IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE G

The California Constitution and state law authorize a school district, upon approval of two-thirds of the voting electorate, to levy a qualified special tax for specified purposes.

By this measure, the Board of Trustees of the San Mateo County Community College District proposes to levy a special tax for a period of four years beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2014. This tax shall be at a rate of $34 per year per parcel on all taxable parcels in the District.

A parcel shall be defined as any unit of real property in the District which receives a separate tax bill for ad valorem property taxes from the San Mateo County tax collection officials. Any property owner who occupies the parcel as a principal residence and is aged 65 years or older may qualify for an exemption from the special tax. All property which would otherwise be exempt from ad valorem property taxes will also be exempt from the imposition of the tax.

The stated purposes of the special tax are to: preserve job training programs in nursing, healthcare, computers, green technology, police and firefighting; maintain academic subjects including science, English and mathematics; keep libraries open and maintain library services; prepare students to transfer to four year colleges and universities; maintain academic counseling programs and other student services; attract and retain instructors; modernize classroom technology and computer labs; provide equipment and technology for science labs; and offer classes and labs necessary to meet student demand. None of the funds shall be used for administrator salaries or benefits.

The proceeds of the special tax will be placed into a special account. An independent citizens’ oversight committee will be established to monitor the expenditures of the parcel tax revenues. An annual report is required which accounts for the parcel tax revenues collected and the manner in which they have been spent.

A "yes" vote on this measure would allow a special tax to be levied on property within the boundaries of the San Mateo County Community College District for a period of four years beginning July 1, 2010 and ending June 30, 2014 in an amount of $34 per year per taxable parcel. The special tax would be used for: preserving job training programs in nursing, healthcare, computers, green technology, police and firefighting; maintaining academic subjects including science, English and mathematics; keeping libraries open and maintaining library services; preparing students to transfer to four year colleges and universities; maintaining academic counseling programs and other student services; attracting and retaining instructors; modernizing classroom technology and computer labs; providing equipment and technology for science labs; and offering classes and labs necessary to meet student demand.

A "no" vote on this measure would not allow the additional special tax to be levied.

This measure passes if two-thirds of those voting on the measure vote "yes."