

COMMITTEE AGAINST UNFAIR TAXES

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PRESS RELEASE

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STATE SUPREME COURT AFFIRMS THAT INITIATIVE PETITION DOES NOT EARMARK TAXES FOR ANY SPECIFIC PROGRAM

Question 1 guarantees the voters of only one thing - that taxes will increase. What voters don't know is how the money will be spent.

Today's court decision puts Massachusetts voters on notice that if the Question 1 tax increase is approved in November, the new tax dollars are not earmarked for any specific program.

The initiative petition proposing the tax increase "preserves the Legislature's power and discretion" to appropriate monies. If this new tax increase is approved, the legislature will decide how to spend the tax dollars. This court decision reaffirms the ability of the Legislature to appropriate the money for any purpose it chooses.

Voters need only look at how government officials have raided the highway trust fund and ignored the will of the people regarding increased local aid to cities and towns to realize that this ballot question may never fulfill its promises.

The tax and spend proponents just don't get it.

No one thinks kids should smoke. But placing yet another tax burden on working families and giving more money to the legislature is not the answer.

Let families who work hard for their money keep it in their pockets.

Voters this November will have their chance to say NO to this unfair and unnecessary tax increase.

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