



Talking Points

Californians cannot afford another costly ballot measure that doesn't solve the problem. Proposition 6 is one of these measures. Prop. 6 locks in ONE BILLION dollars each year in spending on California's justice system, with no new revenues to pay for it.

- At a time when the state legislature is being forced to make across the board spending cuts, Prop. 6 locks in ONE BILLION dollars each year in spending with no new revenues to pay for it. Prop 6 gives the state no choice but to make cuts from other critical programs, such as public schools, children's healthcare, after-school programs and fire protection.

Proposition 6 doesn't put one more cop on the street. Instead, it guarantees billions of taxpayer dollars to unproven programs with no accountability.

- Prop. 6 ignores and disrupts the progress of current effective crime prevention efforts of the Governor and State Legislature. It does not guarantee to put a single new cop on the street; the only guarantee is that it will waste billions of taxpayers' dollars on unproven programs with no real accountability.
- The Attorney General's office reported that in 2007 statewide violent crimes were down by 3.2% and property crimes by 4.7% since 2006.
- The Attorney General's office has also reported that in the period from 1992 through 2006, the violent crime rate has dropped 43.7%, with a decrease of 36.7% in homicides.
- The majority of the funding for Prop. 6 would go towards "Citizens Options for Public Safety," a program reviewed by the independent Legislative Analyst's Office, found to have "no definable goals" and "no identifiable results."
- Prop. 6 would take money away from mental health, drug and alcohol treatment agencies which are proven, effective community services in rehabilitation.
- In the 32-page initiative, Prop. 6 proposes over 50 changes to crimes, penalties and court processes that will create more bureaucracy in the prison system. This will slow down our courts with unnecessary and costly new laws and ultimately take funding away from proven youth gang prevention programs and other proven public safety efforts.

Prop. 6 is focused on the wrong priorities. It could take money away from schools and public safety and spend it instead on probation departments and prisons.

- Virtually every study of gang problems and high crime communities calls for a coordinated balanced approach that includes community services, mental health, drug and alcohol services along with law enforcement.
- Prop. 6 would require spending at an additional half BILLION dollars on new prison construction at a time when California spends four times as much per prisoner than per public school student.

Prop. 6 would weaken existing law so more children as young as 14 years old will be tried as adults and relegated to the criminal justice system.

- Proposition 6 would take money out of the schools and spend it putting more children behind bars.
- Research has shown that children handled in the adult correctional system are less likely to be successful than those who are handled through the juvenile system.

No on Props 6 & 9, Communities for Safe Neighborhoods and Fiscal Responsibility, a committee of teachers, firefighters, public employees, healthcare, homecare and civil rights groups -- major funding by the California Teachers Association/Issues PAC
1510 J Street, Suite 210, Sacramento, CA 95814, ID# 1308244
(916) 443-7817 - (916) 441-2653 - www.VoteNoProp6.com
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