

Registrar of Voters

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

LARRY MICARI District One

PETE VANDER POEL District Two

> AMY SHUKLIAN District Three EDDIE VALERO

District Four
DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: May 2, 2023

N/A Public Hearing Required Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk N/A Published Notice Required N/A Advertised Published Notice N/A Meet & Confer Required N/A Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached N/A Personnel Resolution attached N/A Agreement(s) attached N/A

CONTACT PERSON: Michelle Baldwin PHONE: 559-624-7300

SUBJECT:

Authorize the Registrar of Voters to not list Proponents and Opponents of Local Measures on County Ballots.

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing the Registrar of Voters to not list proponents and opponents of local measures on County ballots for all future elections.

SUMMARY:

Assembly Bill (AB) 1416 was passed by the State Legislature in 2022 with an effective date of January 1, 2023. AB 1416 adds a requirement, for statewide measures, that a listing of the proponents and opponents of measures be listed on the ballot label or that a similar description be provided on the ballot. The list of proponents and opponents are each limited to a maximum of 125 characters each. The list of proponents and opponents are already listed in the Voter Information Guide.

Allowing the additional printing will result in cost increases for ballot production and printing due to the extra ballot space required. In addition, there may be the possibility for electioneering and promotion of candidates who may be on the ballot that are also signers of the measure.

Elections Code section 9170(d) states that counties can opt out of printing supporters and opponents of local measures as follows: "At least 30 days before the deadline for submitting arguments for or against County measures, a County Board of Supervisors may elect not to list supporters and opponents for county, city, district and school measures on the County ballot and future County ballots."

Adopting a resolution pursuant to Elections Code Section 9170(d) would benefit the

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County and its voters by reducing the number of ballot cards and complexity of the ballot. In addition, the municipalities, school districts, and special districts would benefit by reducing the costs of ballot printing.

The proposed action would allow the Registrar of Voters office to not list proponents and opponents of local measures on all future County ballots in accordance with Elections Code section 9170(d).

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

There is an anticipated increase in printing costs and potentially mailing costs to all Tulare County registered voters due to the increased length and size of ballots resulting from the additional text.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's Five-year Strategic Plan includes the Organization Performance Initiative to continuously improve organizational effectiveness and fiscal stability. Authorizing the Registrar of Voters to not list proponents and opponents of local measures on County ballots helps fulfill these initiatives by ensuring that we provide the public with quality services that are timely and responsive to our duties as Elections Officials.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

_/s/ Michelle Baldwin
Michelle Baldwin
Registrar of Voters

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: Resolution