Ballot Measure Primary Argument Submission Form

A ballot argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by this completed form, which shall contain the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the person(s) submitting it, or, if submitted on behalf of a bona fide association of citizens/organization, the name of the association/organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers. If the measure is presented to voters pursuant to an initiative petition in a special district election, please contact the Elections Office for special instructions.

Word count limit for Primary Arguments = 300  

Menlo Park City Elementary  
School District  

☐ Primary Argument in Favor of  
☐ Primary Argument Against  

This argument is submitted by: (check all that apply)

☐ The Governing Body of the County of San Mateo, a School District, or a Special District  
If this argument is filed by the governing body of the County of San Mateo, a school district or a special district, fill in the name of the governing body on the line below and complete both sides of this form.

Governing Body:

Contact Person's Printed Name:

Contact Person's Signature:

Title:

Phone:

Email:

☐ Member(s) of the Governing Body of the County of San Mateo, a School District, or a Special District  
If this argument is filed by any member(s) of the governing body, fill in the information below and complete both sides of this form. By statute, members of school district governing boards need board authorization to file an argument.

Member(s) of the Governing Body:

Name of Governing Body:

Contact Person's Printed Name:

Contact Person's Signature:

Title:

Phone:

Email:

☑ Bona Fide Association of Citizens/Organization  
If this argument is filed by a bona fide association of citizens/organization, the signers of the argument must be affiliated with the association/organization, be authorized to sign the argument on its behalf, provide the printed name and signature of at least one principal officer of the organization, and complete both sides of this form.

Name of Association/Organization:

Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA  

Principal Officer's Printed Name and Title:

Harland Harrison, Chair

Principal Officer's Address:

Contact Person's Printed Name:

Harland Harrison

Phone:

Email:

Fax:

☐ Individual(s) eligible to vote on the measure  
Individual signers must be eligible to vote on the measure.

Contact Person:

Phone:

Mailing Address:

Fax:

Email:

Please complete the reverse side of this form.
Primary Argument Signers Form

No more than five signatures shall appear with any argument. If more than five signatures are submitted, the first five listed shall be printed.

Names and titles listed will be printed in the order that they are listed below.

If the signers are part of a bona fide association/organization, there is no requirement that they be eligible to vote on the measure. However, for each such signing individual(s), the title under the signer's name shall list the name of that bona fide association/organization and may include their position within that association/organization.

By signing below, the undersigned state that they have read the argument and believe it not to be false or misleading.

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<tr>
<th>1.</th>
<th>Name: John J. Jack Hickey</th>
<th>Title: Member, Libertarian Party of San Mateo County CA</th>
<th>Governing Body of San Mateo County School District, or a Special District</th>
<th>Member(s) of the Governing Body of San Mateo County, a School District, or a Special District</th>
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<td>Name: Harland Harrison</td>
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Submit a second form (this side only) for alternate signers attached to this form and the argument.
Argument Against Measure ____
Menlo Park City Elementary School District Parcel Tax

In May 2016, the Menlo Park City School District (MPCSD) placed TWO parcel taxes on an all-mail ballot. They BOTH FAILED.

Proponents blamed the 2/3 vote requirement for their loss, but the 2/3 vote protects property owners from the whims of short-sighted alarmists. Lowering the 2/3 requirement for school bonds has created a massive increase in bonded indebtedness and our children will be stuck with the bill.

Now, only 10 months after losing two tax measures, MPCSD returned in this off-year election. This time, a YES vote would raise their CPI adjusted “take” to about $1,044 per parcel. Voting NO would allow that total to drop to around $684.

MPCSD does not need any more taxes and has budget plans which do not require them. The 1% General Property Tax already includes taxes for MPCSD. Parcel taxes are levied above that 1% tax, as are the additional taxes servicing over $130,000,000 bonded indebtedness of MPCSD.

Californians pay plenty for education. Nearly half of all general fund taxes in California are spent on education. Then, there are State “on behalf” payments, (from our taxes), to service bonds providing “matching funds” to the District. Voters already authorized bonds for MPCSD, for $91.1 million in 2006 and $23 million in 2013. If you choose to vote NO on this parcel tax, don’t let anyone accuse you of not supporting education!

If school districts in California face budget problems, blame the unfunded liabilities in California’s “defined benefit” pension plans, CalPERS and CalSTRS. People in the private sector saw retirement plans devastated by the financial meltdown in 2008, but not public employees. Government should solve its long-term problem of pension funds, instead of continually asking for tax increases.

Meanwhile, Menlo Park City School District can continue to provide an above average education with their existing revenue. Vote NO on another parcel tax.