

I want to start with my sincerest thanks and gratitude to the taxpayers of Fresno County. Through the sales taxes you paid over the last 18 years in the amount of \$135 Million dollars, many improvements to the Fresno Chaffee Zoo have been completed. Proponents of tax increases never stop asking for more money but they rarely thank the people who have paid faithfully over so many years.

The original zoo tax was sponsored by the Honorable Pete Mehas, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools and David McDonald, president of Pelco , a security company now part of Schneider Electric. I had the honor of meeting with them as we debated the merits of the new tax. Although we did not support the original tax because we believe the funding for entertainment venues should come from private donations, we did receive the commitment from both Mr. Mehas and Mr. McDonald that this tax will not be permanent, and would expire in 18 years. Regretfully these gentlemen have passed and now new promoters want to extend the tax another 15 years which will result in a 100 million dollars in new taxes.

Americans are suffering tremendously from vaccine and mask mandates, the highest inflation in 40 years and gas prices at over 5 dollars a gallon. This is the wrong time to demand taxpayers commit to another 15 years of tax increases.

The zoo is a wonderful place and the goals under the original tax have been fulfilled. Voters should reject this new tax and follow the commitment of the original sponsors. Members and supporters of the Valley Taxpayers Coalition, Inc. encourage you to vote no on Measure Z.

Chris Mathys

Chris Mathys March 17, 2022

Resident, City of Fresno

Former Fresno City Councilman

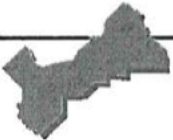
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MAR 17 2022

FRESNO COUNTY CLERK

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DECLARATION BY AUTHOR(S) OF ARGUMENTS OR REBUTALS

(E.C. §9600)

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9 of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following declaration to be signed by each author of the argument/rebuttal. Names and titles will be printed in the Voter Pamphlet portion of the County Voter Information Guide in the order provided below.

The undersigned author(s) of the: Argument in Favor Rebuttal to Argument in Favor Argument Against Rebuttal to Argument Against

of ballot measure Measure Z at the June 2022 primary election for the County of Fresno to be held on June 7, 2022 hereby state that such

argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

Table with 5 rows for author information. Row 1: Chris Mathys, resident, former Fresno City Councilman, 13/17/2022.

IMPORTANT FILING INFORMATION: I, Zeni Ramirez am the designated filer of the above titled argument/rebuttal.

Please notify me of any questions pertaining to this filing. Below is my contact information.

Mailing Address: 2304 W. Shaw Ave. Ste. 102 Fresno, Ca. 93711 E-Mail Address: mathys@600financial.net

Contact Numbers: 559 978 8410 Daytime Evening Fax