

SWEETWATER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Proposition O

(This proposition will appear on the ballot in the following form.)

PROP O

School Classroom, Safety and Repair Measure.

To improve learning/safety at every Sweetwater Union High School District campus by repairing/earthquake retrofitting classrooms/restrooms; installing upgraded fire safety systems, security fencing, safety lighting; upgrading science labs/computer technology; improving handicap accessibility; replacing leaky roofs, heating/air conditioning, outdated plumbing; removing asbestos, mold, and lead paint; shall the District issue \$644 million in bonds, at legal interest rates, with citizens' oversight, independent annual audits and no money for administrators' salaries?

This proposition requires approval by 55% of the voters.

Full text of this proposition follows the arguments/rebuttals.

RESOLUTION 3542 - EXHIBIT "B"
SWEETWATER UNION HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOND PROPOSITION

"In order to acquire, construct, renovate and upgrade school facilities and provide major repair of existing school facilities at schools of the Sweetwater Union High School District, and in so doing increase safety and educational effectiveness of classrooms for students, shall the Sweetwater Union High School District be authorized to issue Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$644,000,000, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities or the acquisition or lease of real property for schools and school facilities listed and further described in Attachment "1" on file at the District office and herein incorporated, which Bonds shall be issued for a term not to exceed the statutory maximum, which is twenty-five (25) years in the case of bonds issued under the authority of the Education Code and forty (40) years in the case of bonds issued under the authority of the Government Code, at an interest rate below the legal maximum, and which Bonds shall be subject to the following provisions:

- (A) That proceeds of the Bonds shall be used only for the acquisition, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities or the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities pursuant to California Constitution Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) and further that the proceeds of the Bonds shall be used only for the purposes specified in California Constitution Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) (as amended by Proposition 39) and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and any other school operating expenses.
- (B) That a list of the specific school facilities projects to be funded with the proceeds of the Bonds is attached hereto as Attachment "1" and, based upon the adoption of this Resolution, this Board of Trustees hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs in developing the school facilities listed in Attachment "1".
- (C) That the Board of Trustees of the District shall conduct an annual, independent performance audit to insure that the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds have been expended only on the specific projects listed in this bond proposition.
- (D) That the Board of Trustees of the District shall conduct an annual, independent financial audit of the proceeds from the sale of the Bonds until all of those proceeds have been expended for the school facilities projects identified herein.
- (E) That the Board of Trustees of the District will, pursuant to the provisions of applicable State law, appoint a citizens' oversight committee, and conduct annual independent audits (as referenced above) to assure that the Bond proceeds are spent only on the school, facilities and classroom improvements, projects and costs identified in Attachment "1" and for no other purposes, and that the citizens' oversight committee shall meet on a regular basis and shall, where possible, include construction, finance or other qualified professionals in its membership and may, as part of its activities, review and provide comments to the Board of Trustees on bond measure expenditure plans, bond measure-related staffing and consultants, and the District's deferred maintenance plans, and shall be advisory only, and shall not replace or impede the activities or decisions of the District's Board of Trustees;
- (F) That the District's deferred maintenance plans, as periodically amended, may be reviewed by the citizen's oversight committee as a part of its activities;
- (G) That in order to maximize community benefit and to apply bond funds available, the District should pursue identified opportunities to expand the use and availability of community joint use facilities, or other joint facility use opportunities, in expanded school construction projects when practical to do so and, in pursuing such joint use, the District should take into consideration opportunities to maximize the use of such school facilities to the surrounding communities and the public in general without adversely impacting District operations, finances and in compliance with all applicable federal, State, and local laws.

Such bond proposition is also for the purpose of making the Sweetwater Union High School District eligible for State matching funds."

Attachment "1"
SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS

The general obligation bond funds of the Sweetwater Union High School District ("District") would be used to renovate, upgrade and provide major repair of existing school facilities, construct and acquire new school buildings and infrastructure and related facilities costs, including, but not limited to, repair, renovation, upgrading and/or replacement of lighting and electrical systems, heating, air and ventilation (HVAC) systems, fire safety systems and equipment, including alarms, fire safety doors and sprinkler systems, bathroom facilities, plumbing and sewer systems and facilities, flooring and ceiling replacement and upgrades, abatement of hazardous materials, roof renovation, roofing upgrades and/or replacement, window/glazing replacement and upgrades, wall systems, security systems, communication systems, insulation, undergrounding of utilities, fencing site improvements (including walkways, safety fencing and grading), demolition or removal of existing buildings and related facilities, landscaping, hardscaping, athletic buildings, gyms and related athletic facilities and handicap accessibility improvements to meet current health, safety and instructional standards which will improve the overall educational experience for all students in the District. Such projects include, but are not limited to, repairing, reconstruction, renovation, modernization and construction of classrooms, libraries, computer labs, science labs, roofing, playgrounds, plumbing, electrical and network infrastructure, walls, doors and windows, athletic fields, replacement and/or installation of lunch shelters, installing fire suppression systems, providing earthquake retrofitting, installing energy efficient lighting systems to conserve electricity and save on utility costs, and related projects. Project costs for improvement or expansion of existing facilities may include, but are not limited to, some or all of the following: infrastructure and related expenses; construction, acquisition or lease of temporary, portable or permanent classrooms, instructional support and/or ancillary facilities; improving HVAC systems, and making District schools and school facilities compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), demolition of existing facilities. Project costs for furniture and equipment may include, but are not limited to some or all of the following: desks and tables; window and floor coverings (including tiles and carpeting); computer, media recording and presentation equipment, including but not limited to, audio systems; kitchen equipment, improvements and furnishings; science laboratory equipment; and/or other electronic equipment.

The following projects are specifically identified as projects on which the bond funds may be expended:

Bonita Vista Middle School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Upgrade/expand library, cafeteria, student drop-off area and facilities, teacher workrooms
- Upgrade Adaptive Building
- Repair/expand girls'/boys' PE locker rooms and buildings
- Repair irrigation, fencing and hardcourts
- Add covered PE/lunch area and sitework
- Renovate portable classrooms

Castle Park Middle School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Renovate special education classrooms and buildings, student restrooms and portable classrooms
- Upgrade library and school support offices
- Upgrade Adaptive Building and Activity Center
- Expand physical education facilities, repair outdoor athletic hardcourts and rebuild shower and locker rooms
- Install and upgrade water systems
- Upgrade teacher workroom
- Upgrade existing irrigation systems
- Improve fencing for security
- Add covered lunch/physical education area
- Expand parking

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SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS - Continued

Chula Vista Middle School:

- Upgrade science and technology labs
- Repair music/drama auditorium
- Expand/Renovate library buildings and support facilities
- Add music, industrial technology and covered lunch and physical education area
- Replace substandard physical education shower and locker rooms
- Repair irrigation systems
- Improve fencing for security
- Renovate outdoor athletic hardcourts

Community Day Middle School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Eastlake Middle School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Granger Junior High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs and school support offices
- Upgrade science and technology labs
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Add/repair covered walkways
- Upgrade student restrooms, teacher workroom and cafeteria and kitchen facilities
- Repair/expand girls'/boys' PE locker rooms and replace substandard locker rooms
- Add covered lunch and physical education area
- Repair water system and irrigation systems
- Improve fencing for security
- Renovate outdoor athletic hardcourts
- Add relocatable classrooms for growth
- Expand parking
- Renovate portable classrooms

Hilltop Middle School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, school support offices and Upgrade/expand library
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Upgrade cafeteria and kitchen facilities, student restrooms and teacher workroom
- Renovate multipurpose room
- Replace substandard physical education shower and locker rooms
- Add covered lunch and physical education area
- Repair irrigation systems, fencing and hardcourts
- Improve fencing for security
- Renovate portable classrooms
- Add relocatable classrooms for growth

Mar Vista Middle School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs and school support offices
- Upgrade/expand library
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Renovate physical education classroom and music classroom

SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS - Continued

Mar Vista Middle School – Continued:

- Upgrade student restrooms and teacher workroom
- Update industrial technology classrooms
- Upgrade/expand cafeteria building and serving areas
- Replace physical education shower and locker rooms
- Add covered lunch and physical education area and faculty restroom
- Upgrade irrigation systems
- Improve fencing for security
- Renovate outdoor athletic hardcourts
- Renovate portable classrooms

Montgomery Middle School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, physical education and school support offices and Upgrade/expand library facilities
- Upgrade student restrooms and add additional facilities, cafeteria, Upgrade equipment and serving areas
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Add/repair covered walkways
- Add covered lunch and physical education area
- Install faculty restroom
- Upgrade teacher workroom
- Upgrade irrigation systems
- Improve fencing for security
- Renovate outdoor athletic hardcourts
- Renovate portable classrooms

National City Middle School:

- Construct a new classroom buildings
- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, auditorium and existing Adaptive Gym
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Upgrade cafeteria and school support offices
- Refurbish library facilities
- Renovate existing student restrooms
- Upgrade irrigation systems
- Improve fencing for security
- Repair and replace walkways and outdoor athletic hardcourts
- Add covered lunch and physical education instructional area and existing student restrooms
- Add relocatable classrooms for growth
- Renovate portable classrooms

Rancho del Rey Middle School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Expand locker facilities

Southwest Middle School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Refurbish library building and facilities
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Upgrade physical education classrooms
- Expand and upgrade student restrooms

SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS - Continued

Southwest Middle School – Continued:

- **Renovate school support offices** and auditorium
- **Repair and replace walkways** and outdoor athletic hardcourts
- Replace locker rooms
- Upgrade irrigation systems
- Add covered lunch and physical education instructional area
- Renovate portable classrooms
- **Improve fencing for security**

Bonita Vista High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, Bolles Theater and school support offices
- Add science labs and new classroom buildings
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Add restrooms
- Expand/**Upgrade library, cafeteria and kitchen buildings and infrastructure**
- Renovate student restrooms
- Expand/repair girls'/boys' PE locker rooms, fencing and hardcourts
- New quad
- Repair irrigation systems
- Repair/resurface walkways, floors and asphalt
- New multi-purpose room
- Renovate portable classrooms

Castle Park High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, library buildings and facilities and Food Services building
- Expand/upgrade library and industrial technology classrooms for increased student population
- Upgrade/expand old electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Upgrade PE classrooms
- Upgrade/repair girls'/boys' PE locker rooms
- Renovate and add student restrooms
- Add science labs and classroom building
- New multi-purpose room
- Upgrade support offices
- **Repair PE offices, buildings and facilities, hardcourts, fencing and irrigation**
- Repair and resurface floors, walkways and asphalt
- Replace sewer and water systems
- Renovate portable classrooms

Chula Vista High School:

- **Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms** and labs
- **Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology**
- **Expand and Upgrade boys' and girls' physical education facilities, lockers and showers**
- Add science lab, student restrooms and teachers workroom
- **Repair Stadium**
- **Repair/renovate PE buildings/facilities/classrooms**
- **Expand and Upgrade library facilities**
- New multi-purpose room/mini-gym
- Repair and resurface damaged walkways, floors and asphalt areas

SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS - Continued

Chula Vista High School – Continued:

- Renovate cafeteria/multipurpose room
- Upgrade exterior fencing for security
- Expand parking
- Renovate portable classrooms

Eastlake High School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Reconfigure for additional parking

Hilltop High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Add science lab, faculty restrooms and teachers workroom
- Expand/upgrade library, cafeteria, gymnasium, multi-use room and counseling center
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- New multi-purpose room/mini-gym
- Improve fencing for security
- Repair and replace walkways, floors, outdoor athletic hardcourts and physical education facilities
- Replace locker rooms
- Add relocatable classrooms for growth
- Upgrade existing and add additional student and faculty restrooms
- Upgrade irrigation systems
- Expand stadium seating
- Renovate portable classrooms

Mar Vista High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Add science classroom space, a computer lab and classroom building
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Reconstruct cafeteria and industrial technology classrooms
- Add teacher workroom, student and faculty restroom
- Renovate existing restrooms
- Upgrade school support offices
- Add relocatable classrooms for growth
- Provide more general storage space
- Expand and Upgrade library
- Add cover to outside eating area
- Install exterior lighting for security
- Upgrade physical education facilities including boys' and girls' locker/restrooms
- Renovate portable classrooms
- Regrade and landscape grounds to improve drainage

Montgomery High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, Gymnasium and Adaptive Gym and school support offices
- Add classrooms and science labs
- Add student/faculty restrooms
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Add multi-purpose room/mini-gym

SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS - Continued

Montgomery High School – Continued:

- Upgrade/expand library facilities
- Renovate kitchen and cafeteria facilities, physical educational facilities
- Repair boys' and girls' PE lockers rooms
- Upgrade industrial technology classrooms
- Repair irrigation, fencing, hardcourts
- Renovate portable classrooms

Olympian High School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Otay Ranch High School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Palomar High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Upgrade PE Classrooms
- Add faculty restroom to accommodate additional staff
- Expand teacher workroom

San Ysidro High School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Southwest High School:

- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs, school support offices and gymnasium
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Add restrooms, classrooms and science labs
- Construct new multi-purpose/mini-gym
- Upgrade/expand library
- Upgrade industrial technology classrooms, kitchen and cafeteria
- Renovate music and drama classrooms
- Repair boys'/girls' PE locker rooms
- Upgrade teachers workroom and PE classrooms/facilities
- Repair irrigation, fencing, hardcourts
- Renovate portable classrooms

Sweetwater High School:

- Construct new classroom buildings
- Upgrade general and special purpose classrooms and labs
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology
- Add restrooms, classrooms, science labs and parking facilities
- Add/renovate portable classrooms
- Provide music and drama classrooms
- Acquire land to add campus space, parking, and classrooms to accommodate student enrollment

SCHOOL FACILITIES PROJECTS - Continued

Sweetwater High School – Continued:

- **Expand/upgrade library facilities**
- **Repair Stadium**
- Construct new concession stand
- Repair irrigation, fencing and hardcourts

Options Secondary School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Alta Vista Academy:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Fifth Avenue Academy:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Imperial Beach Technology Academy:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Vocational and Technical Education ACT:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Adult Resource Center:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Chula Vista Adult School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Montgomery Adult School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

National City Adult School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

San Ysidro Adult School:

- Repair/restore on-site infrastructure and buildings
- Upgrade/expand electrical systems to meet current and future demands, security systems and to accommodate technology

Acquisition, Construction and Expansion of School Sites and School Infrastructure to Enable Existing School Campuses to Meet Student Needs

Proceeds of the Bonds may be used to design, acquire, construct, equip and expand school sites, buildings, facilities and campuses within the District. Acquisition and construction would include, but not be limited to, site acquisition, demolition of existing structures, site grading, design and construction of classrooms, offices, cafeteria, multi-purpose facility, playing field and other athletic facilities, school grounds, science and computer lab, library, restrooms, parking and other school buildings and facilities.

Project costs for the above-referenced projects may include site preparation, installation costs, engineering and design costs, project management costs and related costs. Project costs may also include the payment of lease payments for lease of authorized facilities, property or buildings and payment of costs and expenses for interim financing of authorized facilities (including, but not limited to, financing delivery costs). Allowable project costs also include: costs of issuing the bonds or securities (as authorized under California law), informational distribution costs and election costs authorized under State law. Funding for these projects may come from this bond measure or other District resources as the school construction needs arise.

In preparing the foregoing list, the Board of Education of the Sweetwater Union High School District has evaluated safety, class size reduction and information technology needs. Approval of the District's bond measure does not guarantee that all of the identified projects within this list will be funded beyond local funds generated by the bond measure and does not guarantee that the projects will be completed in any particular order. The District will also pursue funds from the State of California to complete the identified facilities projects. The foregoing project list assumes that the District would also receive State matching funds.

No proceeds of the Bonds shall be used for refurbishment or reconstruction of the District's administrative or business offices.

No Administrator Salaries. Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition shall be used only for the design, demolition, construction, acquisition, repair, renovation, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, as identified herein, or the oversight of such activities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and non-construction related administrator salaries and other non-construction related operating expenses.

COUNTY COUNSEL IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS

This proposition, if approved by 55% of the voters voting on the proposition, would authorize the Sweetwater Union High School District ("School District") to issue and sell \$644,000,000 in general obligation bonds on its behalf. The sale of these bonds by the School District is for the purpose of raising money for the School District, and represents a debt of the School District. In exchange for the money received from the holder of the bonds, the School District promises to pay the holder of the bonds an amount of interest for a certain period of time, and to repay the loan on the expiration date.

Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition may be used by the School District only for the construction, reconstruction and/or rehabilitation of its school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of its school facilities, acquisition, or lease of real property for its school facilities and construction management by School District personnel.

The interest rate on any bond, which is established at the time of bond issuance, cannot exceed 12% per annum. The final maturity date of any bond could be no later than 25 years after the date of bonds issued pursuant to the Education Code or not later than 40 years after the date of bonds issued pursuant to the Government Code. Principal and interest on the bonds would be paid by revenue derived from an annual tax levied upon the taxable property within the School District in an amount sufficient to pay the interest as it becomes due and to provide a fund for payment of the principal on or before maturity.

Article XIII A of the California Constitution exempts from the one percent property tax rate limitation ad valorem taxes to pay the interest and redemption charges on any bonded indebtedness for the acquisition or improvement of real property, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, when approved by 55% of the voters if: (a) the proceeds from the sale of the bonds are used only for the purposes specified, (b) the School District, by evaluating safety, class size reduction, and information technology, has approved a list of specific projects to be funded, (c) the School District will conduct an annual, independent performance audit, and (d) the School District will conduct an annual, independent financial audit. If a bond measure is approved by 55% of the voters, state law requires the governing board of the District to establish an independent citizens' oversight committee. The School District has made this ballot proposition subject to these requirements.

Approval of this proposition does not guarantee that the proposed projects in the School District that are the subject of these bonds will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by this proposition.

A "yes" vote is a vote in favor of authorizing the Sweetwater Union High School District to issue and sell \$644,000,000 in general obligation bonds.

A "no" vote is a vote against authorizing the Sweetwater Union High School District to issue and sell \$644,000,000 in general obligation bonds.

Pursuant to Education Code Section 15272, if this Bond measure is approved, the Sweetwater Union High School District Governing Board will appoint a citizens' oversight committee and conduct annual independent audits to assure that bond funds are spent only on school and classroom improvements and for no other purposes.

TAX RATE STATEMENT

As shown on the enclosed official ballot, an election is being held in the Sweetwater Union High School District ("District") on November 7, 2006, for the purpose of submitting to the registered voters within the District the question of whether the District shall issue and sell bonds in an amount not to exceed \$644,000,000 for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition, construction and upgrading of school classrooms and school building projects as set forth in the resolution of the District calling such bond election. This measure will authorize a tax sufficient for interest on, and redemption of, the bonds. The bonds shall bear interest at a rate, or rates to be established at such time as the bonds are sold, in one or more series, at fixed or variable interest rates not to exceed the maximum applicable statutory rate for such bonds. If such bonds are authorized and sold, the principal thereof and the interest thereon are a general obligation of the District, payable from the proceeds of *ad valorem* taxes on real property located within the District. The following information is submitted in compliance with California Elections Code Sections 9401 through 9404.

- (a) The best estimate from official sources of the tax rate that would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the first fiscal year after the first sale of the bonds based on assessed valuations available at the time of the election or a projection based on experience within the same jurisdiction or other demonstrable factors is \$0.027 per \$100 (\$27.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.
- (b) It is anticipated that the bonds will be sold in series. The best estimate from official sources of the tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the first fiscal year after the last sale of the bonds is \$0.027 per \$100 (\$27.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation.
- (c) The best estimate from official sources of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue during the term of the bond issue, based on assessed valuations available at the time of the election or a projection based on experience within the same jurisdiction or other demonstrable factors, is \$0.027 per \$100 (\$27.00 per \$100,000) of assessed valuation. It is estimated that the highest tax rate would apply in the 2018-2019 tax year based on assessed valuations available at the time of the election or a projection based on experience within the same jurisdiction or other demonstrable factors.

Voters should note that these estimated tax rates are based on the *assessed value* of taxable property within the District as shown on the official rolls of San Diego County, *not* on the property's market value. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective rate than described above. Certain taxpayers may also be eligible to postpone the payment of taxes. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

Attention of all voters is directed to the fact that these estimates are based on projections derived from information obtained from official sources. The actual tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary depending on the timing of any bond sales, the amount of bonds sold, and actual increases in assessed valuations. The timing of the bond sales and the amount of bonds sold at any given time will be governed by the needs of the District. Actual future assessed valuation will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the San Diego County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

Dated: July 25, 2006

Julian T. Lopez, Ph.D.
Interim Superintendent
Sweetwater Union High School District

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION O

Sweetwater Union High School District is recognized as one of California's best-managed. By completing previous school construction projects ahead of schedule and under budget, saving local taxpayers \$72 million, **Sweetwater was recently recognized by the San Diego County Taxpayers Association for exemplary fiscal responsibility.**

Proposition BB, overwhelmingly supported by local residents in 2000, provided critically needed repairs, renovated existing schools and constructed new classrooms. Proposition O is now needed to complete the job of repairing and improving our schools ensuring all Sweetwater students attend safe, secure schools that fully support their educational needs.

Too many of our students still attend school in classrooms and labs that lack computers and up-to-date technology. Decades old restrooms, deteriorating plumbing, inefficient heating, ventilation and other building systems need to be repaired or completely replaced. Proposition O funds will be used to upgrade fire safety systems, remove asbestos and other health hazards, improve handicap accessibility and complete earthquake retrofitting.

Proposition O will upgrade vocational classrooms, giving students the opportunity to learn valuable job and technical skills preparing them for success in the workforce.

All schools and students in the Sweetwater District will benefit from Proposition O.

Proposition O will:

- Upgrade classrooms/restrooms/science labs/technology
- Improve handicap accessibility
- Remove asbestos/lead paint
- Upgrade fire and life safety systems

Proposition O is subject to strict accountability requirements, including independent citizen oversight and annual audits, to guarantee improvements specified in the District's facilities master plan are completed efficiently and as promised. Proposition O funds can only be spent on our neighborhood secondary and adult schools to benefit local students. **None can be spent on administrator salaries or district offices.**

Quality school facilities help retain and attract qualified teachers. Good schools maintain local quality of life and strong values.

We respectfully urge your support and **YES vote for Proposition O.**

GREGORY R. COX
San Diego County Supervisor

NORMA L. HERNANDEZ
Superintendent/President (Retired)
Southwestern College

DIANNE BLIVEN
2006 Teacher of the Year
Sweetwater Union High School District

RAQUEL MARQUEZ
President, Board of Trustees
San Ysidro School District

ROGER CAZARES
Ceo (Retired), MAAC Project

REBUTTAL TO THE ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION O

EDUCATION SPENDING JUST SHOT UP

- This year, education spending jumped dramatically. Some estimates of total federal, state and local spending on California K-12 education now exceed \$11,000 per student. This amount is considerably higher than the average private school tuition. The last thing we should be considering is even higher taxes for education.
- The Sweetwater district's share of standard property tax revenue has zoomed upward. It is almost 5 times more than it was 20 years ago – more than doubling in just the last six years. It is growing FAR faster than population and inflation combined. Yet the district says we need to pay even HIGHER property taxes! No, we don't.
- Ask yourself this question: If the district really needs these bonds, why can't they issue them now, making the bond payments out of the existing tax revenue sources? After all, private schools, which on average charge considerably less than \$11,000 tuition, fund their capital costs out of their budgets without raising taxes. Can't public schools, which have much more money, do the same?
- District bureaucrats seeking higher taxes always point to buildings in disrepair. It's a standard pitch. We give them tons of tax money, and they can't maintain our schools. Their solution? Give 'em even MORE money. What does that teach our kids about accountability?
- Education is critically important. But paying even higher taxes is not the answer.

Prop O is a big goose egg. Vote NO! on Prop O

BONNEY T. WIKKERING
Retired

EDWARD TEYSSIER
National City Business Owner

JESSE THOMAS
Candidate, State Senate 40th District

WILLIAM J. BILBRAY