

COUNTY OF SONOMA
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS OFFICE

(FOR OFFICE USE ONLY)

ELECTION DATE: _____

CONTEST ID: _____

AUTHOR ELIGIBILITY VERIFIED BY: _____

MEASURE LETTER DESIGNATION: _____

JURISDICTION: _____

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

The undersigned author(s) of the (select one of the following)

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR (300 WORDS)

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR (250 WORDS)

ARGUMENT AGAINST (300 WORDS)

REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST (250 WORDS)

ballot measure V at the November 3, 2020 Presidential Election election for
(Letter) (Name of Election)

the City of Sonoma being held on 11/3, 20 20
(Jurisdiction) (Date of Election)

hereby state that such argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

1. [Redacted] 8/14/2020
Signature/Date (Principal Officer signing of behalf of an Association? Yes No)

Logan Harvey
Print/type your name or Association's name as it should appear on argument

Mayor, City of Sonoma
Title to appear below name on argument (optional-limited to 4 words)

3. [Redacted] 8/14/20
Signature/Date (Principal Officer signing of behalf of an Association? Yes No)

Sondra Bernstein
Print/type your name or Association's name as it should appear on argument

Restaurant Owner
Title to appear below name on argument (optional-limited to 4 words)

6. [Redacted] 8/14/2020
Signature/Date (Principal Officer signing of behalf of an Association? Yes No)

Priscilla Call Assert
Print/type your name or Association's name as it should appear on argument

Executive Director Vintage House
Title to appear below name on argument (optional-limited to 4 words)

2. [Redacted] 8-14-20
Signature/Date (Principal Officer signing of behalf of an Association? Yes No)

Simon Blattner
Print/type your name or Association's name as it should appear on argument

Business Owner
Title to appear below name on argument (optional-limited to 4 words)

4. [Redacted] 8-14-20
Signature/Date (Principal Officer signing of behalf of an Association? Yes No)

Gary Edwards
Print/type your name or Association's name as it should appear on argument

Former Sonoma Council Member
Title to appear below name on argument (optional-limited to 4 words)

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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OPTIONAL TITLES SHOULD NOT EXCEED FOUR (4) WORDS.
TITLES WHICH DO NOT FIT IN ALLOTTED SPACE WILL BE ABBREVIATED.

A ballot argument or rebuttal argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by the name or names of the person(s) 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. **As of May 2020, it is no longer required that signers who are signing as individuals be registered voters in the district.** No more than five signatures shall appear with any argument submitted. Arguments may be changed or withdrawn by their proponents until and including the date fixed by the election official for filing. There is a 10 calendar day review period prior to submitting arguments for printing.

E.C. §§9164, 9190, 9283, 9295, 9380, 9501, 9600

Text of arguments/rebuttal arguments should either be typewritten (see reverse side of form) on the reverse side of this form or a typewritten or computer generated statement may be attached to this form. Statements are electronically scanned for typesetting, therefore handwritten arguments will not be accepted for filing.

All arguments/rebuttals will be printed in a uniform style, in block paragraph form. Words may not be printed in boldface type or all capital letters, nor are indentations, circles, stars, dots, bullets or underlines allowed; profanity or other objectionable language may not be used. Lists or enumerations must be wrapped as a single block paragraph with items separated by semicolons or periods. If not wrapped when submitted, wrapping will be done during the process of typesetting.

Multiple single line paragraphs that do not fit in the space allotted will be wrapped. All arguments/rebuttals should be checked by the author for spelling and punctuation, as the department will not correct any material contained therein.

ARGUMENTS/REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS MAY BE TYPED OR COMPUTER GENERATED

ALL AUTHORS MUST SIGN ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF THIS FORM

ALL ARGUMENTS/REBUTTAL ARGUMENTS SHALL BE ACCOMPANIED BY THIS FORM AND SIGNED BY THE AUTHOR(S).

Argument in Favor of Measure V
Transaction and Use (Sales) Tax Extension and Appropriations Limit Increase
Submitted by the City of Sonoma

Keeping Sonoma's local half-cent sales tax is critical to maintaining our town's quality of life and financial stability. That's why it was placed on the ballot by unanimous vote of the Sonoma City Council. It generates 13% of the revenue for essential services our citizens want and need.

The majority of the City's budget goes to public safety (including emergency preparedness and emergency medical services) and maintenance of our roads, Plaza, parks, and trails. Our local sales tax supports these and other community priorities, including infrastructure improvements and contracts with local nonprofits to provide social services and recreation programs for our residents.

Measure V is not a tax increase. It continues Sonoma's existing half-cent local sales tax with no change in the rate. Sonoma's local sales tax has been supported by voters in two previous elections. All revenues from this tax are locally controlled and protected from State intervention.

The City of Sonoma has a history of being fiscally conservative with lean staffing. Prior to the pandemic, Sonoma's budget was balanced. The City is using spending cuts and emergency reserves to get through this crisis. COVID-19 has created new financial challenges for the City, but the need for the local half-cent sales tax preceded this crisis and will continue when it is over. If we lose this funding, we'll face significant cuts to essential services.

The City has explored other funding options, but they are limited. Voters recently approved the hotel tax. Visitors also pay a significant share of the local half-cent sales tax through their purchases at restaurants and retailers.

This tax is not applied to grocery food purchases or prescription medications.

We don't want to lose the level and quality of services that we have worked hard to maintain in our city. Vote yes on Measure V.

