TOWN OF LOOMIS

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Information for Ballot Arguments for Measures Appearing in the June 18, 2019 Special Election

The California Elections Code governs the preparation and submittal of primary ballot arguments and rebuttal arguments in favor of or against ballot measures. The Placer County Office of Elections has prepared this guide to help answer questions regarding the ballot argument preparation and submittal process. If you have questions not answered by the information below, please contact the Placer County Office of Elections.

Any references to "E.C." refer to the California Elections Code.

BALLOT ARGUMENTS:

The Loomis Town Council or any member of the Council authorized by the Council, or any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure, or bona fide association of citizens, or any combination of such voters and associations may file a written argument for or against any Town measure. No argument shall exceed **300 words** in length. (E.C. 9162)

Title: The arguments shall be titled either "Argument In Favor of Measure **C** or Argument against Measure **C**." (E.C. 9162) **(Regarding Ordinance 275)**

Title: The arguments shall be titled either "Argument In Favor of Measure **D** or Argument against Measure **D**." (E.C. 9162) **(Regarding Ordinance 276)**

Number of Words: Arguments cannot exceed **300 words** in length. Attached is Elections Code Section 9 to help you determine the number of words in the text of any argument. (E.C. 9162)

Signatures: A ballot argument *shall not be accepted* unless accompanied by the name or names of the person or persons submitting it, or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the name of at least one of its principal officers.

No more than five signatures shall appear with any argument submitted. In case more than five persons sign any argument, the signatures of the first five shall be printed. (E.C. 9164)

Argument Not Accepted Without Consent From Person Included In Text: An argument that includes in its text the name or title of a person, other than the author of the argument, who is represented as being for or against a measure, shall not be accepted unless the argument is

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accompanied by the signed consent of that person. The consent of a person, other than an individual, shall be signed by an officer or other duly authorized representative. "Person" as used in this section means an individual, partnership, corporation, association, committee, labor organization, and any other organization or group of persons.

More Than One Argument: If more than one argument for or against any Town measure is submitted, the Town Clerk shall give preference and priority in the following order. (E.C. 9166)

1. The Loomis Town Council, or member or members of the Council authorized by the Council.

2. The individual voter, or bona fide association of citizens, or combination of voters and associations, who are the bona fide sponsors or proponents of the measure.

3. Bona fide associations of citizens.

4. Individual voters who are eligible to vote on the measure.

Author Information: In order to transmit opposing arguments and to make a determination of which argument to print if more than one argument is submitted, the Elections Office needs to have certain information for the author. If someone other than the author delivers the argument, the author should supply the following information so it can be given to the Elections Office:
- Residence address
- Mailing address
- Daytime telephone number
- Fax number
- E-mail address

If the Elections Office does not receive this information, it may delay delivery of the opposing argument.

DEADLINE FOR FILING PRIMARY ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR AND AGAINST MEASURE

<u>April 3, 2019</u> **(By 5:00PM)**

REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS:

When the Elections Official has selected the arguments for and against the measure, which will be printed and distributed to the voters, the clerk shall send copies of the argument in favor of the measure to the authors of the argument against, and copies of the argument against to the authors of the argument in favor. (E.C. 9167)

Rebuttal arguments written by an individual other than the author of the primary argument will need to be accompanied by written authorization from the author of the primary argument. (E.C. 9167)

Title: Rebuttal arguments shall be titled either "Rebuttal To Argument In Favor Of Measure C" or "Rebuttal To Argument Against Measure C". (E.C. 9167) **(Regarding Ordinance 275)**

Title: Rebuttal arguments shall be titled either "Rebuttal To Argument In Favor Of Measure D" or "Rebuttal To Argument Against Measure D". (E.C. 9167) **(Regarding Ordinance 276)**

Number of Words: Rebuttal arguments are limited to **250 words**. (E.C. 9167)

Signatures: See "Signatures" paragraph above.

Argument Not Accepted Without Consent From Person Included In Text:
See "Argument Not Accepted Without Consent from Person Included in Text" paragraph above.

More Than One Rebuttal Argument: See "More Than One Argument" paragraph above.

DEADLINE FOR FILING REBUTTALS TO ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF OR AGAINST MEASURE

<u>April 11, 2019</u> **(By 5:00PM)**

WORD COUNT GUIDELINES

(E.C. 9)

Counting of words, for purposes of this code, shall be as follows:

1. Punctuation is not counted.

2. Each word shall be counted as one word except as specified in this section.

3. All proper nouns, including geographical names, shall be considered as one word; for example, "City and County of San Francisco" shall be counted as one word.

4. Each abbreviation for a word, phrase, or expression shall be counted as one word.

5. Hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.

6. Dates shall be counted as one word.

7. Any number consisting of a digit or digits shall be considered as one word. Any number which is spelled, such as "one," shall be considered as a separate word or words. "One" shall be counted as one word whereas "one hundred" shall be counted as two words. "100" shall be counted as one word.

8. Telephone numbers shall be counted as one word.

9. Internet and website addresses shall be counted as one word.