

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE T

Measure T (Ordinance to Protect Our Right to Fair Elections and Local Democracy) will ensure local control of Humboldt County elections. Measure T will protect your First Amendment rights by taking big corporate money out of local politics.

In recent years, large, out-of-county corporations have attempted to manipulate our elections.

- 1999 — Wal-Mart spent \$235,000 in an effort to change Eureka's zoning laws.

- 2003 — Maxxam spent over \$300,000 in an attempt to recall our democratically elected District Attorney who had only been in office three months.

- 2004 — "Eureka Coalition for Jobs" flooded the airwaves with commercials in attempt to defeat a Eureka City Council incumbent and then refused to identify who paid for them.

These costly campaigns have divided our community and undermined citizen's confidence in the electoral system. A 2004 Humboldt State University survey found that over 78% of registered voters in Humboldt County believe that political corruption is more likely when corporations are allowed to make financial contributions in elections.

Measure T is a commonsense and straightforward initiative that will protect the integrity of Humboldt County elections by prohibiting non-local corporations, non-local unions, and non-local non-profits from making political contributions in our local elections.

Measure T was organized by hundreds of local citizens, businesses, current and former elected officials, community organizations and workers dedicated to protecting our right to local control.

Hundreds of unpaid local volunteers collected over 7,600 signatures (a county record) to place this measure on the ballot.

Measure T poses a simple question—do you believe the rights of our local community come before the rights of out-of-county corporations? Join local business owners, elected officials, citizens, workers and local organizations in standing up for your right to local control. Vote Yes on T!

s/ Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap, Campaign Co-Manager

s/ Nicole Spencer, Campaign Co-Manager

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE T

The proponents of Measure T mention the word "control" a lot, and even include it in their website address. That's because Measure T is all about control of local elections by groups with a personal agenda that want to exclude local employers from participating in elections that affect everyone in the community.

Measure T does NOT reform local campaign finances. **The special interests who wrote Measure T want to be free to donate unlimited amounts of money to local campaigns to pursue a personal agenda, but place unfair limits on their opposition.**

The No on Measure T campaign wants to restrict ALL campaign donations from ALL sources so that money and power do not influence the making of public policy. We propose limiting all campaign donations to no more than \$500 from any person, union, business or organization, and we have adopted this restriction in our own campaign opposing Measure T.

Why should employers be prohibited from donating to political campaigns while their employee unions contribute unlimited funds? Why should the definition of "local" be so restrictive when addressing what is a local corporation, and so loose when defining a local union or other organization?

The answer is simple ... this is a power grab that is disguised as campaign finance reform. Don't be fooled by special interests trying to control your local elections. Support REAL campaign finance reform by voting NO ON MEASURE T.

s/ Chris Crawford, Chair
NO on Measure T Committee
www.MeasureTNO.org



ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE T

VOTE NO ON MEASURE T

Measure T is a power play to seize control of local elections. It would unfairly restrict campaign donations from local employers and does not reform local campaign finance. Last year, Proposition 75 targeted unions, but didn't restrict business contributions and the citizens rightfully rejected it.

The proponents of Measure T want you to believe that corporations seek to unfairly control local elections citing as examples the Walmart campaign and the effort to recall the District Attorney. They seem to forget that both these efforts failed.

Many local businesses are affiliated with a corporate parent. These are hard working local business people who employ the local workforce and enable families to buy homes and raise families in Humboldt County. Since businesses create jobs and employ a local workforce, why shouldn't they be able to contribute to local campaigns? Under Measure T, the political organizations, special interest groups and unions could participate but the employers can't. That's not fair and that's not right.

There is far too much money and far too much hype in local elections. But silencing the voices of an important segment of our community is no way to fix the problem. Let's stop this "one upsmanship" and address the problem directly by limiting ALL local campaign donations to no more than \$500 from any individual, business, union or organization.

Want to know how unfairly Measure T was written? Look at these definitions of "local:"

- A local UNION needs only ONE local member to support candidates or issues.
- Yet a local CORPORATION would be disqualified with ONE employee or ONE stockholder out of the county!!

This is an unfair and deliberate attempt to stack the deck against those who create jobs on the North Coast. VOTE NO on Measure T

s/ Chris Crawford, Chair
NO on Measure T Committee
www.MeasureTNO.org

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE T

Humboldt County is coming together to support Measure T because money from out-of-county special interests is undermining our democratic process.

Join the hundreds of citizens, local businesses, elected officials, and local organizations who are standing up for local control of our democracy and your First Amendment rights.

Local Organizations

- Democratic Party of Humboldt County
- Green Party of Humboldt County
- Central Labor Council of Humboldt County
- AFSCME Local #1684
- Building and Construction Trades Council of Humboldt County
- Carpenters Union Local #751
- Operating Engineers Union Local #3
- Alliance for Sustainable Jobs and the Environment
- Democracy for America - Humboldt Chapter
- Democracy Unlimited of Humboldt County
- Local Solutions
- Lost Coast League
- Sierra Club Redwood Chapter
- Veterans for Peace
- Women's International League for Peace & Freedom – Humboldt Branch

Current and Former City & County Officials

- Paul Gallegos - Humboldt County District Attorney
- Peter LaVallee - Eureka Mayor
- Chris Kerrigan - Eureka City Councilmember
- Alex Stillman – Arcata Mayor (former)
- Bob Ornelas - Arcata Mayor (former)
- Dave Meserve - Arcata City Council
- Harmony Groves - Arcata City Council
- Paul Pitino - Arcata City Council
- Elizabeth Conner - Arcata City Council (former)
- Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap- Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
- Shane Brinton- Northern Humboldt School District
- Kathy Marshall - Northern Humboldt School District

Visit www.VoteLocalControl.org to see the hundreds of individuals and local businesses that also support Measure T!

Vote YES!

s Kaitlin Sopoci-Belknap
Campaign Co-Manager
s/ Nicole Spencer
Campaign Co-Manager

