

MEASURE EE FACT SHEET



Parcel tax would raise approx. \$500 million in needed funds for LA schools

On June 4, voters in LAUSD boundaries will cast ballots on Measure EE, Quality Schools for All — a per-square-foot parcel tax on habitable structures. Passing Measure EE is a critical step in our 20 by 20 campaign to reach \$20,000 in per-pupil funding by the year 2020. Other steps include closing corporate tax loopholes through the Schools and Communities First measure in 2020 and taxing the wealthy to fund special education (IDEA) and Title I.

▶ We need financial resources to force the district to uphold our contract wins

Our strike successfully pressured LAUSD to tap into its huge reserve to offer a fair pay raise, lower class size, and hire more nurses, teacher-librarians, and counselors, but that reserve is one-time money. If we want to uphold our victories and win more in the future, the district — faced with low state funding, the charter drain, and increased retirement contributions for employees — needs additional ongoing revenue.

▶ Measure EE is fund-raising for our families and for public education

Voter support for a parcel tax measure spiked after our strike because we sent the message that our schools are being starved of the resources students need. Measure EE will generate approximately \$500 million for LA

schools and build a base for future funding victories to keep lowering class size and hire more psychologists, social workers, and other school-based staff.

▶ Businesses and corporate landlords would pay more than 70% of the tax, and homeowners only 18%

The tax would be a new annual assessment of 16 cents per square foot on property owners' habitable indoor space (for example, floors on a multistory building, a main residence plus an accessory dwelling unit, or the total square footage of a high-rise building). Over half of homeowners would pay less than \$240 per year. Businesses and corporate landlords would pay more than 70% of this tax. Homeowners would pay only 18%. There would be no tax on renters, and senior citizens and people with disabilities would be exempt.

▶ Measure EE is not a regressive flat tax

Under a flat tax, all landowners pay the same amount, regardless of the size of parcel, which results in lower-income property owners paying a much larger share of their incomes than higher-income property owners. If Measure EE had been a flat tax, homeowners would have had to pay an estimated 45% of the total tax revenue. But because the proposed tax is per square foot, only 18% of the total revenue would be paid by homeowners under Measure EE.

▶ Fully funded schools are the strongest blow against privatization

An underfunded public school system creates the conditions of scarcity that privatizers use to justify shutting down schools and handing them over the private operators. A thriving, well-funded public school system — with a rich curriculum including arts, music, and ethnic studies — is how we create the schools our students deserve and defend against school takeovers and portfolio model restructuring plans.

BUSINESSES WOULD PAY MORE THAN 70% Measure EE comparison: High-rise vs. family home



US Bank Tower

1,432,540 sq ft

Tax: \$229,206

Per-year estimate



Private home

1,300 sq ft

Tax: \$208

Per-year estimate