Ballot Simplification Committee
DRAFT for Consideration
Thursday, July 31, 2008

San Francisco Public High School Students' Participation in the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)

THE WAY IT IS NOW:

The Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corp (JROTC) is a voluntary, extracurricular

program for high school students. Each branch of the military – the Army, Marines, Air

Force, Navy and Coast Guard – allows local high schools to apply for and make

available a JROTC program for their students. JROTC instructors are active duty or

retired members of the Armed Forces. Students who wish to participate in JROTC must

attend school full-time, be a U.S. citizen, be at least 14 years old, and meet physical

fitness standards set by the school.

The San Francisco Unified School District has participated in JROTC, offering Army and

Navy JROTC programs at seven local public schools.

On November 14, 2006, the San Francisco Board of Education (School Board) passed

a resolution to phase-out all JROTC programs in San Francisco public schools by the

end of the 2007-08 school year. The resolution also calls for a task force to develop

alternative, creative, and career driven programs. The resolution directs the task force

to develop recommended alternatives that offer elements of the existing JROTC

program that students have indicated are important to them.

The School Board later extended the phase-out of JROTC programs to provide

additional time to develop and implement alternative programs. As a result, JROTC

classes will be offered through the 2008-09 school year, and JROTC programs are

scheduled to end after that school year.

THE PROPOSAL:

Proposition ___ would make it City policy that students in San Francisco public high

schools should continue to be able to choose to participate in the JROTC programs.

A "YES" VOTE MEANS: If you vote "yes," you want to make it City policy that high

school students should continue to be able to choose to participate in JROTC programs.

A "NO" VOTE MEANS: If you vote "no," you do not want to adopt this declaration of

City policy.

word count: 298   [suggested word limit: 300]