

Statements For and Against

Statement For

Yes on 1107 Ends the Costly, Arbitrary Taxes the Legislature Imposed on Food and Beverages.

In the last hours of the recent special session, the Legislature imposed new and higher taxes on thousands of food and beverage products.

These taxes on bottled water, soda, candy and processed foods containing meat, fruits and vegetables will cost Washington consumers and businesses more than \$300 million over the next three years.

That hurts Washington food producers, bottlers, grocers and consumers — especially middle and lower income families and seniors, who can least afford higher grocery bills.

Furthermore, none of these taxes are dedicated to anything. They all go into the general fund for the politicians to spend however they want.

The Politicians' Tax Scheme Makes No Sense.

The Legislature imposed taxes on hundreds of candy products, and even some health food products like energy bars, but exempted hundreds of other candy products.

Moreover, the politicians increased taxes on processed food products made by local Washington food companies, but not on similar products made by their competitors in other states or countries. That puts locally-made food products at a competitive disadvantage.

Vote Yes on 1107 – Stop Taxes on Groceries!

Yes on 1107 ends the politicians' costly, unfair new tax scheme and tells them to do more to cut government spending instead of taxing food and beverage

Statement Against

Reject 1107: Harms schools and kids

1107 strips \$300 million that funds schools, kids' health and other basic services by eliminating small, mostly temporary taxes on non-essential items like gum, soda and candy. With communities across Washington still reeling from the recession, 1107 would dig the hole deeper, creating additional burdens for families and threatening Washington's economic recovery.

American Beverage Association Misleading Voters

Out-of-state soda manufacturers have written and funded 1107 to line their own pockets. The beverage lobby is spending millions misleading voters -- don't be fooled. Contrary to their claims, there is no "food tax" in Washington. This initiative concerns non-essential items, not groceries.

The wrong approach in these tough times

The taxes on candy and soda were a part of a balanced solution to the economic crisis, which included \$4 in cuts for every \$1 in new revenue.

Repealing them now will mean even deeper cuts. Across the country, states are taking the same, balanced approach as we did because it is the responsible thing to do.

Epidemic of childhood obesity costing taxpayers

Sugar sweetened sodas and candy have zero nutritional value and contribute to an epidemic of childhood obesity and diabetes -- with taxpayers footing the bill. It makes sense that highly profitable soda companies pay a small amount to help cover some of the health costs their products create.

Don't let the American Beverage Association buy a special tax break for

products.

Yes on 1107 is supported by a coalition of tens of thousands of Washington taxpayers, farmers, food processors and small grocery store owners.

For more information:
www.StopGroceryTaxes.com.

Rebuttal of Statement Against

Arguments against 1107 are false and misleading. The legislature imposed new taxes on thousands of grocery items — including water, processed foods with meat, fruit and vegetables and even some organic foods. These taxes are not dedicated to education or anything else. They all go to the general fund. They're all ultimately paid by you, the consumer — not by out-of-state companies. Taxing food and beverages is wrong. Vote yes on 1107. Stop grocery taxes.

Statement Prepared By

Ed & Roxanne Husmann, Farmers, Ed's Apples, Sultan; **Marc Wallace**, Grocery Store Manager, Baker's Corner Store, Longview; **James Connelly**, Owner, Lodi Water Company, Chewelah; **Tim Martin**, President, Harbor Pacific Bottling, Elma; **Pierson Clair**, President, Brown & Haley, Makers of Almond Roca; **Terri Jean Racy**, Grocery Store Owner, Aeneas Valley General Store, Tonasket.

For more information:
(800) 856-6851
info@StopGroceryTaxes.com
www.StopGroceryTaxes.com

themselves while harming Washington families. Vote *no* on 1107.

Rebuttal of Statement For

Look behind the curtain: the national soda lobby is financing 1107. The American Beverage Association is providing 99.9 percent of the funding - more than \$10 million dollars! They don't care about Washington families, just their own profits. Don't let them buy this election with their deceptive campaign. This is about non-essentials, not groceries. A couple pennies more for a can of soda is worth it to preserve schools and health care. Vote no.

Statement Prepared By

Nyda Galbreath, First grade teacher, Board member, Washington Education Association; **Dr. Jeffrey Smith**, Medical Director, Community Health Care, Pierce County; **Laura Hitchcock**, Executive Director, Washington State Public Health Association; **Doug Shadel**, President, AARP of Washington, **Tara Lerew**, Registered Nurse, **Paola Maranan**, Executive Director, Children's Alliance.

For more information:
info@VoteNo1107.com