

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE M

The California Constitution and State law authorize school districts to levy qualified special taxes for specified purposes. Such a tax measure passes if two-thirds of those voting on it vote to approve the measure.

The Board of Trustees (“Board”) of the La Honda-Pescadero Unified School District (“District”) proposes to renew a special tax on parcels in the District to support various educational purposes. If the Measure is approved, the annual tax of \$130 per parcel would continue to be imposed for seven years, starting July 1, 2020 and ending June 30, 2027.

The proposed tax applies to any unit of real property wholly or partially in the District that receives a separate property tax bill from San Mateo County tax collection officials. Parcels otherwise exempt from such property taxes will be exempt from this proposed tax. Any individual owning and occupying a parcel as a single-family residence may apply for an exemption to the tax if they are age 65 years or older.

The stated purposes of the tax are to:

- Improve access to technology in classrooms;
- Provide enrichment opportunities for students;
- Provide professional development for teachers; and
- Increase student achievement.

The proceeds of the tax shall only be used for the stated purposes. No proceeds may be spent on administrators’ salaries or benefits.

The District will provide the following accountability measures: the tax proceeds will be placed into a special account; an annual report accounting for the proceeds and the status of projects or programs funded by the tax will be filed with the Board; and an independent oversight community committee will oversee expenditures and insure the proceeds are spent only for the stated purposes of the tax.

A “yes” vote on this Measure would continue to impose an annual tax of \$130 per taxable parcel on property within the District for a period of seven years beginning July 1, 2020, for the purposes listed above.

A “no” vote on this Measure would not allow the parcel tax to be levied.

This Measure passes if two-thirds of those voting on the measure vote “yes.”

-----End of Analysis-----
(500-word limit: 332 words)