



# Proposition 47: FACT SHEET



## **The Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act**

Proposition 47, on the Nov. 5, 2002, ballot, seeks voter approval for a \$13.05 billion bond measure to relieve overcrowding, accommodate new enrollments, make overdue safety repairs and upgrade California's elementary, middle and high schools, community colleges and universities.

## **Funding for Higher Education Facilities**

If approved by voters, Proposition 47 would provide the three segments of higher education – the University of California, the California State University, and the California Community Colleges – with \$1.65 billion. UC's share would be \$408.2 million. The March 2004 measure will provide higher education with an additional \$2.3 billion (\$690 million for UC). Proceeds from Proposition 47 would provide about half of the amount necessary to fully fund UC's annual capital outlay needs in the coming years.

## **How UC Will Use Proposition 47 Funds**

Proposition 47 will help UC fund capital improvements in several areas:

- **Earthquake and life safety** – The bond will help UC correct seismic deficiencies in a significant number of classroom, laboratory and office buildings. UC has given seismic repairs a high priority in its capital program and is using the latest information from recent earthquakes around the world to make these safety improvements.
- **More space for enrollment growth** – New facilities are needed to accommodate a surge of 64,000 additional students expected by 2010. This is greater than the current enrollments of UC Berkeley and UCLA combined. Several of the projects to be funded by the bond measure would construct major new facilities for programs in engineering and the sciences, fields that UC has targeted for expansion in order to help meet state workforce needs.
- **Modernization** – Proposition 47 will fund projects to modernize outdated infrastructure and renovate aging classroom and laboratory buildings. Research and instructional facilities in a university must be upgraded as technologies and academic programs evolve; these modernization projects will address that need.

## **Accountability and Other Provisions**

The bill authorizing the bond act includes among its provisions safeguards against waste and mismanagement. These include amendments to the California Education Code that hold school districts and the university strictly accountable for the proper expenditure of funds.

The bill also includes other provisions, including requirements to increase energy efficiency in school buildings, to tighten seismic safety standards, and to establish standards for the distribution of school facility financing funds.

## **Supporters and Opponents**

Proposition 47 has attracted broad-based support from organizations and associations, including the UC Board of Regents, the California State PTA, California Teachers Association, California Taxpayers' Association, California Chamber of Commerce, League of Women Voters of California, Congress of California Seniors, Californians for Higher Education, California Building Industry Association, and the California Business Roundtable. The opposition campaign is not yet organized, but signers of the opposing ballot argument include State Senator William J. (Pete) Knight, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, and the National Tax Limitation Committee. For a full text of the opposition's ballot arguments, visit the Secretary of State's Web site at [www.ss.ca.gov](http://www.ss.ca.gov)