

# MATT SHEA'S TAKE ON INITIATIVES AND AMENDMENTS

## 2011

### **Initiative Measure No. 1125 (Funding Road Projects) – Vote YES.**

This measure would require that motor vehicle fund revenue and vehicle toll revenue be used only for Highway purposes (building roads) and not mass transit or the myriad of other schemes dreamed up by unelected bureaucrats. Some have raised an objection to the legislature being in charge of choosing toll rates. However, that is simply the legislature's job. Decisions such as raising or lowering tolls that affect drivers all over the state deserve equal representation from around the state. This measure provides more accountability by preventing toll money misuse ensuring more money for building roads.

### **Initiative Measure No. 1163 (Concerning Long Term Care) – Vote NO.**

This measure sponsored by the SEIU purports to restore "safeguards" to long-term care. In essence this is a special interest training program. It will incur massive new costs on the state budget with little to no improvement of long term care. I-1163 all but requires a tax increase to pay for this massive new program. It is also redundant in that background checks are already required for Long-Term Workers but required under this measure. At a time when the choice is between retaining the actual services for our disabled and the elderly, and additional training for a special interest group, the disabled and elderly must come first. That is an easy choice.

### **Initiative Measure No. 1183 (Privatizing Liquor Stores) – Vote YES.**

This measure would close state liquor stores; authorize sale, distribution, and importation of spirits (hard liquor) by private parties having over 10,000 sq. ft of retail space. This means that convenience stores and the like would not be allowed to sell liquor largely eliminating the concerns of many that minors would have easy access to hard alcohol. Additionally, this reforms the current tax structure by eliminating the current massive bureaucracy and replacing the enormous markup on liquor (a 52% tax) with the much lower fee structure of 27% (a combination of several fees). While this is a new fee this offset is actually a tax reduction and savings to the state particularly when combined with the elimination of the massive bureaucracy involved. The role of government is to protect our God given unalienable rights to life, liberty, and property not run liquor stores. Like taxpayer funding of abortion clinics, it is also morally reprehensible to use tax payer dollars to distribute liquor.

### **Senate Joint Resolution 8205 (Const. Am. to Clarify Voter Residency) – Vote YES.**

In 1974 the 63rd Amendment to the State Constitution established under Article VI, Section 1, a 30 day residency requirement making Article VI, Section 1A inoperative. This amendment removes Article VI, Section 1A for clarity.

### **Senate Joint Resolution 8206 (Const. Am. to Stabilize the Budget) – Vote YES.**

This would amend the state constitution to require that extraordinary revenue growth be transferred to the budget stabilization account instead of being spent. Revenue has actually grown each year, it is spending that is out of control. This measure reigns in government and while it should already be happening, sadly Washington continues to spend all taxpayer money in good times instead of saving some for bad times. This is a simple principle of good money management.

## **MATT SHEA'S TAKE ON LOCAL SPOKANE MEASURES**

### **Spokane County: Measure No. 1 (Replacing the Animal Shelter) – Vote NO.**

This measure would raise property taxes to replace the existing animal shelter. Do we really need to do this at a time when those on fixed incomes like seniors and the disabled are already struggling to pay their property taxes? The answer is no. I have many stories of people on the verge of losing homes that are completely paid off because they cannot pay their property taxes. Those on fixed incomes are a far higher priority than animals.

### **City of Spokane: Proposition 1 (Community Bill of Rights) – Vote NO.**

I cannot condemn this proposition in strong enough terms. A rehash of the attempt two years ago to implement socialism in the City of Spokane, this proposition will bankrupt the city, eviscerate private property rights, and cost thousands of jobs if implemented. Socialism has failed in Europe and we don't need it here.

### **City of Spokane Valley: Proposition 1 (Bond to Change Sprague-Appleway Back) – Vote NO.**

This is a multi-million dollar waste of money that only changes part of the Sprague-Appleway Corridor back to a two-way street. Do we really need to be saddling our grandchildren with debt to change a street from one-way to two-way? I don't think so, and with the current budget situation this will likely result in higher property taxes down the road to pay this back.