

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 lawful rate increase that was based on an independent professional analysis of the five-year operational and capital investment needs of the water utility. The rate increase was implemented after public notice and opportunity for protest. Only 18 percent of customers submitted a protest, far less than the 50 percent required to stop the increase.

Safe and reliable water supply is often taken for granted. However, the delivery of water in Bear Valley Springs depends upon a very complex system that is over 50 years old and has received very little upgrade or replacement over those years.

Recent projects, including a booster station, a water main, and a water master plan, show CSD commitment to investment. However, if the approved rates are repealed, revenue would be reduced by approximately \$10 million through 2031. This would make it more difficult or impossible to obtain project financing and cause deferment or cancellation of essential projects- projects needed to continue rebuilding aging water mains, wells, booster stations and tanks.

Water loss through leakage from aging mains will continue to increase. Reliability of water supply will continue to decline and heavy dependence on imported rather than local supply will continue. Imported supply incurs high purchase and pumping costs and its reliability is subject to many factors beyond local control.

With less revenue to support operations, service reductions such as longer response time for leak repair and elimination of a planned fire hydrant testing program may be necessary. As leakage continues and proactive upgrades are deferred, operational costs and the need for costly emergency repairs will rise. Water main leaks and breaks also damage roads and sometimes damage private property.

Absent sufficient revenue for operations, maintenance, and investment, a locally operated and controlled water utility will eventually become unsustainable.

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 lawful rate increase 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

1.	<u>Paul Paparella</u> (Printed Name) <u>BVCSD Board President</u> (Title to Appear on Argument)	<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, Beverli Marshall
(Printed Name)

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

Mailing Address: 28999 S. Lower Valley Rd, Tehachapi, CA 93561 E-Mail Address: bmarshall@bvcasd.org

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Daytime Evening Fax