

Impartial Analysis Santa Ana Unified School District Measure I

The California Constitution provides that school districts may issue general obligation bonds for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, with the approval of 55% of the voters of the district, voting at an election for that purpose. The California Constitution further provides that the bond measure must include a requirement that the bond proceeds will be used only for the permitted purposes and other requirements designed to ensure accountability.

The Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District (the "District") has proposed to the voters within the District that general obligation bonds be issued in an amount up to \$232,000,000 and that *ad valorem* taxes be levied upon taxable property within the District to repay the bonded indebtedness. The measure provides that proceeds from the sale of the bonds will generally be used to modernize, renovate, repair and construct school facilities within the District, including repairing or replacing roofs and exterior walls; making Federal and State mandated Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility upgrades; replacing portable classrooms; repairing or replacing outdated or inadequate heating and air-conditioning; constructing, equipping and improving computer and science labs; repairing, replacing, upgrading and installing security and safety systems, including security cameras and entry/door locks and hardware; and acquiring, installing and upgrading computers and technology infrastructure. Bond proceeds may only be spent on the projects set forth in the measure.

The measure provides that a citizens' oversight committee will be established to ensure that bond proceeds are properly expended within the District. In addition, annual performance and financial audits will be conducted. The measure also requires the Superintendent of the District to submit a yearly report to the Board of Education as long as the proceeds of the bond remain unexpended. The measure further provides that bond proceeds will not be used for teacher or administrator salaries or other school operating expenses.

Approval of Measure I does not guarantee that the proposed project or projects in the District that are the subject of bonds under Measure I will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by Measure I. The school district's proposal for the project or projects may assume the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.

The Board of Education of the Santa Ana Unified School District has called the election for the purpose of submitting the measure to the voters within the District. If 55% of the voters within the District voting on the measure vote "yes," the District may proceed to sell the bonds and levy the related taxes as estimated in the tax rate statement. A "no" vote on this measure will disapprove the issuance of the bonds and the levy of the taxes for such bonded indebtedness.