

RESOLUTION NO. _____ (CM)

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE OPPOSING INITIATIVE 21-0042A1 ALSO KNOWN AS THE “TAXPAYER PROTECTION AND GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT”, WHICH IF ENACTED, WOULD RESTRICT VOTERS’ INPUT AND LOCAL TAXING AUTHORITY

WHEREAS, an association representing California’s wealthiest corporations is behind a deceptive proposition aimed for the November 2022 statewide ballot; and

WHEREAS, the measure creates new constitutional loopholes that allow corporations to pay far less than their fair share for the impacts they have on our communities, including local infrastructure, our environment, water quality, air quality, and natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the measure includes undemocratic provisions that would make it more difficult for local voters to pass measures needed to fund local services and infrastructure, and would limit voter input by prohibiting local advisory measures where voters provide direction on how they want their local tax dollars spent; and

WHEREAS, the measure makes it much more difficult for state and local regulators to issue fines and levies on corporations that violate laws intended to protect our environment, public health and safety, and our neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, the measure puts billions of dollars currently dedicated to state and local services at risk, and could force cuts to public schools, fire and emergency response, law enforcement, public health, parks, libraries, affordable housing, services to support homeless residents, mental health services, and more; and

WHEREAS, the measure would also reduce funding for critical infrastructure like streets and roads, public transportation, drinking water, new schools, sanitation, and utilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WATSONVILLE, CALIFORNIA, AS FOLLOWS:

1. That the City Council of the City of Watsonville hereby opposes Initiative 21-0042A1 also known as the “Taxpayer Protection and Government Accountability Act.”

2. That the City of Watsonville will join the NO on Initiative 21-0042A1 coalition, a growing coalition of public safety, labor, local government, infrastructure advocates, and other organizations throughout the state.

3. The approval of this Resolution and the City’s joining of the coalition opposing Initiative 21-0042A1 is not an authorization for expenditure of any City funds, pursuant to Government Code section 54964, to support or oppose the approval or rejection of a ballot measure.

4. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to email a copy of this adopted resolution to the League of California Cities at BallotMeasures@calcities.org.
