

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE J

Education Code Section 15100 authorizes a school district to issue bonds for specified purposes if voters first approve the issuance of the bonds at an election. Education Code Section 15274 provides that the measure passes if 55% of those voting on it vote for the measure.

The Board of Trustees of the Jefferson Union High School District proposes this measure, which would authorize the District to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$133 million. The bonds will have an interest rate not exceeding the legal maximum and will mature in a maximum of 30 years from their date of issuance unless a longer maturity is permitted by law. The District's best estimates of the annual tax rate levy to fund this bond range from an average of \$24.65 to a high of \$30.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. This means that a property assessed at \$700,000 would likely have an annual tax assessment ranging from an average of \$172.55 to as high as \$210.00.

The California Constitution requires the listing of specific school facilities projects to be funded from the bond revenue and certification that the District governing board has evaluated safety, class size reduction, and information technology needs in the development of that list. The District's "Project List" for the bond is attached to the full text of the measure and lists three general types of projects: updating and repair of existing facilities; constructing new facilities; and improving technology. Projects are authorized at sites including Jefferson, Oceana, Terra Nova, Thornton, and Westmoor High Schools. Listed improvements include: adding computers and upgrading related systems; making health and safety improvements, including seismic and fire safety; improving electrical, ventilation, roofing, lighting, and plumbing systems; improving energy efficiency; improving facility interiors and exteriors; improving accessibility for those with disabilities; acquiring and constructing new facilities, including libraries, media centers, classrooms, vocational classrooms, and computer and science labs; and improving overall technology systems, software, and training. The Project List should be reviewed for further details.

The California Constitution and Education Code require the District to take certain steps to account for the proceeds from the bonds. Accordingly, the District will direct the funds to be deposited into a special account, appoint an independent citizens' oversight committee, conduct annual independent performance and financial audits to assure that funds are spent only on the listed improvements and for no other purposes, and prepare annual reports listing the amount of funds collected and expended and the status of any funded project.

A "yes" vote on this measure would authorize the Jefferson Union High School District to issue bonds in an amount not to exceed \$133 million for the purposes listed in the "Project List."

A "no" vote would prevent the Jefferson Union High School District from issuing the bonds.

This measure passes if 55% of those voting on the measure vote "yes."

4144 bonds