

The Arizona School Boards Association urges Arizonans to
Vote YES on Proposition 100 on May 18th

Support of **the temporary 1-cent sales tax is critical** to preventing devastating cuts to classrooms and programs in Arizona's K-12 public schools!



FACTS ABOUT PROP. 100

The temporary sales tax would be 1% or one cent per dollar. It would be in effect for three years, from June 1, 2010, to May 31, 2013. The sales tax is expected to generate \$2.9 billion in revenues over three years, with two-thirds of that revenue - or \$1.9 billion - going by law to K-12 public education. The sales tax does not solve the state's deficit, but is a critically important part of the solution.

WE MUST NOT SACRIFICE THREE YEARS IN THE LIVES OF OUR CHILDREN

The state can recover in time from a faltering economy; our children might never recover from three years of faltering education. Economic recovery for Arizona is not predicted until 2013 - the same year the sales tax will expire. A penny per dollar spent over the next three years will provide a safety net for K-12 education, enabling schools to set reasonable class sizes that support learning and provide educational programs that do more than simply meet minimum requirements.

EDUCATION FUNDING WILL BE SET BACK A DECADE WITHOUT PROP. 100

Funding for K-12 education in Arizona—already among the lowest in the nation—has been reduced significantly for the year ahead. This sales tax revenue is vitally needed to reduce the severity of funding cuts over the next three years. Cuts already made by the legislature to K-12 education funding for fiscal year 2011 total \$431 million (an 8% reduction), and, if the sales tax fails, schools will need to make an additional \$428 million (an additional 8%) in cuts, putting K-12 education cuts for FY 2011 at \$859 million or more than 16%. That will set Arizona back to 2001 funding levels.

THE REALITIES OF A LOSS WOULD BE DEVASTATING TO STUDENTS & CLASSROOMS

Districts across Arizona have been forced to contemplate immediate and drastic cuts to be implemented if Prop. 100 does not pass. On their lists are:

- Classroom teachers.
- Reading specialists.
- School librarians.
- Elementary physical education teachers.
- Elementary school music teachers.
- Curricular band and strings programs.
- Career and technical education staff.
- Freshman and junior varsity sports.
- Interscholastic athletics.
- Non-athletic extracurricular activities.
- Janitors and other paraprofessionals.
- District-level staff.

Other measures on their lists are:

- Increasing class sizes, in some cases by 6- 10 students per class.
- Staff furloughs.
- Salary cuts.



YOUR HELP IS URGENTLY NEEDED!

Together we can ensure Prop. 100 passes, but there's no time to waste! Early ballots will be mailed April 22.

- **VOTE YES** on your early mail-in ballot or at the polls on Tuesday, May 18.
- **Urge your district to develop a contingency budget** to demonstrate the impact of failure of Prop. 100.
- **Stay informed!** Join the Yes for 100 campaign and ASBA on Facebook. Visit the YES on 100 campaign web site (www.yeson100.com) and the Yes on 100 Resource Center on ASBA's web site (www.azsba.org)
- **Talk about why it's important to vote YES!** Tell friends, family, neighbors and business associates why a YES vote is critically important to your schools and community.
- **Use your email network to spread the word!** Educate those in your network about the issue and encourage them to vote YES on their early mail-in ballot or at the polls on Tuesday, May 18. Simply forward the emails you will begin receiving from ASBA—or write your own.
- **Go public with your support TODAY!** Write a letter of support for Prop. 100 and submit it to your local newspaper (find samples in ASBA's YES on 100 Resource Center or write your own). Post your thoughts on your Facebook page or blog about the issue.

Arizona School Boards Association

Quality leadership and advocacy for children in public schools