



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
June 6, 2006

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Voters Reject Prop. 82

Reject Raising Taxes to Create \$2.4 Billion Preschool Bureaucracy that Won't Deliver on Promises

Sacramento – The No on Prop. 82 campaign issued the following statement tonight after voters rejected Proposition 82 at the polls.

Bill Hauck, president of the California Business Roundtable and co-chair, No on Prop. 82 Campaign:

“Voters made the right decision today. They rejected raising taxes to create an unnecessary \$2.4 billion preschool bureaucracy.

“Today’s preschool system is largely serving parents and children well with about two-thirds of the state’s four-year-olds enrolled today. While we all recognize that kids can benefit from pre-school, any available resources should be targeted to children most in need. Proposition 82 was simply the wrong approach. The measure would only have increased preschool enrollment by four or five percentage points. In the end, voters recognized there are more important priorities the state should be tackling, like getting our K-12 house in order.”

Pamela Zell Rigg, president, California Montessori Council

“The California Montessori Council is grateful for this vote of confidence by California voters. The high quality of preschool education presently delivered to two-thirds of the four year old children provides California families with both quality and choice. The defeat of Prop. 82 will ensure this continues.

“Efforts to increase opportunities for disadvantaged children who currently don’t attend preschool should be addressed in the legislature in a more targeted fashion.

“The State Education system should keep its focus on fixing K – 12 and serving their children with a quality educational experience.”