



★★ JUST OUT'S ★★ TOP TO BOTTOM 2008 ELECTION GUIDE

BOTTOM BALLOT MEASURES ★★★

For only the second time since 1984, no ballot measures affecting the rights of sexual minority Oregonians made it to the general election. *Just Out* brings to your attention five statewide ballot measures with a focus on fairness and equality: four of them dangerous measures by initiative racketeering kingpin Bill Sizemore.

MEASURE 57 ✓ VOTE YES

Measure 57 is a legislatively referred statute, authored by Rep. Greg Macpherson, D-Lake Oswego, and others, that moderately increases sentences for those involved with repeat drug and property crimes, and other crimes including stealing from the elderly and identity theft. Treatment services are provided to some drug-addicted offenders, and a grant to pay for that treatment, and general operations of jails and drug courts, is written right into the measure. This measure is a less restrictive and more financially sound alternative to Measure 61; 57 also is endorsed by law enforcement and legislative officials across party lines. Measure 57 will cost Oregonian tax payers \$268 million in its first

four years and \$143 million annually thereafter. If both measures pass, the one receiving the greatest number of "yes" votes will become law.

MEASURE 58 ✓ VOTE NO

This is a hateful "English immersion" ballot measure that unnecessarily targets immigrant populations by creating a state statute—not a constitutional amendment—limiting foreign language instruction in public schools and putting restrictions on long-term programs teaching English as second language. Essentially it's saying: You learn English well enough in one to two years in public schools to compete, and then you're out of luck for additional ESL classroom help. Cost to Oregonians: between \$204 million and \$253 million a year for at least the first two years of the statute's implementation.

MEASURE 60 ✓ VOTE NO

Measure 60, authored by Sizemore and others, is a ballot measure stating that public schoolteachers should be paid and promoted based on classroom performance over senior-

ity, but bizarrely it does not define performance standards. The measure also directs school districts that are laying off instructors to retain those who are most qualified to teach specific subjects and have demonstrated successfully teaching those subjects over those with seniority, competence and merit, as the current law directs. The measure again fails to define the term "successfully teaching." The cost to Oregonians: between \$30 million and \$72 million in first year, then \$30 million to \$60 million annually thereafter.

MEASURE 61 ✓ VOTE NO

This is a severe Kevin Mannix response to Measure 57, with harsher penalties (mandatory prison time for first-time offenders) for convicted criminals and no options of treatment/rehab as part of the program. It also would cost almost twice as much to implement as Measure 57. Drug offenders do not receive treatment as part of this package: "tough on crime" indeed. The cost to Oregonians: up to \$523 million in the first four years, and \$161 million to \$274 million annually thereafter.

MEASURE 64 ✓ VOTE NO

Measure 64, another doozy by Sizemore, prohibits public employees from using voluntary payroll deductions to donate to nonprofit organizations with political affiliations. Various gay rights groups in the state receive donations from just this type of payroll deduction.

CITY OF PORTLAND MEASURE 26-94 ✓ VOTE YES

This is a no-brainer: The Children's Levy provides critical early childhood education and programs across the city by supporting nearly 70 nonprofits that work with toddlers through young adults, including queer-friendly groups like Outside In, Cascade AIDS Project and Ethos Music Center. By taxing Portland homeowners about four cents per \$1,000 assessed property value (that's about \$60 a year for a \$150,000 Stumptown home), the fund generates some \$14 million a year for five years, disbursed competitively among abuse prevention and intervention, early childhood education, after school, mentoring and foster care programs. Portland Commissioner Dan Saltzman is the brain trust behind this valuable city levy, and *Just Out* is proud to wholeheartedly support and endorse it. 10

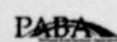
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