



The Buzz is Growing...

California thought leaders are talking about Proposition 53 in the media.

Here's what they're saying...

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"Theoretically, there are good reasons why GO bonds need voter approval, while revenue bonds don't. But the once-clear separation between the two has been blurred by politicians who don't want to risk rejection by voters.

...As long as these smarmy voter-avoidance schemes exist, perhaps subjecting big revenue bond issues to voter approval isn't such a bad idea."

Dan Walters, The Sacramento Bee, December 19, 2015

"Unfortunately, today we see politicians and state bureaucrats trying to use "revenue bonds" to pay for large infrastructure projects. These projects require no legislative hearings, no vote by the Legislature and no vote of the people."



Michael Machado, Former California State Senator, Contra Costa Times, October 3, 2015

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"Clever legislators and lobbyists have expanded the definition of revenue bonds to apply to many projects that are tough sells."

Dan Morain, The Sacramento Bee, September 26, 2015

"Voter approval requirements for new debt date back to the earliest days of California's history. And what was true 100 years ago is even more so today: Because long-term financial obligations are paid by future generations, we should not allow politicians — who desire to placate special interests which stand to gain from megaprojects — to commit to massive debt without a direct check by those who will be on the hook."

Los Angeles Daily News

Jon Coupal, President of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, Los Angeles Daily News, April 20, 2016



"As California's long-term debt continues to spiral out of control – currently over \$330 billion – many are concerned that state agencies and politicians are spending other people's money too freely. Many also believe that Californians should have a say in the debt that they and their children will have to pay. We agree."

Susan Peters and Patrick Kennedy, Sacramento County Supervisors, Public CEO, April 5, 2016

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“This measure is simple. It would allow voters a say on the state’s biggest, most expensive projects that impact all of us.”

Mary N. Piepho and Karen Mitchoff, Contra Costa County Supervisors, Contra Costa Times, November 20, 2015

“The ‘voter empowerment’ strategy is brilliant, forcing opponents of both measures to convince voters that they shouldn’t be allowed to vote on two highly controversial, very expensive issues.”

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Dan Walters, The Sacramento Bee, July 25, 2015



“Funny how California voters for the most part haven’t balked at approving state general obligation bonds to finance everything from freeways and schools to other water projects.

Prove there is a need that’s justified and California voters routinely tax themselves to pay for it.”

Dennis Wyatt, Manteca Bulletin, December 30, 2015

“...the LAO also said in its analysis last year that “there would likely be relatively few projects large enough” to be affected by the measure. Projects costing more than \$2 billion don’t come along every day.

Furthermore, the LAO said nothing in its analysis about disaster response. That is because emergency repairs are traditionally paid for by the federal government or other sources – not revenue bonds.”

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David Siders, The Sacramento Bee, February 17, 2016



“While natural disasters will, no doubt, continue to challenge Californians, supporting the initiative will not deny citizens the funding essential to provide natural disaster relief.”

Andrew Grant, Former Deputy Team Leader at the Federal Emergency Management Agency, San Jose Mercury News, March 21, 2016

“But this measure absolutely does not hinder our ability to repair and rebuild California after a natural disaster.”

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John McGinness, Former Sacramento County Sheriff, The Sacramento Bee, February 21, 2016

