Argument in Favor of Measure A

It's time to upgrade our ethics and campaign finance laws with a neutral and non-political commission to hold politicians accountable and ensure our government answers to the people.

Measure A puts Orange County at the forefront of open and ethical government by instituting the Orange County Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission, a local commission to enforce our campaign finance rules. It will be a truly independent body. Political insiders - like lobbyists, politicians, union officials, political party officers, and consultants - will be banned from serving on the commission or influencing its independent decision-making authority.

Orange County will take responsibility for enforcing our local campaign finance regulations, rather than relying on a distant Sacramento bureaucracy to do so.

Measure A has received praise from ethics experts and transparency advocates because it empowers average citizens to engage in the political process. When citizens raise an issue with the Orange County Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission, Measure A requires the commission to respond.

The Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission will provide **regular and predictable enforcement, auditing, and training** for Orange County's campaign finance rules.

The Orange County Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission will have the power to:

- Enforce and investigate compliance with the Orange County Campaign Reform Ordinance
- Enforce and investigate compliance with the Orange County Gift Ban
- Enforce and investigate compliance with the Orange County Code of Ethics
- Develop and establish an ethics training program
- Impose fines on politicians for three times the amount of money illegally spent or illegally received

Measure A will ensure <u>Orange County's national leadership in</u> <u>government reform</u> with the Orange County Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission.

Vote <u>"Yes"</u> on Measure A to create the Orange County Campaign Finance and Ethics Commission.

s/ Shirley L. Grindle Original Author, Orange County Campaign Reform Ordinance

s/ Andrew Do Orange County Supervisor, First District

s/ Todd Spitzer Orange County Supervisor, Third District

s/ Shawn Nelson Orange County Supervisor, Fourth District

s/ Lisa A. Bartlett Chairwoman, Orange County Board of Supervisors Supervisor, Fifth District