

FILED

AUG 01 2014

BY A. Adcox DEPUTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

ARGUMENTS

**FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY
AUTHORS OF ARGUMENTS**

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with § 9200) of the Elections Code 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 proponents or authors of the primary argument in opposition of ballot proposition Transient Occupancy Tax Increase at the General Municipal Election for the City of Needles to be held on November 4, 2014 hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Print <u>Pamela J Blake</u>	Name	Signature <u>Pamela J Blake</u>
Title <u>Board member</u> <u>Needles Chamber of Commerce</u>		Date <u>7-15-14</u>
Print <u>Georgia Breault</u>	Name	Signature <u>Georgia Breault</u>
Title <u>owner</u> <u>Calizona RV Park</u>		Date <u>7/17/14</u>
Print	Name	Signature
Title		Date

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BY *A. Noddy* DEPUTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE _____

Tourism is a major industry in Needles; our local businesses depend upon it. This proposal to increase the transient occupancy tax (TOT) in Needles puts a burden on our local hotel/motel and RV park businesses. These businesses will be forced to raise their rates to accommodate this increase. This will affect all of the citizens of Needles by reducing tourist dollars coming into the community.

The proposed rate of 12% will put us over the rates of many surrounding communities. Blythe, CA charges only 10%, Lake Havasu charges 10.8%, and Mohave County, our nearest competitor, charges a rate of 5.5%, San Bernardino county (Park Moabi) charges 7%. The Avi and Spirit Mountain RV Park do not pay any rate.

also
The measure states "any home, residential dwelling. . . short-term rentals furnishing lodging space to transient lodgers in exchange for monetary compensation." This would mean that weekend rentals would be added to the taxable pool. Those weekend rentals, especially on the river, would then become taxable. The concern is, how will this be enforced? There is no logical way that every rental will be known to the City for collection of this tax. Therefore, the burden will fall upon the commercial lodging businesses.

This measure was hastily written before all of the information on TOT had been gathered. Audits of the local lodging industry were conducted over the summer, and the results were not available before this measure was placed on the ballot. Therefore, we do not know the impact of the newly audited accounts and the resulting increase or decrease to the budget.

Needles is struggling economically, and this places an additional burden on our citizens and our businesses.

A "No" vote on this measure ensures our businesses will be able to remain competitive in the area.

Pamela J. Blake
Needles Chamber of Commerce
Board member

Pamela J. Blake

Georgia Breaux
California RV Park

Georgia Breaux



CITY OF NEEDLES

Dale Jones, CMC, City Clerk

817 Third Street • Needles, California 92363
(760) 326-2113 x345 • FAX (760) 326-6765

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BY A. Madon DEPUTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS

July 17, 2014

On July 17 at approximately 10:05 a.m. Ms. Georgia Breault delivered the argument against the proposed measure. She asked if it was OK to insert the word "also" in the third paragraph. Both parties were not present to initial the change therefore the change could not be approved. (Ms. Blake is out of town until Monday)

Georgia Breault
Georgia Breault

last P - please correct
"theis" to "this".

G. Breault