COUNTY OF KINGS
ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT

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Ballot Argument Signature Statement

The Kings County Elections Department requires this statement be completed and submitted with the argument per California Elections Code § 9600. Names and titles listed will be printed in the order provided and will appear as indicated. In addition, no more than 5 names may be printed following the written argument statement in the County Voter Information Guide.

Argument/Rebuttal Filed by (Check one of the following):

- ☒ Member(s) of the Governing / Legislative Body
- ☐ Individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure
- ☐ Bona Fide Association of Citizens (see Elections Code 9166, 9287, 9503)

Ballot Argument Filer Contact Information:

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Filer's Signature: Antony V. López

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the:

- ☒ Argument in Favor of
- ☐ Argument Against
- ☐ Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of
- ☐ Rebuttal to the Argument Against

ballot measure B (letter and/or name), at the General (title of election) election for the City of Avenal (jurisdiction) to be held on November 5, 2024 (date) hereby state that this argument is true and correct to the best of their knowledge and belief.

Each person must clearly print and sign as indicated below. Printing will be in the order as submitted.

	Print Name Clearly	Print Title and Name of Organization	Signature	Date
1	David Reynosa	Owner Mr. Reynosa Appliances		8-6-24
2	Osvaldo Contreras	Co-owner Galeria Pizza Nostra		8/6/24
3	Lan Gravelee Jr	Council member/circle K store manager		8-7-24
4	DONALD R. ELLIOTT	CEO - Elliott Investments		8-7-24
5	Braulio Zarate	Owner Blanca's Store		8/7/24

Argument and Rebuttal Format

Statements will be printed in uniform type, style, and spacing according to the County's system requirements. When preparing your statement, please use block paragraphs and single-spacing format. Text submitted indented or centered will be typeset in block format. Entire statements in all capital letters, bold, or italics (or any combination of such enhancements) is not permissible and will be printed in uniform formatting. Indentations cannot be accommodated. Limited words may be printed in **boldface type**, underscored, and/or CAPITALIZED and are to be clearly indicated. All statements should be proofed by the authors for spelling and punctuation as the Kings County Elections Department is not permitted to edit any material contained therein. NOTE: Rebuttal arguments are not direct arguments. A rebuttal to a direct argument in favor of a measure is NOT a direct argument against a measure. Rebuttal arguments are only allowed when both a direct argument for AND against a measure are filed.

ALL AUTHORS MUST SIGN THE ATTACHED BALLOT ARGUMENT SIGNATURE STATEMENT

You may use this form to type your statement or attach your typed statement to this form before submitting. Statements should be typed in upper- and lower-case letters. Statements will be typeset in the Official Voter Information Guide using a standard font and size determined by the County. Additionally, you must submit your statement via e-mail in a Word format to Elections@CountyofKings.com.

(Please mark the appropriate box)

☒ Argument in Favor of	☐ Argument Against
☐ Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of	☐ Rebuttal to the Argument Against

Measure _____

Vote **YES** on Measure **B**, help Avenal thrive!

Avenal is growing, to support this growth we need to modernize our tax structure. Measure **B** will make sure outside businesses pay their fair share and support our community's future. Measure **B** is:

1. **Vacancy Tax**: With too many empty buildings and lots that could be used for new businesses or homes, a vacancy tax encourages property owners to develop their properties into national retail stores, restaurants, or other productive uses, reducing blight and boosting our local economy.
2. **Transient Occupancy Tax (TOT)**: Outside visitors to Avenal should help fund our services too. Setting the TOT at 15% will ensure tourists contribute to maintaining our city, helping to pay for things like road repairs and public safety. Local residents will not be affected.
3. **Progressive Business License Tax Rate**: Small businesses are the heart of Avenal. By setting a fair tax rate based on earnings, Measure **B** ensures that local small businesses pay less, while larger, out-of-town businesses pay more. This helps level the playing field and supports local entrepreneurs.

Why Measure B?

- **Local Services**: Measure **B** will help fund: small business assistance programs; public safety; roads repairs; senior and youth services; and any other city services for Avenal residents.
- **Economic Development**: By developing vacant properties, Measure **B** will attract new businesses and jobs to Avenal, driving economic growth and making Avenal more vibrant.
- **Fairness**: 98% of local residents will NOT be impacted by Measure **B**. This measure ensures that outside corporations contribute their fair share. It's about supporting Avenal's future and ensuring that our tax dollars are spent wisely and locally.

Conclusion: Measure **B** invests in Avenal's future by ensuring that our city can grow sustainably and continue to provide high-quality services for all residents. Join us in voting YES on Measure **B** to build a stronger, more prosperous Avenal.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY

NUMBER OF WORDS:	
ELECTION OFFICIAL:	

List of names for Avenal Measure

1. **David Reynosa**: Owner Mr. Reynosa Appliances
2. **Osvaldo Contreras**: Co-Owner – Galeria Pizza Nostra
3. **Louis "Lou" Gravelle Jr.:** Council Member, Store Manager - Circle K
4. **Donna R. Elliott:** CEO – Elliott Investments
5. **Braulio Zarate**: Owner – Blanca's Store