provide impartial analysis: whatever they tell the public reflects their ideological, partisan, or material interests.</p> <p>For more than a century, California has been a leader in direct democracy. This proposal would make it even better for Los Angeles County.</p> <p>John J. Pitney, Jr. Professor of Government Claremont McKenna College (for identification purposes only)</p>
			Joselias Gracian	
			Leah M Burton	<p>On behalf of Rising Communities, formerly Community Health Councils, we fully support having fiscal impact statements of countywide ballot initiatives printed in all the required languages on County sample ballots as early as the November 2024 ballot. This action would support LA County's commitment to advancing equity for all Angelenos. Language justice is also critical to honoring diversity and demonstrating that our systems can be more inclusive.</p>



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			Name	Comments
18.		<b>Favor</b>	Lorrie A Frasure	<p>Dear Supervisors:</p> <p>I write to support the idea that ballot initiatives have a non-partisan statement of fiscal and programmatic impact. I am a Professor of Political Science and African American Studies at UCLA. I also serve as the Director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies. I am a resident of Culver City in Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell's Second District. My academic research focuses on racial/ethnic political behavior, African American politics, women and politics, immigrant political incorporation, and state and local politics.</p> <p>I believe that the placement of a nonpartisan fiscal statement during the ballot process may serve to inform voters from various backgrounds. This provides the information voters may need to make better informed decisions regarding their support or opposition to ballot initiatives.</p> <p>One of the most remarkable aspects of California politics is the number of ballot initiatives and the long history of these kinds of initiatives in the State. However, it is concerning that L.A. County ballot measures do not have impartial analysis and summaries of their fiscal impact, while statewide ballot measures do. The vast, well documented, literature in political science on California ballot initiatives, such as Prop 13 of 1978, has shown that such ballot measures have a significant and continued fiscal impact. If L.A. County allows voters to review a non-partial fiscal statement for its county initiatives, it may also lead to greater trust in the process, across various groups. It may also help to empower voters with greater information and transparency to make informed decisions.</p> <p>Thank you for time and opportunity to submit these comments.</p> <p>Sincerely, Lorrie Frasure</p>
			Marilynne K Wilander	I strongly support Supervisors Barger and Mitchell's proposal to provide fiscal and programatic analysis.
			Maritza Cuestas	
			Nona Pittman	my name is Nona Pittman and I am a community organizer with LA Voice. La Voice is a multi-faith, multi-racial community organization representing hundreds of families throughout Los Angeles county. I am in support of this motion that will provide voters with transparency on where their tax payer money is going.
			Pancake Herod	Accountability is everything,voters deserve this measure be passed.



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			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
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18.		<b>Favor</b>	Silvia Barajas	
			Yvonne Figueroa	
		<b>Oppose</b>	Monisha Parker	<p>Dear Resident of the County of Los Angeles,</p> <p>I urge you to vote NO on the half-cent sales tax to solve the homelessness crisis. This measure is a thinly veiled attempt by the Board of Supervisors to entrench the homeless industrial complex and keep it in business forever.</p> <p>The Board of Supervisors has failed to effectively address the homelessness crisis for years. They have poured billions of dollars into ineffective programs and shelters, while the number of homeless people has continued to rise. This sales tax would only give them more money to waste on bureaucracy and failed policies.</p> <p>The homeless industrial complex is a web of non-profits, government agencies, and special interests that profit from the homeless crisis. They have no incentive to find solutions that would actually end homelessness, because it would put them out of business.</p> <p>This sales tax would give the homeless industrial complex a permanent source of funding. They would use it to expand their empire of shelters, services, and programs, while doing nothing to address the underlying causes of homelessness.</p> <p>We need real solutions to the homelessness crisis, not more money for the failed policies of the past. Vote NO on the half-cent sales tax and demand that the Board of Supervisors come up with a plan that will actually end homelessness.</p> <p>Sincerely, Monisha Parker</p>

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
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18.		<b>Oppose</b>	paul burt	This "recommendation" is 1) tautological in as much as any effort to "review the measure and determine" is a non-value added step, and an unnecessary additional cost to taxpayers. ***** **** 2) Further, it appears that Mses Barger and Mitchell are conceding to the common knowledge, that much of the electorate in Los Angeles County is/are either A) Unwilling to do the hard research that should be an established policy and or procedure for ALL voters or B) Are illiterate and thereby further elucidation is required.
		<b>Other</b>	Lionel Mares	I support transparency and clarity in ballots and in voter guides.
			Tim Cromartie	Providing technical assistance.
			Tim Cromartie	Technical Assistance
		<b>Item Total</b>	<b>27</b>	
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>27</b>		

Subject: Support for Agenda Item 18: Ballot Transparency and Consistency Motion

Dear Board of Supervisors,

My name is **Alfred Torregano**, and I am the founder of **Elevate Culture Corporation**, a Los Angeles-based nonprofit organization dedicated to empowering our community through education and cultural enrichment.

I am writing to express our strong support for Agenda Item 18: Ballot Transparency and Consistency: Providing Voters with a Fiscal and Programmatic Analysis on County Ballot Measures. This motion represents a significant advancement in ensuring that our voters have the necessary information to make informed decisions on County ballot measures.

Transparency is the cornerstone of a healthy democracy. By including fiscal impact statements on Countywide ballot initiatives, we can provide voters with a clear understanding of the financial implications of their choices. This initiative will help bridge the information gap and foster a more engaged and informed electorate.

Elevate Culture Corporation firmly believes in the power of informed voting and community involvement. We urge the Board of Supervisors to pass this motion and set a precedent for other counties to follow. Your commitment to transparency and voter education is deeply appreciated, and we are confident that this motion will lead to more responsible and effective governance.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

**Alfred Torregano**  
**Founder, Elevate Culture Corporation 501(c)(3)**

# Statewide Ballot Title and Summary Process

The Attorney General prepares the “Ballot Title and Summary” and the “Condensed Ballot Title and Summary” (which is combined with approved lists of supporters and opponents by the Secretary of State to create the official “Ballot Label” which appears on all ballots throughout the state) for each statewide ballot measure (proposition).

The fiscal statement included in both the Ballot Title and Summary and Condensed Ballot Title and Summary/Ballot Label is provided by the Legislative Analyst to the Attorney General prior to submission to the Secretary of State 123 days before the statewide election.

A sample of the Ballot Label and Ballot Title and Summary for Proposition 1 in the March 2024 Primary Election is below, followed by a sample of how the title and summary appeared in the State Voter Information Guide for Proposition 1.

Proposition 1

November 3, 2023  
SB 326/AB 531

## BALLOT LABEL

**AUTHORIZES \$6.38 BILLION IN BONDS TO BUILD MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR THOSE WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CHALLENGES; PROVIDES HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.** Amends Mental Health Services Act to provide additional behavioral health services. **Fiscal Impact:** Shift roughly \$140 million annually of existing tax revenue for mental health, drug, and alcohol treatment from counties to the state. Increased state bond repayment costs of \$310 million annually for 30 years. **Supporters:** California Professional Firefighters; CA Assoc. of Veteran Service Agencies; National Alliance on Mental Illness – CA **Opponents:** Mental Health America of California; Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association; CalVoices



**BALLOT TITLE AND SUMMARY**

**AUTHORIZES \$6.38 BILLION IN BONDS TO BUILD MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR THOSE WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CHALLENGES; PROVIDES HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.**

- Authorizes \$6.38 billion in state general obligation bonds for mental health treatment facilities (\$4.4 billion) and supportive housing for homeless veterans and homeless individuals with behavioral health challenges (\$2 billion).
- Amends Mental Health Services Act to:
  - Allow funding to be used to treat substance use disorders (instead of only mental health disorders);
  - Re-allocate funding for full-service treatment programs, other behavioral health services (e.g., early intervention), and housing programs;
  - Require annual audits of programs.

**Summary of Legislative Analyst’s Estimate of Net State and Local Government Fiscal Impact:**

- Shift roughly \$140 million annually of existing tax revenue for mental health, drug, and alcohol treatment from counties to the state.
- Increased state costs to repay bonds of about \$310 million annually for 30 years. These bond funds would be used to build (1) more places where people can get mental health care and drug or alcohol treatment and (2) more housing for people with mental health, drug, or alcohol challenges.

<b>State Bond Cost Estimate</b>	
Amount borrowed	\$6.4 billion
Average repayment cost	\$310 million per year over 30 years
Source of repayment	General tax revenue

PROPOSITION **1** **AUTHORIZES \$6.38 BILLION IN BONDS TO BUILD MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT FACILITIES FOR THOSE WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE CHALLENGES; PROVIDES HOUSING FOR THE HOMELESS. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.**

**OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY**

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 37 and the Secretary of State's website at [voterguide.sos.ca.gov](http://voterguide.sos.ca.gov).

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- Amends Mental Health Services Act to:
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**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:**

- Shift roughly \$140 million annually of existing tax revenue for mental health, drug, and alcohol treatment from counties to the state.
- Increased state costs to repay bonds of about \$310 million annually for 30 years. These bond funds would be used to build (1) more places where people can get mental health care and drug or alcohol treatment and (2) more housing for people with mental health, drug, or alcohol challenges.

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**Los Angeles County Supervisors Meeting  
July 23, 2024  
Agenda Item 18**

**Tim Cromartie  
Deputy Secretary of State  
Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber's office**

Madam Chair and Members,

The Secretary of State has no position on the proposal, but after talking with the Initiative and Ballot Measure Coordinator in the Legislative Analyst's Office, I can share with you that the proposal mirrors the state process in a few critical areas:

1. Requires a fiscal analysis for all ballot measures
2. Dissemination of information in all required languages
3. Provides a Yes/No vote summary on ballot measures, so that voters understand the practical effect of voting a measure up or down
4. Requires input from stakeholders which informs both the fiscal and the program analysis

Thank you