

## 2011 Mock Election

# Voters' Guide for grades 6-8

Students will read the arguments below and then vote on Initiatives to the People 1125, 1163 and 1183.

A **measure** is an idea for a new law. Deciding how to collect and spend public money is an important job for voters. Many measures are about taxes. A **tax** is

money paid to the government. Taxes pay for things like roads, schools and elections.

We have to think carefully about how we want the state to raise money, conduct business and spend taxes. Luckily, we can tell the state how we feel by voting. Choose wisely!

## I-1125

**Should money collected from tolls only pay to fix our roads?**

### Vote "yes" if you agree...

Money collected from drivers when they use a road (called a "toll") should only be used to pay for building and fixing that road, nothing else. Our elected officials should decide how much the toll should be. And when the road is paid for, the toll should go away.

### Vote "no" if you agree...

It's not fair to let elected officials from one town decide how much the toll for roads in another town should be. We should let a group of experts decide. If the toll money collected from a road can only be used to pay for that one road, important roads in other towns may take a long time to build, or not be built at all.

## I-1163

**Should we use tax money to give people special training to take care of our grandparents?**

### Vote "yes" if you agree...

Money collected from taxes should be spent training the people who take care of our grandparents, and to make sure good, responsible people are keeping them safe and healthy.

### Vote "no" if you agree...

We want to protect our grandparents, but tax money should go directly to them, instead of spending money on their caregivers. Caregivers already get some training. Extra training for caregivers is expensive; tax money would be better spent on things our grandparents need, like medicine and wheelchairs.

## I-1183

**Should grocery stores be allowed to sell liquor?**

### Vote "yes" if you agree...

It is unfair that only stores owned by the state can sell liquor. Letting regular grocery stores sell liquor and closing the state stores would save money that could be used for schools, health care and public safety like police and fire fighters. Selling liquor at regular grocery stores would mean lower prices for shoppers too.

### Vote "no" if you agree...

Selling liquor at so many places can be dangerous. It makes it much easier for kids who are underage to get liquor, which could lead to more problem drinking and deadly accidents. More underage drinking and crime also means more work for police, fire fighters and medics to keep everyone safe.