

COUNTY COUNSEL'S IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE H

The County of Solano has proposed a general transactions and use tax (sales tax) of one-half of one cent per dollar (0.50%). The tax would be levied for no more than five years unless extended by the voters.

State law authorizes the County to levy a general sales tax if the ordinance proposing the tax is approved by a two-thirds vote of all members of the Board of Supervisors and the tax is approved by a majority of the qualified voters of the entire county voting in the election. The Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the tax on February 9, 2016. If a majority of the voters in the County who vote on this measure vote "Yes," the measure will pass and the sales tax will be levied.

The estimated annual revenue generated by this general tax, which is listed on the ballot in the Fiscal Impact Statement, would be deposited into the General Fund and would be available for general governmental purposes, including maintaining and repairing local streets and roads, repairing potholes, implementing road safety projects, addressing senior and disabled mobility issues and other essential services. The revenue from the tax would be annually appropriated by the Board of Supervisors for general governmental purposes. This measure does not restrict the use of the tax revenue to any specific purpose.

The tax would be paid in addition to the current sales tax. Like the current sales tax, the tax would be imposed on all retailers in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of the County for the selling of tangible personal property, subject to certain exemptions and exclusions identified in the measure.

An independent citizens' oversight committee would review the receipt and expenditures of the tax revenue, including the County's annual independent audit, in conjunction with the County's budget process. The committee may make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors regarding expenditures from the tax.

If approved, the tax would take effect immediately on June 7, 2016 and become operative on October 1, 2016. The tax will terminate in five years unless a majority of voters reauthorize the tax at a subsequent election.

Respectfully submitted,

Solano County Counsel
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[EC § 9160]