

**Impartial Analysis
County of Orange
Measure A**

California law permits the voters to amend the County Charter if a majority of voters voting in an election approve the amendment. This measure, placed on the ballot by the Board of Supervisors for the County of Orange, would amend the Orange County Charter.

All taxes are defined as either general or special taxes with “general taxes” defined as taxes imposed for general governmental purposes, and “special taxes” defined as taxes imposed for specific purposes. Existing law requires majority voter approval for all general tax proposals imposed by any local government, and two-thirds voter approval for all special tax proposals.

State law provides that general taxes for the County of Orange cannot be presented at an election unless the ordinance or resolution proposing such tax was approved by a two-thirds vote of all members of the Board of Supervisors. A special tax, however, can be presented at an election by a simple majority vote of the Board of Supervisors, even though it must subsequently be approved by a two-thirds majority of County voters.

If approved, this measure would amend the County Charter to require any ordinance or resolution proposed by the Board of Supervisors, to impose, extend, or increase a tax, with the exception of taxes proposed or levied under the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 (“Mello-Roos Act”), be approved by at least a two-thirds vote of the total membership of the Board of Supervisors for such tax to be presented to voters at an election.

This measure would establish the same two-third vote requirement for the Board of Supervisors to present a proposal to impose, extend or increase general or special taxes to voters. This measure does not change the voter approval requirements for such taxes once they have been placed on the ballot.

Future changes to the County Charter, including this measure if adopted, must be submitted to the voters for approval.

A “yes” vote is a vote to amend the Charter of the County of Orange to require any Board of Supervisors’ proposal to impose, extend, or increase a tax, with the exception of a tax under the Mello-Roos Act, receive at least two-thirds approval of the Board of Supervisors before the tax is presented to the voters.

A “no” vote is a vote to not amend the Charter of the County of Orange.

A copy of the proposed amendment to the County Charter is posted on the Registrar of Voter’s website, <http://www.ocvote.com/>. Voters may also contact the Registrar of Voter’s office and request that a copy of the proposed amendment be mailed to them at no cost.