

A Message to San Diego Education Association Members About Measure A

Dear San Diego Education Association Members,

I want to thank the San Diego Education Association for your dedication to our students, educators, and working families. Every day, you do more than teach. You advocate for students, support parents, and help families navigate challenges that extend far beyond the classroom.

As educators, you understand that what happens outside the classroom has a direct impact on what happens inside it. When students lack stable housing, access to mental health care, nutritious meals, or other essential services, those challenges follow them to school.

That is why I want to share important information about Measure A and what it would mean for accountability and transparency in San Diego County government.

San Diego County oversees nearly \$9 billion in public funds, including investments in behavioral health, housing, homelessness prevention, public health, and services that support children and families. These are resources that can directly affect the well being of the students and parents you serve.

Measure A proposes several important changes to how County government operates:

1. **An Independent Budget Analyst** to provide objective analysis of County spending and give the public a clearer understanding of budget priorities and financial decisions.
2. **An Independent Program Auditor** to review County programs, examine how resources are being used, and identify opportunities to improve efficiency and effectiveness.
3. **Greater transparency in County spending** so educators, parents, community organizations, and residents can better understand where public dollars are going and participate more meaningfully in budget discussions.
4. **An independent Ethics Commission** to investigate allegations of misconduct and strengthen oversight of public officials, lobbyists, and campaign finance rules.
5. **Greater accountability for County leadership** through public confirmation and removal processes for executive level officials, along with a proposed 12 year limit for County Supervisors.

For educators and families, the County budget is more than a financial document. It reflects decisions about services that students and parents rely on every day.

A more transparent budget process would give organizations like SDEA, along with parents and community advocates, additional information to evaluate County priorities, raise concerns about gaps in services, and advocate for investments that support children and working families.

Its proposed reforms focus on County government oversight and the public's ability to scrutinize spending decisions.

With Election Day approaching and ballots arriving, I encourage you to review the measure and understand how these proposed changes could affect the County services that support our communities. You can learn more about Measure A at <https://www.sdforaccountability.org/>.

Thank you for your commitment to public education, your advocacy for working families, and everything you do to help San Diego's students succeed.

In solidarity,

Terra Lawson-Remer

Supervisor, Third District

County of San Diego