



SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES COALITION

"An Assertive and Unified Voice helping People Shape Public Policy to Meet Basic Human Needs in Seattle and King County, Washington."

September 9, 2010

SHSC ENDORSEMENT OF SIX 2010 BALLOT MEASURES:

SHSC has taken the following positions on 6 initiatives that are on the fall 2010 ballot (5 state, 1 county). These will all have a significant impact on our ability to maintain essential public structures, including education and community health and human services.

Yes on 1098: Reforms the tax code to make it more fair by cutting taxes for the middle class and small businesses, while providing \$2 billion in revenue dedicated to education and health care. The strictly limited income tax provision only affects the wealthiest 1.2% of households and cannot be changed without a vote of the people.

No on 1053: Tim Eyman initiative imposing a California-style two-thirds requirement before the legislature could consider new revenue. This requirement has created partisan gridlock in California, and if passed here it would allow just 17 legislators to block the majority from taking reasonable actions. Funded by BP and Bank of America because they want to keep their tax loopholes.

No on 1107: Funded by the American Beverage Association—the national lobbying arm of the big soda companies, this would repeal the small and mostly temporary tax on soda pop, bottled water, candy and gum. It's worth a few cents more for a can of soda to help fund the voter approved Basic Health Plan.

No on 1082: Written by the BIAW, this would allow the insurance industry to set their own rates on workers' comp with virtually no oversight. It would raise costs for employers, and leave workers unprotected as insurance companies could delay or deny claims for years. Big, out of state insurers like Liberty Mutual and AIG stand to benefit.

No on 1100/1105: These liquor initiatives are too risky and go too far. They would cost state and local government between \$275 and \$700 million over five years, and that cost hurts our ability to provide education, healthcare, police and firefighters.

Yes on Prop 1: Small, reasonable .2% (2¢ on a \$10 purchase) increase in the King County sales tax. Will maintain essential public safety services, including domestic violence and sexual assault victims'/ survivors' services.