COUNTY COUNSEL’S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE C

SHORELINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL TAX FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES
MEASURE C

If this measure is approved by a two-thirds vote, the Shoreline Unified School District will be authorized to extend its existing parcel tax of One Hundred Eighty Four Dollars and 70 Cents ($184.70) on all assessor’s parcels for educational programs, increasing annually at 2% on each parcel of land within the District each year for eight (8) years, beginning July 1, 2013. As stated in the District’s Resolution proposing to extend the parcel tax, the parcel tax revenue shall be allocated to maintain existing school programs and improve the quality of education through the hiring of qualified personnel and the purchase of equipment and materials as recommended by each School Site Council for specified curriculum.

s/JACK F. GOVI
Acting County Counsel (Marin County)
s/BRUCE D. GOLDSTEIN
Sonoma County Counsel

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE C

Our community has generously supported a local parcel tax benefitting public education since 1984. This support has enabled the Shoreline Unified School District to maintain quality programs in the areas of art, drama, music, foreign language, physical education and technology. Your parcel tax has kept our school libraries open, funded the hiring of classroom aides and counselors, as well as the purchase of text books and materials to enhance core academic instruction that improves math, reading and writing skills. Your parcel tax will allow the community’s students to continue receiving services and instruction in these areas, along with continuing specialty programs that enrich their total educational experience.

As the challenges of providing a high quality public education for our community’s children continue to build, so does the importance of maintaining these vital programs. These classes provide our children with the knowledge and skills they need to in a very demanding world. A balanced education is critical in order for students to develop into educated and contributing members of our society.

The programs that are supported by Measure C can only be maintained by the continuation of this Parcel Tax. These important programs cannot be funded through the general budget given the severe cuts in education funding in the State of California. Measure C will provide stable funding for these important programs that cannot be taken away by Sacramento.

Remember, Measure C is not a new tax, but rather a continuation of the support the community has given to its schools since 1984. Please join us in the commitment to provide the best education possible to our students by voting YES on Measure C.

s/CLARKE P. PORRATA
s/JAMES LINO
s/LAZULI WHITT
SUSD Trustee
SUSD Trustee
s/JANE C. HEALY
s/CLAIRETTE WILSON
SUSD Trustee
Marin County Board of Education

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE C WAS SUBMITTED.
RESOLUTION ORDERING A SPECIAL TAX ELECTION, ESTABLISHING SPECIFICATIONS OF THE ELECTION ORDER, AND REQUESTING CONSOLIDATION WITH OTHER ELECTIONS

WHEREAS, a high quality, free and community-supported elementary and secondary public school system is essential to the preservation and growth of a strong, stable and demographic society; and

WHEREAS, the ability of society’s political, social and economic institutions to adapt and effectively function in a world of rapid change depends upon an informed and well-educated citizenry; and

WHEREAS, a high-quality local public school program is vital to a community’s well-being because among other effects, it fosters growth of the greatest natural human resource any society can have – the minds of its youth, it strengthens the ability of its younger members to cope successfully in a competitive society, it preserves and enhances real property values, it promotes civic pride and participation in community affairs, it reinforces traditional values, it increases individual awareness of the duties and responsibilities of citizenship in a participatory system of government, and because it attracts to the community new members who share these goals; and

WHEREAS, it is the goal of the Shoreline Unified School District to provide a rich, fully integrated and comprehensive academic program for students through the hiring of qualified personnel and the purchase of equipment and material as recommended by each School Site Council; and

WHEREAS, Section 4 of Article XIII A of the California Constitution and Government Code Sections 50075, 50076, 50077, 50079 and 53720 et seq. authorize school districts to levy a special tax to raise funds for the purpose of conducting its business upon the approval of two-thirds of the votes cast by voters voting upon such a special tax proposal; and

WHEREAS, the Shoreline Unified School District Board of Trustees explicitly recognizes that it may not impose an ad valorem real property tax to meet its special needs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention on the Governing Board of the Shoreline Unified School District to conduct an election to maintain and expand school programs on November 6, 2012, at which time the registered voters of the Shoreline Unified School District will be given an opportunity to vote on a qualified special tax assessment; and

WHEREAS, the General Election will take place on November 6, 2012, and it is the desire of the Governing Board of the Shoreline Unified School District that this election to maintain and expand programs be consolidated with the General Election, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Governing Board of the SHORELINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT as follows:

Section 1. An election is hereby called to be held within the boundaries of the Shoreline Unified School District to maintain and expand school programs, and is requested to be consolidated with the General Election to be held on November 6, 2012. The following measure shall be submitted to the registered voters within the Shoreline Unified School District at this election:

Said election is hereby called to be held within the boundaries of the Shoreline Unified School District at which election shall be submitted to the qualified voters within the Shoreline Unified School District the following measure, to wit:

MEASURE C: To maintain existing school programs and improve the quality of education; to provide funds to buy updated textbooks and materials for math, reading, and writing courses; and to enhance critical programs including, but not limited to, computer science, library, and arts programs, shall the Shoreline Unified School District extend the existing $184.70 a year parcel tax, increasing annually at 2.0% for no more than eight years?

The parcel tax revenue shall be allocated to provide a rich, fully integrated and comprehensive academic program for students through the hiring of qualified personnel and the purchase of equipment and materials as recommended by each School Site Council in the following areas:

- LIBRARY PROGRAM
- COMPUTER SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
- MUSIC
- ART
- FOREIGN LANGUAGE
- CLASSROOM AIDES
- COUNSELING
- DRAMA
- FIELD TRIPS
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- NUTRITION EDUCATION/SCHOOL GARDENS
- SUPPORT OTHER ACADEMIC/EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS (not to exceed 10% of the total parcel tax revenue)

Section 2. The revenue derived from this qualified special tax assessment to maintain and expand school programs shall be used solely and exclusively for the purposes set forth above.

Section 3. If any provision of this section or of any other section of this Resolution or the application thereof to any person or circumstances is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this section or of any other section of this Resolution which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provision of this section and other sections of this Resolution are severable.

Section 4. The text of the measure as displayed on each individual ballot shall be abbreviated and shall read as follows:
SHORELINE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
QUALIFIED SPECIAL TAX ASSESSMENT FOR
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

To maintain existing school programs and improve the quality of education; to provide funds to buy updated textbooks and materials for math, reading, and writing courses; and to enhance critical programs including, but not limited to, computer science, library, and arts programs, shall the Shoreline Unified School District extend the existing $184.70 a year parcel tax, increasing annually at 2%, for no more than eight years?

YES  NO

Section 5. Commencing on July 1, 2013, the special tax collected annually on all assessor’s parcels at the special rate specified above, shall be collected and administered in the same manner as ad valorem property taxes are fixed and collected under provisions of the California Revenue and Taxation Code.

Section 6. The Marin County and Sonoma County Boards of Supervisors are hereby requested and authorized to consolidate this election with any elections to be held on this same date. The County Clerks are hereby requested and authorized to: 1) set forth all sample ballots relating to said election to be mailed to the qualified electors of the Shoreline Unified School District; and 2) to provide absent voter ballots for said special tax election for use by qualified electors of the Shoreline Unified School District who are entitled thereto in the manner provided by law.

Section 7. The Clerk of the Shoreline Unified School District Governing Board is hereby authorized and directed to certify to the due adoption of this Resolution and to transmit a copy hereof so certified to the Election offices of Marin and Sonoma Counties.

The foregoing Resolution was moved by Board Member Jane Healy, seconded by Board Member James Lino and adopted by roll-call vote on June 21, 2012 by the following vote:

Board Member Tim Kehoe AYE
Board Member Monique Moretti AYE
Board Member Julie Titus ABSENT
Board Member James Lino AYE
Board Member Kegan Stedwell ABSENT
Board Member Jane Healy AYE
Board Member Jill Manning-Sartori AYE

AYES: 5  NOES: 0  ABSENT OR NOT VOTING: 2

WHEREUPON, the President declared the foregoing Resolution duly adopted and SO ORDERED.

s/TIM KEHOE
President, Board of Trustees

CERTIFIED
s/JULIE TITUS
Clerk, Board of Trustees