

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-018**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IMPERIAL BEACH, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING THE TAXPAYER PROTECTION AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT (INITIATIVE #21-0042A1)**

WHEREAS, an association representing California's wealthiest corporations is spending tens of millions of dollars to promote a deceptive ballot measure currently eligible for the November 2024 statewide ballot; and

WHEREAS, the measure creates constitutional loopholes that allow corporations to pay far less than their fair share for the impacts they have on our communities, which could force residents and taxpayers to pay more to maintain services; and

WHEREAS, the measure threatens billions of dollars every year in local government funding for services like fire and emergency response, law enforcement, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more; and

WHEREAS, On November 2022 as part of the general election, Imperial Beach included a ballot measure "Measure R" – The Imperial Beach Quality of Life Measure – a proposed 4% increase to the local hotel tax that is paid by visitors and tourists who stay in the local hotels and lodging in Imperial Beach. Measure R passed by 67.36% for an approximately \$400,000 annual revenue; and

WHEREAS, Measure R is essential funding to maintain Imperial Beach's essential services such as keeping neighborhoods safe, quiet and clean, recreation programs, upgrading and maintaining local parks, and improving lighting and safety in areas of the city frequented by visitors to improve the tourism economy – all priorities identified by the Imperial Beach community; and

WHEREAS, if Initiative 21-0042A1 qualifies and passes by the voters on November 5, 2024, Measure R would be repealed and brought forward again to the voters for re-election in the 2025 making it a special election of an approximate cost to the city of \$200,000 to \$325,000; and

WHEREAS, the measure is an attack on voters' rights, containing undemocratic provisions that would make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures to fund services, provisions that retroactively cancel measures recently passed by voters, and provisions that prevent voters from passing advisory measures that provide direction on how they want their local tax dollars spent; and

WHEREAS, the measure contains intentionally restrictive language that will encourage hundreds of frivolous lawsuits against cities and local governments - costing taxpayers many millions and stopping investments in vital local services; and

WHEREAS, the measure would make it much more difficult for state and local regulators to issue fines and levies on corporations that violate laws intended to protect our environment, public health and safety, and our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the measure is opposed by hundreds of local governments, teachers, firefighters, working families and local elected officials; and

WHEREAS, the City Council considered adoption of this Resolution at a noticed public meeting to allow everyone to express viewpoints for or against this matter and affirms that the City of Imperial Beach will not spend any public funds for political purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach as follows:

1. That the City Council opposes INITIATIVE #21-0042A1.
2. The City Council directs staff to email a copy of this adopted resolution to the League of California Cities at BallotMeasures@calcities.org and that the Mayor signs a letter on behalf of the City Council opposing this measure on behalf of the City.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Imperial Beach at its meeting held on the 3rd day of April 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
NOES: COUNCILMEMBERS:
ABSENT: COUNCILMEMBERS:

PALOMA AGUIRRE, MAYOR

ATTEST:

JACQUELINE M. KELLY, MMC
CITY CLERK