

Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

Argument Against Measure ____

This measure would repeal a special police tax approved by 89% of voters in the 1997 election. The annual amount of this tax, \$80, has not changed since 1997.

There is no need to “modernize” the tax. It serves the same purpose today as it did in 1997. The tax is dedicated to the salaries and benefits of police personnel. The proponents claim that the tax is lacking oversight, audits, and spending limitations. In fact, BVCSD budgets and financial reports are publicly available, transparent, and subject to annual independent audits.

The current budget for police salaries and benefits exceeds \$1 million. The tax generates approximately \$288,000 per year. Every dollar generated by the tax is used for its lawful purpose.

The operating budget for the police department is \$2.2 million. Revenue from the general fund closes the gap between operating costs and special tax revenue.

The adopted CSD budget reduced total operational spending by \$1.13 million. The police budget was reduced by 14%. Despite these significant reductions, the budget still exceeds available revenue. If the existing tax is repealed, the CSD will lose \$288,000 in annual revenue, forcing added reductions in police service.

In 2026, the CSD commissioned an independent professional review of the level of police service. The review concluded that the existing police budget is necessary to provide a minimally acceptable level of service while meeting best practices for officer safety and supervision. Operating below best-practice standards increases risk, reduces officer safety, and negatively affects crime rates. Today, Bear Valley Springs has a crime rate lower than 93% of cities nationwide.

Without sufficient revenue, the police department will be unable to provide the recommended level of service or maintain acceptable response times.

Ballot Measure Primary Argument Submission Form

A ballot argument will not be accepted unless accompanied by this completed **typed** form, which shall contain the printed name(s) and signature(s) of the person(s) submitting it or, if submitted on behalf of a bona fide association of citizens, the name of the association and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers. **Please make sure you are using proper format before submitting to the Elections Division.**

Word count limit = 300 words

Word count limit for Primary Arguments = 300 words

Ballot Measure _____ for the Bear Valley Community Services District to be held on November 3, 2026.

☐ Primary Argument in Favor ☒ Primary Argument Against ☐ Rebuttal to Argument ☐ Rebuttal to Argument Against

This Argument is Submitted by (check only one):

☒	The Kern County Board of Supervisors or the Governing Body of a School or Special District
	Name of Governing Body: BEAR VALLEY COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT
	Contact Person's Printed Name: PAUL PAPARELLA, BOARD PRESIDENT
	Phone: 661-822-4428 Email: ppaparella@bvcsd.org
☐	Member(s) of the Kern County Board of Supervisors or the Governing Body of a School or Special District
	Name of Governing Body:
	Contact Person's Printed Name:
	Phone: Email:
☐	Bona Fide Association of Citizens
	If this argument is filed by a bona fide association of citizens, the signer of the argument must be affiliated with the association and be authorized to sign the argument on its behalf. Provide the printed name and signature of at least one principal officer of the association
	Name of Association:
	Contact Person's Printed Name:
	Phone: Email:
☐	Individual Voters Eligible to Vote on the Measure
	Contact Person's Printed Name:
	Phone: Email:
☐	Combination of Voters and Associations
	Contact Person's Printed Name:
	Phone: Email:

Primary Argument Signers Form			Author	Verified
No more than five signatures shall appear with any argument. If more than five signatures are submitted, the first five listed shall be printed. Names and titles listed will be printed in the order that they are listed below. Place a checkmark in the author column if the signer is author of the argument. A signer can only list one title. Honorifics such as M.D., Dr., Esquire, etc. with a name are not accepted. If the signers are part of a bona fide association, there is no requirement that they be eligible to vote on the measure. However, for each such signing individual, the title under the signer's name must list the name of that bona fide association and may include their position within that association. By signing below, the undersigned state that they have read the argument and believe it not to be false or misleading. Type information clearly.			Check if the signer is the author of the argument. Authors must be signers.	(FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY) Staff Initial once the eligibility of the signer is verified.
1.	Name: PAUL PAPARELLA	Title: BOARD PRESIDENT	☒	☐
Phone: 661-821-4428		Email: ppaparella@bvcsd.org	For translation purposes only He/His: ☐ She/Her: ☐	
Address:				
Signature:		Date: 8/11/2026		
2.	Name:	Title:	☐	☐
Phone:		Email:	For translation purposes only He/His: ☐ She/Her: ☐	
Address:				
Signature:		Date:		
3.	Name:	Title:	☐	☐
Phone:		Email:	For translation purposes only He/His: ☐ She/Her: ☐	
Address:				
Signature:		Date:		
4.	Name:	Title:	☐	☐
Phone:		Email:	For translation purposes only He/His: ☐ She/Her: ☐	
Address:				
Signature:		Date:		
5.	Name:	Title:	☐	☐
Phone:		Email:	For translation purposes only He/His: ☐ She/Her: ☐	
Address:				
Signature:		Date:		



County Clerk
Elections

Aimee X. Espinoza
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER-COUNTY CLERK



DECLARATION BY AUTHOR(S) OF ARGUMENTS OR REBUTTALS

(E.C. §9600)

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9 of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following declaration to be signed by each author of the argument/rebuttal. Names and titles will be printed in the Voter Pamphlet portion of the County Voter Information Guide in the order provided below.

The undersigned author(s) of the: ☐ Argument in Favor ☐ Rebuttal to Argument in Favor
☒ Argument Against ☐ Rebuttal to Argument Against

of ballot measure repeal a special Police Tax at the Statewide General Election
(Name and/or Letter) (Title of Election)
for the Bear Valley CSD to be held on Nov. 3, 2026 hereby state that this
(Jurisdiction) (Date)
argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief

1.	<u>Paul Paparella</u> (Printed Name) <u>BVCSD Board President</u> (Title to Appear on Argument)	<u>[Signature]</u> (Signature) <u>8/12/2026</u> (Date)
2.	 (Printed Name) (Title to Appear on Argument)	 (Signature) (Date)
3.	 (Printed Name) (Title to Appear on Argument)	 (Signature) (Date)
4.	 (Printed Name) (Title to Appear on Argument)	 (Signature) (Date)
5.	 (Printed Name) (Title to Appear on Argument)	 (Signature) (Date)

IMPORTANT FILING INFORMATION: I, Beverly Marshall
(Printed Name)

the

designated filer of the above filled argument/rebuttal. Please notify me of any questions pertaining to this filing.
Below is my contact information.

Mailing Address: 28999 S Lower Valley Rd, Tehachap, CA 93561 E-Mail Address: b_marshall@bvcsd.org

Contact Numbers: (661) 821-4428 (661) 749-6789
Daytime Evening Fax