

PROP 21 ESTABLISHES \$18 ANNUAL VEHICLE LICENSE SURCHARGE TO HELP FUND STATE PARKS AND WILDLIFE PROGRAMS. GRANTS SURCHARGED VEHICLES FREE ADMISSION TO ALL STATE PARKS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

★ **ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 21** ★

CALIFORNIA'S STATE PARKS AND BEACHES ARE IN PERIL.

Sacramento politicians have repeatedly cut funding for California's state parks and beaches in every region of our state. Parks and wildlife are now at immediate risk.

150 state parks were closed part-time or suffered deep service reductions during the past year. Our park facilities are poorly maintained, unsanitary and falling apart.

With no reliable funding, state parks have accumulated a backlog of more than \$1 billion in maintenance and repairs. Cuts in ranger and lifeguard positions have reduced safety and increased crime. The National Trust for Historic Preservation named California state parks among the 11 most endangered places in America.

PROP. 21 KEEPS STATE PARKS AND BEACHES OPEN, WELL-MAINTAINED AND SAFE.

Prop. 21 gives California vehicles free day-use admission to state parks and beaches by establishing a new \$18 vehicle license fee, paid just once a year, that's solely dedicated to state parks and wildlife conservation. This immediately-needed and dedicated funding source will prevent the shutdown of our parks and beaches and ensure they are properly maintained and safe for public use.

PROP. 21 PROTECTS JOBS AND BOOSTS CALIFORNIA'S ECONOMY.

California's state parks receive more than 80 million visits from residents and tourists every year, supporting tens of thousands of jobs and generating billions in business and tax revenues for nearby communities and our state. By keeping parks open, Prop. 21 preserves very important jobs and revenues.

PROP. 21 PROTECTS IRREPLACEABLE NATURAL AREAS, OCEAN AND WILDLIFE HABITATS.

In addition to keeping our state parks and beaches open and safe, Prop. 21 provides essential funding for wildlife and ocean conservation programs, helping preserve natural areas and improve the state's air and water quality.

PROP. 21 CREATES A TRUST FUND FOR PARKS THAT POLITICIANS CAN'T TOUCH.

Prop. 21 contains tough fiscal and accountability safeguards to protect the voters' investment, including a Citizen's Oversight Committee and annual audits. The revenues will go into a special Trust Fund specifically dedicated to the operation and maintenance of state parks and beaches, the protection and safety of visitors, and the preservation of natural areas and wildlife. Under Prop. 21, the money in this Trust Fund cannot be redirected by politicians to their pet projects.

PROP. 21 PRESERVES CALIFORNIA'S PARKS AS A LEGACY FOR OUR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN.

Our state parks and beaches—and the forests, wildlife, and historic and natural resources they protect—are part of what makes California unique. If we allow them to be degraded or shut down, they cannot be replaced.

Prop. 21 will keep state parks open, properly maintained and safe, preserve the opportunities they provide for family recreation, help our economy, and protect jobs.

Early supporters include the Ocean Conservancy, California Teachers Association, Latino Health Access, Public Health Institute, California Travel Industry Association, California State Parks Foundation, California State Lifeguard Association and local businesses and chambers of commerce throughout the state. Vote Yes For State Parks and Wildlife Conservation—YES on 21.

www.YesForStateParks.com

JIM ADAMS, Regional Executive Director, Pacific Region
National Wildlife Federation

MIKE SWEENEY, Executive Director
The Nature Conservancy California

PAMELA JO ARMAS, President
California State Park Rangers Association

★ **REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 21** ★

While appearing well intended, Prop. 21 is designed to trick you into bringing back the "Car Tax."

Politicians may not be able to "raid" these funds, but they can definitely take existing state park money and put those dollars into other wasteful projects. In fact, during a budget hearing, *a senator openly encouraged taking more money from parks so voters would want to raise the car tax with Prop. 21.*

Prop. 21 represents wrong priorities.

Prop. 21 is just more "ballot box budgeting" that raises your taxes without addressing California's most urgent issues. While state parks are a wonderful resource, is this really the time to pay more for parks while schools, universities and road construction are ignored?

Real reform is needed to fix our chronic budget woes. Pension reform, a spending limit and a real "rainy day" reserve would be

useful reforms to relieve California's rising debt. Prop. 21 offers no solutions or reforms. It only offers a higher car tax with no guarantee that state park funding will actually increase.

Prop. 21 is deceptively written. While paying the new car tax will allow you to enter state parks, the measure still *allows for new additional fees inside the park.* It could easily cost more than ever to visit a state park.

Say NO to higher taxes and bad priorities. Vote NO on Prop. 21.

MICHELLE STEEL, Member
State Board of Equalization

PETER FOY, California Chairman
Americans for Prosperity

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★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 21 ★

State parks are some of California's true jewels, but Proposition 21 is a cynical ploy by Sacramento insiders to bring back the "Car Tax" to the tune of \$1 billion every two years—according to the venerable watchdog, the Legislative Analyst's Office.

Say NO to the "Car Tax" and vote NO on Proposition 21.

Instead of reducing the size of government to fit these difficult times, this new car tax will allow politicians to play a cynical budget shell game that could still leave our state parks dilapidated while diverting hundreds of millions of dollars into other government programs.

Veteran Sacramento Bee columnist Dan Walters recently exposed the politicians' car tax scheme by reporting that a state senator had argued for eliminating \$140 million from the state parks' budget so that you, the voter, would be more likely to vote for Proposition 21.

Walters quotes Senator Alan Lowenthal telling a legislative committee:

"Why would anyone vote for the park pass (Prop. 21) if we've already fully funded it (state parks)? I mean why do you need to vote for a park pass if we're fully funded?"

Walters rightly concluded that Lowenthal's comments "let the cat out of the bag."

This stunning insight into what goes on in the Capitol is galling, exposes the cynical shell game, and reveals the depths to which politicians will plunge to deceive voters and increase taxes.

Clearly, the real agenda the politicians have for Proposition 21 is to fool you into approving a car tax for state parks so that they can shift money towards other wasteful spending.

Send the politicians a message with a NO vote on Proposition 21.

California's most trusted taxpayer protection organizations are opposed to Proposition 21.

The California Taxpayers' Association opposes Proposition 21. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association opposes Proposition 21.

"As well intended as this measure may appear, Prop. 21 is nothing more than a \$1 billion car tax every two years on Californians while offering no guarantee that state parks will be repaired or kept open.

"But even worse, voting for Prop. 21 only enables and encourages the Sacramento politicians to maintain their wasteful spending while finding deceptive ways to increase our taxes. Vote NO on Prop. 21."—Jon Coupal, President, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

Join these taxpayer advocates in voting NO on Proposition 21.

Sacramento needs real budget reform and real solutions. Proposition 21 is just more "ballot box budgeting" that makes Sacramento dysfunctional. We need to hold the politicians accountable and force them to do their jobs for us.

Proposition 21 just promotes more budget chaos and politics as usual and doesn't address the most pressing problems in California like education and job creation.

Proposition 21 may seem well intended but don't be fooled. It's just Sacramento politics as usual and a sneaky way to increase our taxes by \$1 billion every two years.

Say NO to Sacramento. Say NO to car taxes. Vote No on Proposition 21.

PETER FOY, California Chairman
Americans for Prosperity

MICHELLE STEEL, Member
California Board of Equalization

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 21 ★

SACRAMENTO POLITICIANS HAVE DEVASTATED STATE PARKS AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

California state parks attract more than 80 million visits from residents and tourists annually, and generate enormous economic and public health benefits for our state and nearby communities.

Yet state parks have suffered in recent years at the whim of Sacramento politicians, attacking parks with erratic, severe and damaging funding cuts.

The impacts of Sacramento's neglect are devastating . . . parks closed, dirty and unsafe bathrooms, contaminated drinking water, buildings falling apart, dangerous and eroding trails, and delayed maintenance that only costs us more in the long run.

The price tag for backlogged maintenance: more than \$1 billion.

The effects of closed and deteriorating parks, including lost jobs and revenues, ripple throughout California.

PROP. 21 ESTABLISHES A TRUST FUND—KEEPS PARKS OPEN AND PROTECTS TAXPAYERS

A coalition of citizens and respected organizations put Prop. 21 on the ballot as a solution. Prop. 21 creates a special Trust Fund that can only be used to maintain our parks and wildlife

conservation programs. Prop. 21 mandates strict accountability, including a Citizens' Oversight Committee and annual audits, to ensure funds are properly spent and the Trust Fund cannot be raided by politicians for pet projects.

DIVERSE AND RESPECTED COALITION SUPPORTS PROP. 21

A bipartisan group of 300 organizations, representing millions of Californians, supports Prop. 21, including:

- California Federation of Teachers;
- California League of Conservation Voters;
- California Nurses Association;
- California State Lifeguard Association;
- League of California Afterschool Providers;
- Local chambers of commerce.

YES on 21. www.YesForStateParks.com

GRAHAM CHISHOLM, Executive Director
Audubon California

JAN LEWIS, State Chair
California Action for Healthy Kids

ELIZABETH GOLDSTEIN, President
California State Parks Foundation