

Argument Against Proposition 200

Just Say No To The Public Safety First Disaster!

Our federal, state, county, and local governments are currently in the middle of an economic meltdown and are bankrupt for all practical purposes.

Now, local realtors, home builders, police unions, and fire unions want to exacerbate the economic crisis by forcing the City to hire hundreds of additional police and fire personnel without providing a funding source. This is just plain wrong.

The Pima Association of Taxpayers, which has been advocating for area taxpayers for over twenty years, has carefully studied all aspects of this issue. We have concluded that it is simply reckless to support this proposition under current economic conditions. We strongly urge you to vote against Proposition 200.

As happened with the Regional Transportation Authority propositions, we are being lied to about the true costs of this initiative. These hundreds of additional personnel will require extensive training, equipment and support facilities, which will increase costs by tens of millions of dollars. The City already has 113 police officers who are receiving over \$100,000 per year. The cost of additional vehicles, substations, and administration will be enormous.

The City should not be forced to spend money it doesn't have. We should replace Council members if we don't like how they spend our money, but not force them into additional debt or to cut other programs and services to pay for something that we can't afford.

We're proud of the brave men and women who risk their lives serving this community. It would be wonderful if we could have more of them. But we simply have to face the economic reality that right now we need less government spending, not more.

Vote NO on Prop. 200