

March 27, 1964

Dear Friends:

As you know, the Legislature is presently in session. A number of issues have arisen upon which I would like your opinions. If you have any comments, please include them when you return the following questionnaire to me:

1. On the subject of capital punishment, how would you personally vote?
 Vote to abolish the death penalty
 Vote for a five year moratorium
 Vote to retain the death penalty
2. In the matter of payment of state income taxes, how would you personally vote?
 Vote for a state income tax withholding system
 Vote against a state income tax withholding system
3. Considering the legal age for a driver's license, how would you personally vote?
 Vote to raise age limit to 18
 Vote to leave age limit at 16
 Vote to lower age limit
4. If a County Equalization Tax for support of public schools were placed on the ballot, how would you personally vote?
 Vote for County Equalization Tax
 Vote to retain present financing methods
 Vote against County Equalization Tax
5. If a proposal to abolish local school districts were placed on the ballot, how would you vote?
 Vote to abolish local school districts
 Vote to retain present system
6. In the matter of using a State Lottery to support education and welfare activities, how would you personally vote?
 Vote for a State Lottery
 Vote against a State Lottery
7. If a U. S. Constitutional Amendment to abolish all taxes on personal incomes, estates and/or gifts by the U. S. Government appeared on the ballot, how would you personally vote?
 Vote to abolish personal taxes
 Vote to retain present system
8. If the Rumford Fair Housing Law were to be placed on the ballot, how would you personally vote?
 Vote to retain the law
 Vote to remove all such laws
 Vote to remove the Rumford law
9. If a \$150 million dollar bond issue to finance the development of California's beaches and parks appeared on the ballot, how would you personally vote?
 Vote for the bond issue
 Vote against the bond issue
10. If a State Constitutional Amendment which would permit the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to be appointed rather than elected was placed on the ballot, how would you vote?
 Vote to have superintendent appointed
 Vote to have superintendent elected
11. If a State Constitutional Amendment which would permit the State Board of Education to be elected rather than appointed was placed on the ballot, how would you vote?
 Vote to have the Board elected
 Vote to have the Board appointed
12. In 1963, legislation was enacted which authorizes pay TV, in addition to the present system of free TV. If this question were placed on the ballot, how would you personally vote?
 Vote for pay TV
 Vote against pay TV
13. If you so desire would you please tell me what political party you usually support in the state elections?
 Republican Independent
 Democratic Decline to state
 Prohibition Not registered

Thank you for your cooperation. Feel free to contact my office any time you wish to express an opinion or ask a question concerning California's issues or government.

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STATE BEACH PARKS - We finally have a firm schedule for completion of the San Buenaventura and McGrath Beach State Parks: San Buenaventura - advertising and bid opening by July 15, 1964; construction to start by August 1, 1964; and completion by January 1, 1965. McGrath - advertising and bid opening by July 15, 1964; construction to start by August 1, 1964; and completion by February 1, 1965. These needed improvements will add to our many recreational assets, will improve our coastal areas, and will enable more people to enjoy these beaches.

EDUCATION - The question of how best to finance public education is a major issue before this session of the Legislature. Many methods have been proposed, but basically, they fall into one of three categories: more state money; county-wide property tax equalization with more state money; and, the Unruh Bill, abolition of most local school districts to provide county-wide equalization with more state money. As I see it, there is no need to do away with our traditional concepts of local control of education. The state should again fulfill its responsibility of providing adequate equalization aid. The state's share of the total cost of education has declined from about 50% to about 37% during the last ten years. This percentage should be increased. I have introduced a bill, S. B. 56, which will provide \$75 million in additional state equalization funds. This bill, if enacted, with other increases proposed will provide an additional \$100 million for education. It is a companion bill to A. B. 95, which would have the same effect. If enacted, this bill would provide needed funds for education and would help relieve the burden of the local taxpayer - particularly in poorer districts.

WATER - A. J. R. 2 calls on Congress to enact legislation to clarify state and federal ownership of water rights in California. Recent court decisions have strongly implied that the federal government owns all water originating in or flowing across federal lands. If true, the California Water Plan and many of our water resources are in grave danger. This resolution was supported by virtually every major water user in California, the Supervisors' Association, The League of California Cities, Attorney-General Stanley Mosk, our Board of Supervisors, and many more. It was opposed by Governor Brown and the Department of Water Resources on the ground that it "might offend the federal government". I voted for this resolution, which was adopted.

TRAFFIC SAFETY - I have joined with the Board of Supervisors in requesting assignment of additional Highway Patrol personnel to Ventura County. Because of our extremely rapid growth it is essential that the number of traffic officers be increased to help reduce traffic congestion and accident rates.

GEORGE GRIMES - On March 9th, I introduced and the Senate unanimously adopted S. R. 37, memorializing the passing of George Grimes, editor and publisher of the Oxnard Press-Courier. As was said in the resolution, "the City of Oxnard has lost a great champion, a courageous leader, and a warm and inspiring friend." (1)

Yours sincerely,
Bob Lagomarsino
ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO
State Senator - Ventura County

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ROBERT J. LAGOMARSINO

**THIRTY-THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
VENTURA COUNTY**

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Yours
Mrs. D.

MRS. P. M. TOLMACH