

Summary Analysis of Proposition 6

Proposition 6 is a November 4th ballot initiative sponsored by Republican State Senator George Runner and funded by billionaire Henry Nicholas III. The proposition will divert billions from schools, healthcare, and firefighters to fund surveillance, arrest, and incarceration in California. Proposition 6 is a politically-motivated effort that runs counter to virtually all non-partisan policy analysis and was designed by Sacramento-based lobbyists to serve the interests of their clients.

- Prop. 6 would cost California taxpayers **\$1 billion dollars this year and \$500 million annually**
- Prop. 6 would require spending at least a **half a billion dollars on new prison construction** at a time when California spends four times as much per prisoner than per public school student.
- Prop. 6 was largely funded by one multibillionaire, Henry Nicolas III, who is now under indictment for drug, prostitution and fraud charges. Most other funding comes from Sacramento-based special interest groups that would benefit from the propositions' passage.
- Prop. 6 proponents claim to fund "crime prevention programs," yet Prop. 6 would **eliminate some of the current funding for mental health and drug treatment** without providing any new prevention programs—only 3% of Prop. 6 funds would go to youth-targeted alternatives.
- Prop. 6 would facilitate the **prosecution of more youth as adults**, even though California's overall juvenile felony rate is now at its lowest level since 1955 (California Criminal Justice Statistics Center).
- Prop. 6 makes over 50 changes to criminal law, which would result in increased sentencing and incarceration even though prisons are at 198% capacity.
- Prop. 6 would:
 - Duplicate existing penalties for drug related offenses;
 - Increase penalties for offenses alleged to be "gang related;"
 - New housing requirements would penalize innocent family members and could put them out on the street.

Proposition 6 is opposed by the Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, the Children's Defense Fund, Commonweal Research Institute, the Ella Baker Center for Human Rights, the National Council on Crime and Delinquency, the Youth Law Center, the California Teachers Association, the California Federation of Teachers and the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), Assembly Speaker Karen Bass, Senate President Don Perata and Senate President-elect Darrell Steinberg, Oakland Police Chief Wayne Tucker, California Firefighters, Minorities in Law Enforcement, and the California League of Women Voters.

The Yes on 6 Campaign website is www.safeneighborhoodsact.com

The No on 6 & 9 Campaign is www.defeatrunner.com