

BALLOT ARGUMENT AGAINST COUNTY SALES TAX INCREASE
MEASURE A

NO on Measure A! It's a blank check! This measure raises the sales tax on every taxable purchase, from gasoline and tires to soap and clothes, with NO GUARANTEE HOW THE MONEY WILL BE SPENT.

The bait is companion Measure B, an "advisory only" measure suggesting one way the money could be spent. But that's all it is – BAIT.

The County tried the same thing in June. They proposed a sales tax increase coupled with an "advisory" measure suggesting the money could be spent on transportation improvements and road maintenance, hoping we would bite. But we didn't.

Since the possibility of pothole repair didn't entice us to raise taxes, the County is now hoping we'll do it "for the children." Like a fisherman trying different lures, the County is dangling different shiny promises hoping that we'll fall for one and raise taxes.

But they're not promises. If the County wanted to be bound, it would put the promise here, in the actual tax measure. But this, the actual tax measure, says the revenue "is available for general governmental purposes." Every penny could legally be used for something else, like increasing salaries and pensions.

That's why the public employee unions are campaigning for this measure! They want a big slice of that new revenue.

Even the promise of "citizen oversight" is hollow. The measure expressly states that oversight shall NOT include "decision-making on spending priorities."

Even if the money is given, as suggested, to "nonprofit organizations" providing "services" for children, who are these organizations? How much of their budgets actually help children? Who are these children? Do they live in our city? All unanswered questions.

Demand binding promises! Until then, don't raise taxes on seniors, poor people and working families. Vote NO!

s/Timothy A Bittle, Director of Legal Affairs, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

s/George Guynn Jr. President, Solano County Taxpayers Association