

# Full Text of Measure B (2003 June)

The full text of this measure was copied from the Santa Cruz County Elections Department Website, [www.votescount.com](http://www.votescount.com)

## **Santa Cruz City Elementary School District Parcel Tax**

### **Special Assessment for Elementary Educational Programs and Services**

To prevent closure of neighborhood elementary schools; preserve class size reduction (K-3) and prevent 60% increase in class size; purchase textbooks and instructional materials; fund vital art, music and academic programs; retain quality teachers and librarians, shall the Santa Cruz City Elementary School District levy a special assessment of \$6.75/month per parcel for five years, beginning July 1, 2003, exempting parcels owned/occupied by seniors (65+), with independent community oversight and accountability to ensure that funds are used only to improve student learning, by undertaking actions such as:

1. supporting our neighborhood elementary schools;
2. providing the local funding for class size reduction (K-3), which is then matched more than six fold by the state and preventing a 40% increase in class size in Kindergarten, First, Second and Third Grades;
3. purchasing up-to-date textbooks and much-needed instructional materials;
4. funding art, music and academic programs;
5. retaining qualified and experienced teachers, librarians and other employees.

An exemption will be granted for parcels owned by one or more persons 65 years of age or over who occupy said parcel as a principal residence, upon one-time application for exemption.

In addition to the accountability measures required by law, an independent community oversight committee shall be appointed by the Board of Education to oversee all expenditures funded by the measure in order to ensure that said funds are spent wisely and used only for the purposes approved by the voters. The oversight committee shall monitor the expenditures of these funds by the District and shall report on an annual basis to the community on how these funds have been spent.