

Measure T411

INSTRUCTIONS:

Please carefully read the following description of a ballot measure that was written by a disinterested expert. Feel free to take notes or outline passages as you read.

BALLOT MEASURE T411

BACKGROUND

The Constitution of the United States guarantees the right of citizens to vote. It also provides all persons equal protection under the law.

According to the California Secretary of State, the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended in 1982, requires 10 of California's 58 counties to provide members of certain language minority groups with information in their native language that will help them exercise their right to vote. This information is generally required to be provided in written form. Counties subject to the federal Voting Rights Act have at least one language minority group that does not speak or understand English adequately enough to participate in the electoral process and whose voting age population comprises more than 5 percent of the county's total number of citizens of voting age. Under the act, there are four specified language minority groups: American Indians, Asian-Americans, Alaskan natives, and persons who are of Spanish heritage

California law requires those 48 counties not subject to the provisions of the federal Voting Rights Act to post in each voting precinct certain election materials in Spanish or in specified languages other than English, unless the Secretary of State determines that a particular precinct lacks a language minority population large enough to warrant the preparation and posting of such materials.

PROPOSAL

This measure requires the Governor to deliver to the President of the United States, the Attorney General of the United States, and all Members of Congress a written communication which urges the enactment of an amendment to federal law so that ballots, voters' pamphlets, and all other official voting materials shall be printed in English only.



STOP!

Please go to the online survey, enter the 4-character code for this ballot measure (printed at the top and bottom of this page) and answer the survey questions.