Summary of Ballot Measures

November 4, 2014

Propositions 43 through 49 have been been approved for the ballot by the State of California Secretary of State’s Office. Proposed Proposition 50 is currently in the process of ratifying that the signatures collected are valid and of sufficient number. Two other bills are in the same process attempting to meet the deadline for November’s Elections.

**Proposition 43 – Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012**

**$11,140,000,000**

Surface storage projects; ground water contamination

Includes $100,000,000 for Salton Sea Restoration

$3bil for statewide operational improvements

$455,000,000 Drought relief projects and programs

*CalChamber SUPPORT*

**Proposition 44 - Rainy-Day Fund Plan**

For the 2015-16 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, based on the Budget Act for the fiscal year, the Controller shall transfer from the General Fund to the Budget Stabilization Account, no later than October 1, a sum equal to 1.5 percent of the estimated amount of General fund revenues for that fiscal year.

Also creates; the Public School Stabilization Account. Where there is a positive General Fund categorical balance, based on several mechanism will be transferred to the Public School Stabilization Account.

Accounts never to exceed 10% of General Fund Revenues (This is in the pre-statement)

Provisions for emergency use of funds.

**Proposition 45 - Insurance Rate Public Justification and Accountability Act**

“The purpose of this measure is to ensure fair and transparent rates for health, home and auto insurance by: (1) requiring health insurance companies to publicly disclose and justify their rates, under penalty of perjury, before the rates can take effect; (2) prohibiting unfair pricing for health, auto and home insurance based on prior coverage and credit history; and (3) requiring health insurance companies to pay a fee to cover the costs of administering these new laws so that this initiative will cost taxpayers nothing.”

**This adds a cost to your insurance fees?**

**Proposition 46 – Troy and Alana Pack Patient Safety Act**

“Physician impairments are increasing.” “Last year, the Medical Board of California reported that it had suspended more physicians than it had the year before and that “[t]his increase correlates to the observed trend in an increased number of physician impairment cases.” What is the number?

“Studies find that at least 1 in ten physicians suffers from drug or alcohol abuse during his or her career.” And, 1/3 will have at least one episode in their career of being impaired while on duty.

Actions:

* Require hospitals to conduct random drug/alcohol testing of doctors who practice there. (Doctors are billed for their own tests)
  + Require them to test Doctors after an unexpected death or serious injury occurs.
* Require Doctors to report other doctors who appear impaired while on duty
  + Or, if any physician in care of a patient during an adverse event failed to follow the appropriate standard of care.
* Require hospitals to report positive drug/alcohol test to the California Medical Board.
* A doctor who tests positive or refuses to test will be temporarily suspended pending a formal investigation.
* Require the Medical Board to take disciplinary action when sufficient evidence exists that the doctor was impaired while in the performance of his/her duties.
* Require doctors to check the state CURES, a CA prescription tracker database, prior to writing prescriptions for a Schedule II or Schedule III controlled substance for a patient for the first time.
  + Require to determine if it is an existing prescription determine that it was for a legitimate need.
* Adjust $250,000 compensation cap to account for inflation and provide annual adjustments
* Retain the cap on attorney fees in medical negligent cases.

Additionally,

* The responsibility of testing after an adverse event is that of the physician. Within 12 hours.
* Hospitals shall report any verified positive test results or refusals to the Medical Board.
* The Medical Board is required to report the results to the Attorney General’s Health Quality Enforcement Section for investigation and enforcement.
* Medical Board is required to notify physician and each health facility at which the physician practices of his temporarily suspend medical license.
* Should the investigation determine that the physician was impaired during the performance of his duties in an adverse event, the Board will notify the hospital and patients that the physician was impaired during the adverse event.
* The physician will be responsible for the Attorney General’s Office costs for conducting the investigations and enforcement of actions.

**Proposition 47 – The Safe neighborhoods and Schools Act**

The people enact the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act to ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses, maximize alternatives for non-serious, nonviolent crime, and invest the savings generated from this act into prevention and support programs in K-12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment. This act ensures that sentences for people convicted of dangerous crimes like rape, murder, and child molestation are not changed.

* Increases monetary value (loss) thresholds from $450 to $950; misdemeanor at or below amount; felony above
* Repeat offenders not eligible for felony deferral
* Requires annual audits
* Savings to be disseminated for K-12 truancy reduction programs, at-risk students (potential drop-outs), and student victims. 25%
* 65% for grants programs aimed at mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment and diversion programs for people in the criminal justice system, to reduce recidivism
* Allows re-sentencing of certain nonviolent criminal convictions identified in this measure.
* Allows the conviction records to be altered to misdemeanor for certain nonviolent crimes, within a giving time period.

**Proposition 48 – To ratify Compact on Tribal Gaming with the North Fork Rancheria**

**Band of Mono Indians and the Wiyot Tribe**

**Proposition 49 – Corporations. Political Spending. Federal Constitution Protections.**

**Legislative Advisory Question – Related to SB 1272**

*“Shall the Congress of the United States propose, and the California Legislature ratify, an amendment or amendments to the United States Constitution to overturn Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission (2010) 558 U.S. 310, and other applicable judicial precedents, to allow the full regulation or limitation of campaign contributions and spending, to ensure that all citizens, regardless of wealth, may express their views to one another, and to make clear that the rights protected by the United States Constitution are the rights of natural persons only?”*

**Proposition 50 (Pending) – No Blank Checks Initiative**

*“Under current rules, state bonds only need to be approved by voters if they will be repaid out of the state's general revenues. But the state politicians can rack up billions in additional bond debt without ever getting the voters' approval if the bonds will be repaid with specific charges imposed directly on Californians like taxes, fees, rates, tolls, or rents. The politicians should not be allowed to write themselves blank checks. Voters must have a say in all major state bond debt spending decisions because voters are the ones who ultimately pay the bill.”*