



YES ON PROPOSITION 19

“Prop 19 is a positive step to make housing more affordable and accessible for families, seniors, and victims of wildfire, while closing an unfair tax loophole that will generate hundreds of millions in needed revenue for local school districts, fire districts as well as cities and counties to help fund emergency responders, homeless services and affordable housing, hospitals, public health programs, and other vital services.” - **Toni Atkins, State Senate President pro Tempore**

Overview: Prop 19 was passed by more than a 2/3 vote in the Legislature, co-sponsored by the California Professional Firefighters, as a replacement measure to generate hundreds of millions in revenue for local governments and school districts, with guaranteed funding for historically underfunded rural and urban fire districts to fix inequities due to antiquated Prop 13 funding formulas.

What will Proposition 19 do for California?

- Prop 19 closes the “Big Lebowski” inheritance loophole, in which wealthy trust fund heirs avoid paying their fair share of property taxes on luxury vacation houses and beachfront rentals. It fixes the unfair system in which working families to pay property tax bills 5 to 10 times higher than inherited homes in the same neighborhood used as rentals by heirs, many living as far away as Florida or New York.
- By closing these loopholes, Prop 19 will generate hundreds of millions annually in property taxes for school districts, fire districts, water districts, community colleges, cities, and counties to help balance budgets and fund fire protection and emergency services, libraries, affordable housing and homeless programs, public health, and other local services.
- Prop 19 also provides housing relief and tax savings for vulnerable Californians, removing unfair location restrictions so that seniors, people with disabilities, and wildfire victims can move closer to family or medical care, or replace a damaged home without a property tax increase – and creating homeownership opportunities for tens of thousands of renters and new buyers every year.

How much revenue will it bring in?

According to analysis commissioned by the California Professional Firefighters, Prop 19 will generate hundreds of millions of dollars in property tax revenue per year in the first few years, growing to over 2 BILLION dollars annually over time.

What about Schools and Communities First?

The title of the original ballot measure stated, “Expands Business Property Reassessments” and was qualified above the SCF initiative, which could have resulted in voter confusion. By removing the original measure from the ballot, eliminating the business property reassessment provision to focus on residential property instead of business property, and dropping down to Prop 19 on the ballot (moving down below SCF instead of directly above SCF on the ballot) these steps will remove any potential voter confusion. Now, Props 15 and 19 both generate significant revenue needed now more than ever – from completely separate sources – *that’s why passage of both measures is critical.*

Are there any safeguards for local governments?

While all financial estimates conducted on Prop 19 project significant net increases in statewide revenue, Prop 19 includes a safety net with offset funding to protect against the unlikely event that any county or local agency experiences a net negative gain. This important provision will ensure local services are not harmed. Most likely, these safety net funds won’t be needed for local agency reimbursements, and under Prop 19 all unused local offset funding will revert to the General Fund for allocation by the Legislature through the state budget.