

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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North Orange County Board of Trustees Joins Groups Endorsing May 19 Special Election Propositions *In Recognition of Seriousness of Current Budget Situation*

Anaheim, Calif. – The North Orange County Community College District (NOCCCD) Board of Trustees unanimously passed a resolution in support of six budget-related propositions, 1A through 1F, on California’s May 19 special election ballot.

The NOCCCD Board action last week follows the unanimous endorsements of the special election propositions by the California Community College Trustees and Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges, the two policy boards of the Community College League of California.

The NOCCCD Board approved the supporting resolution in recognition of the seriousness of the current state budget situation. The resolution also acknowledges that passage of the ballot measures is vital to maintaining programs and services necessary for the future educational, social, and economic growth of North Orange County.

The NOCCCD will not receive an estimated \$9.2 million in state funding for 2009-10 if just Proposition 1A below is turned down by voters.

Following are summaries of Propositions 1A through 1F:

- Proposition 1A – would limit state spending, strengthen the state’s “rainy day” fund, restore money owed to schools, and extend already-approved taxes.
- Proposition 1B – would pay money owed to schools and community colleges between 2007 and 2009 under the Proposition 98 guarantee.
- Proposition 1C – would modify the state lottery so the state can borrow against projected future earnings.

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- Proposition 1D – would shift a portion of voter-approved funds for certain early childhood development programs administered by First 5 to pay for other programs.
- Proposition 1E – would shift a portion of voter-approved funds for designated Proposition 63 mental health programs to cover other mental health programs.
- Proposition 1F – would ban pay raises to state office holders in years when the state has a deficit.

An 18-month budget (for the last half of 2008-09 through 2009-10) was established by the Legislature and Governor earlier this year when faced with an unprecedented downfall in the economy and a record \$42 billion state budget deficit. This budget is predicated upon new revenues, expenditure reductions, new borrowing, and voter approval of the May 19 special election propositions.

The supporting resolution approved by the NOCCCD Board states: “...These six budget-related propositions contribute both directly and indirectly to the sustainability of community college programs throughout the state and in the North Orange County Community College District during a time when enrollment is increasing among recent high school graduates as well as adults seeking job raining and re-training.”

Overall, California’s community colleges have experienced a 10.2% increase in the number of full-time equivalent students between the current and previous academic years. Funding to the state’s 72 community college districts is based on full-time equivalent student numbers (rather than headcount student numbers).

NOCCCD Background

Two of the state’s premiere colleges and most extensive continuing education program combine to provide the quality educational programming of the NOCCCD. Nearly 70,000 individual students enroll each term at Cypress College, Fullerton College, and the School of Continuing Education. College students are able to shape their futures in programs leading to associate degrees, vocational certificates, and transfer opportunities. Life-long learning also is possible in continuing education programs that range from high school completion and basic skills mastery through an array of vocational training and self-development courses. The NOCCCD campuses serve an area of over one million diverse people – each with unique ambitions. *The NOCCCD – Greatness. Achieved.*

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