

Argument against Charter Amendment 2

Charter Amendment 2 shifts Los Angeles School Board elections to even years - buried at the bottom of a crowded ballot after federal, state, county and city races and propositions. Competing in California's frantic general election environment, local contests would necessarily become exceedingly more expensive and community-based candidates would have less competitive equality. The result: candidates would be even more dependent on special interests to give them money. Combining local elections with so many other offices would tilt the playing field toward favor-seekers, a corrupting influence over LAUSD governance, and expose our precious nonpartisan school board elections to the skewed influence of partisan electioneering.

Charter Amendment 2 gives incumbent school board members a free extra year and a half in office. It restricts the ability of parents to have election debates focused on local school concerns. It is bad for Los Angeles' educational future and lacks accountability and fairness. Even the proposal's supporters acknowledge changing the election date does not solve the problem of declining voting. It only addresses a symptom.

School board candidates are the most closely tied to community and neighborhood support. This measure would drive up the costs of their candidacies in the much more expensive context of a Presidential or gubernatorial election year, without providing candidates any matching funds. Special interests' strong grip on the machinery of electioneering in partisan federal, state and county campaigns dominates the even-year ballot and would become stronger.

Real election reform should focus on earlier and expanded civics education, easier and more modernized voting procedures, scheduling elections on a weekend, and campaign reform.

Charter Amendment 2 is fake reform. It flies in the face of the very effort to engage voters and increase trust in the democratic process that proponents suggest. Vote NO on Charter Amendment 2.

14 DEC -8 PM 5: 06

CITY CLERK
ELECTION DIVISION

BY _____

BY _____

CITY CLERK
ELECTION DIVISION

14 DEC -8 PM 4: 36

**PRIMARY NOMINATING ELECTION
MARCH 3, 2015
CITY OF LOS ANGELES**

Order of Signers for: Argument in Favor
 Argument Against

New Election Dates and Schedules for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD); One-time Adjustment to Align Terms with New Election Dates by 2020.

Name: Bernard C. Parks

Name: _____

Title: Councilmember, District 8

Title: _____

Organization: City of Los Angeles

Organization: _____

Name: Hans Johnson

Name: _____

Title: President

Title: _____

Organization: East Area Progressive Democrats

Organization: _____

Name: J. Michael Carey

Name: _____

Title: Retired City Clerk

Title: _____

Organization: City of Los Angeles

Organization: _____

Name: Nancy Pearlman

Name: _____

Title: Trustee

Title: _____

Organization: Los Angeles Community College District

Organization: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____


Title: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Organization: _____

I certify that the above signers have agreed to appear on the ballot in favor/against the proposed measure as indicated above. If there are differences between their title or name as stated above and their individual signed agreements, I certify that I have made the above modifications with their agreement and hereby request that the signers' names and titles appear as listed above. Further, if I am submitting faxed copies of individual signed agreements, I certify that the signatures appearing on the fax copy were received from the individuals listed on that agreement.



 (Author's Signature)
 12/8/14

 (Date)

14 DEC -8 PM 4: 36
CITY CLERK
ELECTION DIVISION
BY _____

14 DEC -8 PM 5: 11
CITY CLERK
ELECTION DIVISION