



## Local Ballot Measure: C

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted.

### Argument Against Measure C

How has your cost of living fared over the last few years? What about that of your neighbors? Rather than cast a vote in favor of this bond measure for West Hills Community College District, School Facilities Improvement District No.2 we ask you to consider the following:

This bond measure, when accounting for interest, is estimated to impose \$32.0 million on the people of this district. Perhaps you think your share of that burden is well worth paying, given the promise of improved facilities for your local educational institute. We agree that education is important, and if you feel that this is a cause worth giving money towards, we applaud your generosity and your desire to contribute to your community. But we ask you to consider other options to fund these projects; if you are willing to contribute to these in the form of a tax, would you be willing to do so through voluntary charity instead?

Think again of your neighbors: many of them have struggled the past few years, and for some, even \$25 per \$100,000 of assessed property value will represent a substantial increase in their cost of living. That's less money available to put food on the table, pay those expensive medical bills, or even to save money for their own children's future higher education. And don't think that this will only impact property owners- higher property taxes for landlords often results in tenants paying higher rents. We applaud the community spirit of those who wish to raise money for a worthy cause; we simply ask that they turn first towards voluntary means to do so, especially given the difficult financial times that many find themselves in. Allow your neighbors to decide for themselves which causes they choose to fund, and vote NO on Measure C.

/s/ Matthew Hartwig, Chair, Libertarian Party of Fresno County

/s/ Kat McElroy, Vice Chair, Libertarian Party of Fresno County

### Rebuttal To Argument Against Measure C

**It's worth noting that the critics of Measure C don't live in our community or contribute to our local taxes.** They are a group of outsiders who think they need to **lecture us** about how we should be spending our own money to update Coalinga College.

While no one likes paying taxes, investing in our community's future is essential. Measure C is vital for providing affordable higher education and job training to the citizens of our community.

Let's prioritize Coalinga College and vote YES on Measure C for our community's future.

Measure C will update Coalinga College by expanding career and technical education facilities in areas like Welding, Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning, Heavy Equipment and Agricultural Science. It will also renovate outdated classrooms, facilities, security systems and student housing, helping to retain current students, attract new students and increase enrollment.

Most importantly, every dollar will remain in our community. Under California state law, **Measure C funds cannot be taken by the state and must be spent on Coalinga College.** Full public disclosure, independent oversight, annual audits and no funds for salaries ensure responsible spending.

Investing in education enhances our community's economic stability. Improved training facilities lead to a more skilled workforce, better job opportunities and a more robust local economy.

Let's invest in Coalinga College and our community's future by voting **YES on Measure C!**

/s/ Kenneth Eugene Stoppenbrink, Retired Educational Administrator

/s/ Nathan Vosburg, City Councilmember

/s/ Roger Schindler, City Council

/s/ Jalaa Mahfood, Bus. Owner

/s/ Gregory Scott Netherton, Executive Director Chamber of Commerce