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CITY CLERK

FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY  
AUTHOR OF ARGUMENT

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Elections Code Chapter 3 (Municipal Elections), Division 9 (Measures Submitted to the Voters), Article 4 (Arguments Concerning City Measures), 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  
(primary / rebuttal)

argument \_\_\_\_\_ Against  
(in favor of / against)

ballot proposition \_\_\_\_\_ S  
(name or number)

at the \_\_\_\_\_ General Municipal Election  
(title of election, e.g., primary, general, special)

for the \_\_\_\_\_ City of Lodi  
(jurisdiction)

to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ November 8, 2016 \_\_\_\_\_ hereby state  
(date)

that such argument is true and correct to the best of \_\_\_\_\_ their  
(his / her / their)

knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Legislative Body or Committee, if applicable)

ALL AUTHORS MUST PRINT HIS/HER NAME, SIGN, AND DATE THIS FORM

Signed

Date

Gregory P. Cochran  
Alexander S. Alifaris  
Jim Shoemaker

7/18/16  
7/18/16  
7-18-16

Print

Sign

Submitted herewith is the PRIMARY ARGUMENT X or REBUTTAL \_\_\_\_\_  
against Measure S  
(in favor of / against) (name or number)

Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

TEXT:

Lack of Accountability: one reason to vote NO

The sales tax measure increases Lodi's sales tax from 8.0% to 8.25%. It is cheaper to purchase goods in Lodi than in Stockton where the sales tax is 9%. According to the Tax Foundation, California has the highest sales tax in the nation. LA County and some counties in the Bay Area are inching to 10% and 11%.

Lodi has a population of 63,000 residents and about a 10% unemployment rate. The city has 397 employees. The city increased salaries in 2015, 2016, and 2017. Did you receive a salary increase in the past year? Why did the city increase salaries when pension costs are spiraling?  
**Lodi's unfunded pension debt is over \$92 million.**

Spiraling pensions costs leave less money to put cops on the street. City revenues are diverted to fund yearly pension increases.

Public Safety (Fire and Police) comprises over 60% of the city budget. The estimated PERS (Public Employee Retirement System) contribution for Lodi in 2016/17 alone is \$9.2 million. It then increases a million plus dollars each year. In 2017/18, it rises to \$10.2 million and in 2018/19 to \$11.2 million. By 2019/20, the cost rises \$1.1 million to \$12.3 million. Then in 2020/21 it is estimated to rise a whopping \$1.5 million to \$13.4 million.

Will the city have to lay off cops and firefighters to fund the pensions of retired employees?

A high sales tax is a regressive tax. It hurts the middle class and people on fixed and lower incomes. It increases the cost of goods and services.

Lack of Accountability: one reason to vote NO on Measure S.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Legislative Body or committee name, if applicable)

ALL AUTHORS MUST PRINT HIS/HER NAME, SIGN, AND DATE THIS FORM

Signed

Date

<u>Craig P. Cochran</u>	<u>Craig P. Cochran</u>	<u>7/18/16</u>
<u>Alexander S. Alifecis</u>	<u>Alex S. Alifecis</u>	<u>7/18/16</u>
<u>Jim Shoemaker</u>	<u>J. Shoemaker</u>	<u>7-18-16</u>
_____	_____	_____
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Sign