

Impartial Analysis of Measure Q

Measure Q, the “Safe, Affordable, Quality Child Care in Monterey County Act,” was placed on the ballot pursuant to a citizen initiative and, if passed, would amend Title 5 of the Code of the County of Monterey to establish an annual special parcel tax in the amount of forty-nine dollars (\$49) on each parcel of real property in the County of Monterey, with limited exceptions, for ten (10) years. The revenue collected will be held in a special fund to be used solely to address the shortage of affordable childcare in Monterey County by providing dedicated, locally controlled funding to increase and improve licensed childcare and early learning opportunities. The measure requires a simple majority vote of the electorate voting on the measure to pass.

A special fund entitled the “Monterey County Caring for Children Fund” would be established and maintained by the County with revenue used exclusively to carry out the purposes of the Act, including, but not limited to, improving the safety and quality of licensed child care programs, increasing the availability of, and access to, licensed child care through the construction of and acquisition of licensed child care facilities, expansion of hours and days for facility services, retaining and training early education teachers, and administrative costs in reasonable amounts for maintaining the special fund and administering the special parcel tax. Parcels that qualify for any portion of a property tax exemption under Section 205.5 of the California Revenue and Taxation Code, or a successor statute, shall be fully exempt from the special parcel tax.

The Act would be administered by The Monterey County Children and Families Commission (First 5 Monterey County), and provides for certain accountability provisions to oversee the funds collected and expended, including the establishment of a Citizens Oversight Committee to serve as the advisory body in implementation of the Act, the annual completion of a report detailing proceeds received and expenditures made (but not a formal audit), and status of any funded project, all requirements of which are reflected in the full text of the measure.

The best estimate of the special parcel tax to be levied is forty-nine dollars (\$49) as an annual special parcel tax on each parcel in Monterey County, except as provided in Section 5.65.0303. The final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected is 2033.

A “yes” vote on this measure is a vote in favor of the issuance of an annual \$49 dollar special parcel tax to be levied on each parcel in Monterey County, except as provided in Section 5.65.030, for the purposes set forth in Measure Q.

A “No” vote on this measure is a vote against the issuance of an annual \$49 dollar special parcel tax to be levied on each parcel in Monterey County, except as provided in Section 5.65.030, for the purposes set forth in Measure O.

Dated: August 17, 2022

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