This argument is sponsored by the San Francisco Meat Institute.

ARNOLD REGAL, Executive Secretary

The following District Merchant Associations have endorsed a "No" vote on Proposition "J":

Bay View—Mrs. Charles Picard
Clement Street—Al Giannini
Eureka Valley—Thomas Edwards
Excelsior—John McCloskey
Fillmore—Max Boxer
Haight—Max Singer
Irving Street—Herald Riney
Lakeside—Matt Mersich
Laurel Village—Harry Meharry
Marina—Ramini Gupta
Noe Valley—Everett E. Davis
San Francisco Meat Institute—Bob Delmon
Noriega—Irwin A. Phillips
North Beach—Louis Martinelli
Ocean-Ingleside—Ted Stockton
Pacific Heights—Joseph Politz
Polk—Bill Cohen
Portola—Pearl Bottino
Sunset—Gerald Comaroto
Taraval-Parkside—Robert Zerilla
Union Street—Charles E. Pynchon
Visitacion Valley—Henry Schindel
West Portal—Walter Arkush
Bay Area Meat Council—Jay Jones

DECLARATION OF POLICY

PROPOSITION K

Declaration of Policy: Shall it be the policy of the City and County of San Francisco that no person who owns only his own single family dwelling or small property owners with a gross monthly rental source of $1000 or less shall have his property assessed at more than ten percent of its appraised value and that, additionally, in order to provide for any tax revenues lost as a result, it will be the policy of the City of San Francisco that the burden of taxes fall upon those corporate bodies operating within our city whose gross profits exceed $1 million annually?

An initiative petition pertaining to the above declaration of policy having been presented to the Registrar of Voters, and having been verified as containing the required percentage of registered voters to qualify for submission to the electorate, said item is hereby submitted to the electorate so that the electors can express their preference for or against said declaration of policy by voting "yes" or “no” thereon.

BASIL HEALEY, Registrar of Voters

The proposed declaration of policy reads as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT IT BE THE POLICY OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, that no person who owns only his own single family dwelling or small property owners with a gross monthly rental source of $1000 or less shall have his property assessed at more than ten percent of its appraised value and that, additionally, in order to provide for any tax revenues lost as a result, it will be the policy of the City of San Francisco, State of California, that
the burden of taxes fall upon those corporate bodies operating within our city whose gross profits exceed $1 Million annually.

ARGUMENT FOR PROPOSITION “K”

Tax The Rich! Reverse The Effects Of Assembly Bill 80
Vote Yes On Proposition “K”

Proposition “K” is primarily concerned with the burden of taxation.

Under AB 80, passed last year, every piece of property in the State, whether a giant factory, a 53-story office building or a $20,000 private home is now assessed at 25% of its appraised value. Previously some industries had been assessed at over 50% of value and some private homes as low as 8%. Hundreds of millions of dollars of taxes were shifted from the big corporations and profiteers and placed on working people’s homes. $29.8 million was shifted in San Francisco alone! Such legislation is class legislation. It benefits the few in the profit-making class at the expense of the many in the working class, including those unemployed and retired. The politicians always promise to cut spending and lower taxes; they cut spending on needed social services such as schools and hospitals, but always find new ways to increase taxes on working people for profit-making schemes such as the giant Market Street boondoggle, BART, airport construction, etc. We must defend ourselves against tax exploitation.

AB 80 also forced the rents to go even higher. Attempting to confront these problems, the Committee for Fair Rents and Taxes circulated 2 petitions, one for Rent Control and one for Tax Relief. The Rent Control Amendment would lower rents to 20% of a person’s net income and lower small landlords’ property taxes by the same percentage. In spite of the 48,600 signatures turned in, City Hall has so far kept Rent Control off the ballot by disenfranchising thousands of qualified voters. The companion petition, a Tax Policy Statement, is now on the ballot as Proposition “K.” The Committee considers the drives for Rent Control and Tax Relief to be inseparably linked—a vote for Proposition “K” is also a vote in support of Rent Control.

Which Class Shall Pay The Most Taxes?

A yes vote on “K” answers: “The class who makes the profits and can best afford to pay the taxes shall pay them—the corporation owners whose profits exceed $1 million annually, such as those who run Bank of America and Crocker-Citizens, Standard Oil, Bethlehem Steel, Schlage Lock, Safeway Stores, Macy’s and American President Lines.” These firms and others will threaten to leave San Francisco if their taxes are raised, but they cannot leave. They have invested plenty and will stay to realize their plans for San Francisco as a major financial and trade center.

Proposition “K” is vastly different from the two Demopublican “tax relief” measures offered this year. Propositions 9 and 1a do not deal with the question of the burden of taxation. Proposition 9 simply puts a tax limit on all property whether it is owned by a worker or a multi-million-dollar corporation. Tax money to pay for schools, health, and welfare now supported by property taxes will then have to be extracted from working people by raising the sales