



## Local Ballot Measure: B

Arguments and rebuttals are the opinions of the authors. We print them exactly as submitted.

### Argument In Favor of Measure B

#### **Vote Yes on Measure B — Protect Emergency Fire and Medical Response in Gonzales**

When someone we love suffers a heart attack, stroke or car accident, every second counts. The nearest emergency room is more than 20 minutes away from Gonzales. Can we wait that long? When emergency strikes day or night, our Gonzales firefighter/EMTs are the difference between life and death — delivering lifesaving care long before a hospital is within reach.

Today, that safety net is at risk.

Over the past 20 years, 911 calls have increased by 35%, with nearly 2/3 involving medical emergencies or serious accidents. Critical equipment is aging and resources are stretched thin. Without Measure B, the Gonzales Fire Department faces severe service reductions — or even shutting down entirely. Slower response times. Higher homeowners' insurance costs. In a rural community like ours, that's not just inconvenient — it's dangerous.

Small towns across California are facing the same crisis. Our neighbors in Greenfield have stepped up to create local funding solutions to protect fire and emergency medical services. Gonzales must do the same to protect our families, homes and future.

Public safety and affordability are on the line — we need Measure B.

#### **Measure B Will:**

- Prevent Gonzales Fire Department from enacting severe service reductions—or even shutting down entirely
- Replace old or outdated medical equipment, breathing apparatuses, protective clothing and other equipment to assist in emergency medical situations and fight wildfires
- Maintain fast, reliable response times to medical emergencies, car accidents, wildfires, floods and other natural disasters
- Help ensure 24/7 staffing for rapid emergency 911 medical and fire response

#### **Strict Fiscal Accountability and Local Control**

- Funds may only be used for the Gonzales Fire Department
- Oversight and independent audits ensure funds are being spent as promised
- No funds can be taken by the state

#### **Vote Yes on Measure B to Save Fire and Medical Response in Gonzales**

/s/ Jason Muscio, Fire Chief

/s/ David Vasquez, President L5388

/s/ Jean Salcido, Non-profit Leader

/s/ Connie Arellano, Emergency Communication Dispatch

/s/ Joel Hernandez Laguna, Salinas Valley Health Board President

### Rebuttal To Argument In Favor of Measure B

No arguments against Measure B were submitted.