ARGUMENTS

FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY AUTHORS OF ARGUMENTS

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with § 9200) of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following form statement **to be signed** by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument:

The undersigned proponent (s) or author(s) of the (primary/rebuttal) argument (in favor of/against) ballot proposition (name or number) at the (~~title of election~~ General Municipal Election) election for the (jurisdiction) to be held on Nov. 3, 2026 hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of (his/her/their) knowledge and belief.

City of San Clemente

Print Name ROBERT "BOB" BAKER Title FORMER MAYOR (If applicable):Submitted on behalf of : (name of organization)	Signature [redacted] Date MAY 18, 2026
Print Name KATHY WARD Title FORMER MAYOR (If applicable):Submitted on behalf of : (name of organization)	Signature [redacted] Date 5-19-2026
Print Name Zhen Wu Title Councilmember (If applicable):Submitted on behalf of : (name of organization)	Signature [redacted] Date 5-19-2026
Print Name Title (If applicable):Submitted on behalf of : (name of organization)	Signature Date
Print Name Title (If applicable):Submitted on behalf of : (name of organization)	Signature Date

Argument Against Measure [ ]

(San Clemente Natural Hazards Sales Tax Initiative)

Voters rejected the 0.5% tax. Proponents are back with a **doubled ask**—without a clear plan, safeguards, or cost-benefit analysis. This measure uses most of the City's remaining 1.5% local tax capacity, leaving little room for real emergencies.

It Hurts Residents

An 8.75% tax would make San Clemente the **highest-taxed** in South Orange County. It's not "just a penny." It would raise about **$150,000,000** over 10 years, largely paid by residents. Families would pay more for gas, cars, dining, and everyday purchases.

The Beach Fund Overreach

The 50-year Army Corps sand project costs roughly $10,000,000 every 5–6 years. OCTA has already committed 540,000 cubic yards of sand at no cost to the City. With at least 70% of the $7,500,000 beach fund earmarked for sand, this measure demands far more local spending even as federal and regional agencies are already contributing. The City only owns two miles of beach; the rest is State or private property. Should local taxpayers help pay to protect that coastline without fair cost-sharing?

The Fire Fund Loophole

We already pay about $12,000,000 annually for OCFA's premier fire and emergency response. This measure adds a new $7,500,000 tax for fire prevention, but it lacks any legal requirement to increase total fire spending levels. Without that safeguard, new tax revenue could replace existing funding instead of increasing fire protection. **Taxpayers could pay more without getting more.**

We all love our beaches. We all want fire safety. But this 1% tax hike is too large, poorly structured, and the wrong approach at a difficult time for many families.

Don't give the City a blank check. Vote NO.

For more information, visit www.SCFiscalWatchdog.org

SUPPORTERS/OPPONENTS TO BE LISTED ON BALLOT LABEL

All ballot labels concerning county, city, district, or school measures on a county ballot shall end with a list of Supporters and Opponents taken from the signers of the argument in favor or against the measure. **The list of Supporters/Opponents shall not exceed 125 characters in length, including spaces. Each Supporter/Opponent shall be separated by a semicolon. An association, nonprofit organization, business, or individual shall not be listed unless they support/oppose the measure. A Supporter/Opponent shall not be listed if the Supporter/Opponent is a political party or is representing a political party.**

The below listed Individuals, Associations, Nonprofit Organizations, and/or Businesses are:

☐ **SUPPORTERS** ☒ **OPPONENTS**

of ballot measure T.B.D. (San Clemente Natural Hazards Sales Tax Initiative) (Letter) at the general (Election Name) election for the San Clemente (Jurisdiction) being held on 11/3/26 (Date of Election)

hereby state that all the information provided is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

A Supporter or Opponent shall not be listed unless it is one of the following:

(A) An association, nonprofit organization, or business that was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code and that has been in existence for at least four years.

(B) A current or former elected official, who may be listed with the official's title (e.g., "State Senator Mary Smith," "Assembly Member Carlos Garcia," or "former Eureka City Council Member Amy Lee"). These titles may be shortened (e.g. "Senator" or "Sen." for "State Senator" or "Asm." for "Assembly Member").

(C) An individual who is not a current or former elected official may be listed only with the individual's first and last name and an honorific (e.g., "Dr.," "M.D.," "Ph.D.," or "Esquire"), with no other title or designation, unless it is a title representing an association, nonprofit organization, or business that meets the requirements of (A) or (B) above and that is eligible to be listed if the individual supports the measure or if the individual opposes the measure pursuant to Elections Code 9170 (a).

Use the space below to show the order of the list of Individuals, Associations, Nonprofit Organizations, and/or Businesses* (not to exceed 125 characters in length) Spaces between Supporters/Opponents may be omitted. Each Supporter/Opponent shall be separated by a semicolon.

1. Zhen Wu, Councilmember;
2. Robert "Bob" Baker, Former Mayor;
3. Kathy Ward, Former Mayor;
4. ;
5. 82 Total number of characters

* Each of the above listed **must** complete a Signature Consent Form and submit along with this form.

Signature Consent – complete the appropriate section below and sign:

A. Individual: An individual who is not a current or former elected official may be listed only with the individual's first and last name and an honorific (e.g., "Dr.," "M.D.," "Ph.D.," or "Esquire"), with no other title or designation. If using a title representing an association, nonprofit organization, or business, also complete section C.

Name: _____

Title used on ballot label: _____

Address: _____

☐ Supports the measure ☐ Opposes the measure

B. Elected Official: A current or former elected official, who may be listed with the official's title (e.g., "State Senator Mary Smith," "Assembly Member Carlos Garcia," or "former Eureka City Council Member Amy Lee"). These titles may be shortened (e.g. "Senator" or "Sen." for "State Senator" or "Asm." for "Assembly Member").

Name: Zhen Wu

Title used on ballot label: Council member

Address: [redacted]

☐ Supports the measure ☒ Opposes the measure

C. For every supporter listed that is an association, a nonprofit organization, a business, or an individual whose title includes an association, nonprofit organization, or business, the supporters shall include a signed statement by a representative of the association, nonprofit organization, or business, under penalty of perjury, that includes its name and an address and that attests (i) that the association, nonprofit organization, or business supports the measure, (ii) that the association, nonprofit organization, or business has been in existence for at least four years, and (iii) that it was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code.

Name of Association: _____

Principal Officer's Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Title used on ballot label: _____

1. The association, nonprofit organization, business, individual:
   ☐ Supports the measure ☐ Opposes the measure
2. The association, nonprofit organization, or business has been in existence for at least four years: ☐
3. Was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code: ☐

Under penalty of perjury, I attest that the above information is true and correct:

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 5/19/2026

Signature Consent – complete the appropriate section below and sign:

A. Individual: An individual who is not a current or former elected official may be listed only with the individual's first and last name and an honorific (e.g., "Dr.," "M.D.," "Ph.D.," or "Esquire"), with no other title or designation. If using a title representing an association, nonprofit organization, or business, also complete section C.

Name: _____

Title used on ballot label: _____

Address: _____

☐ Supports the measure ☐ Opposes the measure

B. Elected Official: A current or former elected official, who may be listed with the official's title (e.g., "State Senator Mary Smith," "Assembly Member Carlos Garcia," or "former Eureka City Council Member Amy Lee"). These titles may be shortened (e.g. "Senator" or "Sen." for "State Senator" or "Asm." for "Assembly Member").

Name: ROBERT "BOB" BAKER

Title used on ballot label: FORMER MAYOR

Address: [redacted]

☐ Supports the measure ☒ Opposes the measure

C. For every supporter listed that is an association, a nonprofit organization, a business, or an individual whose title includes an association, nonprofit organization, or business, the supporters shall include a signed statement by a representative of the association, nonprofit organization, or business, under penalty of perjury, that includes its name and an address and that attests (i) that the association, nonprofit organization, or business supports the measure, (ii) that the association, nonprofit organization, or business has been in existence for at least four years, and (iii) that it was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code.

Name of Association: _____

Principal Officer's Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Title used on ballot label: _____

1. The association, nonprofit organization, business, individual:
   ☐ Supports the measure ☐ Opposes the measure
2. The association, nonprofit organization, or business has been in existence for at least four years: ☐
3. Was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code: ☐

Under penalty of perjury, I attest that the above information is true and correct:

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 5/18/26

Signature Consent – complete the appropriate section below and sign:

A. Individual: An individual who is not a current or former elected official may be listed only with the individual's first and last name and an honorific (e.g., "Dr.," "M.D.," "Ph.D.," or "Esquire"), with no other title or designation. If using a title representing an association, nonprofit organization, or business, also complete section C.

Name: _____

Title used on ballot label: _____

Address: _____

☐ Supports the measure ☐ Opposes the measure

B. Elected Official: A current or former elected official, who may be listed with the official's title (e.g., "State Senator Mary Smith," "Assembly Member Carlos Garcia," or "former Eureka City Council Member Amy Lee"). These titles may be shortened (e.g. "Senator" or "Sen." for "State Senator" or "Asm." for "Assembly Member").

Name: KATHY WARD

Title used on ballot label: FORMER MAYOR

Address: [redacted]

☐ Supports the measure ☑ Opposes the measure

C. For every supporter listed that is an association, a nonprofit organization, a business, or an individual whose title includes an association, nonprofit organization, or business, the supporters shall include a signed statement by a representative of the association, nonprofit organization, or business, under penalty of perjury, that includes its name and an address and that attests (i) that the association, nonprofit organization, or business supports the measure, (ii) that the association, nonprofit organization, or business has been in existence for at least four years, and (iii) that it was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code.

Name of Association: _____

Principal Officer's Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Title used on ballot label: _____

1. The association, nonprofit organization, business, individual:
   ☐ Supports the measure ☐ Opposes the measure
2. The association, nonprofit organization, or business has been in existence for at least four years: ☐
3. Was not originally created as a committee described in Section 82013 of the Government Code: ☐

[redacted]

Under penalty of perjury, I attest that the above information is true and correct:

Signature: [redacted]

Date: 5-19-26

Signature Block under Ballot Argument
Not counted towards 300-word limit.

Zhen Wu*
Councilmember

Robert "Bob" Baker
Former Mayor

Kathy Ward
Former Mayor

**Title for identification purposes only.*

Signature Line on Ballot Label

125 characters max.

Zhen Wu, Councilmember;

Robert "Bob" Baker, Former Mayor;

Kathy Ward, Former Mayor