



# Ballot Measures-A

# A

## City of Huntington Beach, Community Parent Review Board

Shall the Ordinance to Amend the Huntington Beach Municipal Code by Deleting Chapter 2.66 Thereof Entitled 'Community Parent Guardian Review Board for Procurement of Children's Library Materials' and Adding Section 2.30.090 Thereto Entitled 'Selection and Use of Library Materials' be adopted?

### What your vote means

YES	NO
A "Yes" vote is a vote in favor of eliminating the existing Community Parent Guardian Review Board and replacing it with new, broad policies for the selection and use of library materials in the hands of the Director of Community and Library Services.	A "No" vote is a vote for maintaining public input and community oversight over children's library materials.

### For and against

FOR	AGAINST
<p>Bobby Lee Guillen Parent/President, Ocean View PTA Roundtable</p> <p>Lindsay Rebecca Seidel Klick Mother/Children's Librarian</p> <p>Catherine Jane Ryder Retired Teacher</p> <p>Elaine Parker U.S. Navy Veteran/Library Volunteer</p> <p>Roshel Graham, M.D. Pediatrician</p>	<p>Patrick J. Burns Mayor</p> <p>Gricelda Aide Larrea Van Der Mark Council Woman</p> <p>Casey McKeon Mayor Pro Tem</p>



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## Full Text of Measure A City of Huntington Beach

The People of the City of Huntington Beach do hereby ordain as follows:

### SECTION 1:

Chapter 2.66 of Title 2 of the Huntington Beach Municipal Code is stricken.

### SECTION 2:

A new Section 2.30.090 of Title 2 of the Huntington Beach Municipal Code is added to read as follows:

#### 2.30.900. Selection and Use of Library Materials

Director and Library Services shall establish policies for the selection and use of library materials, provided that such policies adopt the following requirements:

- A. The Library serves as a center for voluntary inquiry and the dissemination of information and ideas.
- B. Library materials shall not be excluded from the library collection because of the origin, background, or views of those contributing to the creation of the materials, or because of the topic addressed by the materials or the views expressed in the materials.
- C. Library materials should be provided for the interest, information, and enlightenment of all people, and should present diverse points of view in the collection as a whole.
- D. The public has the right to receive access to a range of social, political, aesthetic, moral, and other ideas and experiences.

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### Impartial Analysis City of Huntington Beach Measure A

The proposed Huntington Beach Municipal Code amendment, if adopted, would eliminate the Community Parent Guardian Review Board (the "Community Board"). Currently, the Community Board is responsible for ensuring that books available to children in City Libraries do not contain sexual content before they are purchased and made available to children, either through circulation or without parental consent.

This ballot measure would strike Chapter 2.66 "Community Parent Guardian Review Board Procurement for Children's Library Materials" entirely and add a new section 2.30.090 "Selection and Use of Library Materials" to the Huntington Beach Municipal Code.

The proposed amendment would dissolve the Community Board and transfer the responsibility of reviewing the content of children's books solely to the Director of Community and Library Services, who would be required to follow the newly established policies outlined in the proposed section 2.30.090.

The proposed policies in the Measure give greater discretion to the Director of Community and Library Services in selecting library materials. The proposed amendment emphasizes a broader range of materials and viewpoints, and removes a level of local parental and community involvement in reviewing the library materials made available to children.

A "Yes" vote is a vote in favor of eliminating the existing Community Parent Guardian Review Board and replacing it with new, broad policies for the selection and use of library materials in the hands of the Director of Community and Library Services. A "No" vote is a vote for maintaining public input and community oversight over children's library materials.

This Measure was placed on the ballot by petition signed by the requisite number of voters.

The above statement is an impartial analysis of Measure A. If you desire a copy of the ordinance or measure, please call the elections official's office at (714) 536-5227 and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you.



# Ballot Measures-A

## Argument in Favor of Measure A

### Vote YES on Measure A to Protect Parents’ Rights to Choose What Their Children Read!

Who should have the power to decide what our children can and cannot read? Parents or politicians?

That is the central question of this ballot measure. If you believe in parents’ rights, then we humbly ask that you join thousands of families, educators, librarians, and community members in voting YES.

Local politicians feel otherwise and want to replace experienced librarians with untrained political appointees to decide what is age-appropriate. Their motive is to ban books, silence ideas, and take away your rights as parents.

#### Here are the facts:

● **Book bans harm our First Amendment rights.** Free access to books is fundamental. You, not politicians, should have the power to decide what your children can and cannot read.

● **Obscenity is already illegal in public libraries.** Our trained librarians already work diligently to ensure books are age and library-appropriate.

● **There is already an existing process for the community to challenge books.** If an adult believes a book is not right for our library, they can file a request for its review and potential relocation or removal.

**Local politicians’ efforts to ban books are clear government overreach and a waste of our tax dollars at a time when Huntington Beach is already in financial trouble.**

**Don’t let politicians control our library.**

**Vote YES to protect your family’s freedom to read.**

**Vote YES to go back to the library that we all love.**

**Vote YES to keep book-banning out of Huntington Beach.**

s/ Bobby Lee Guillen  
Parent/President, Ocean View PTA Roundtable

s/ Lindsay Rebecca Seidel Klick  
Mother/Children’s Librarian

s/ Catherine Jane Ryder  
Retired Teacher

s/ Elaine Parker  
U.S. Navy Veteran/Library Volunteer

s/ Roshel Graham, M.D.  
Pediatrician

## Rebuttal to Argument in Favor of Measure A

Don’t be fooled! Supporters of this measure are trying to take away your rights.

They falsely claim their measure has to do with book-banning. That’s not true.

Several years ago, the City Council decided to give parents and community members the ability to protect children from lewd or pornographic materials in our city libraries.

This measure strips away parental rights and ends community input.

If this measure passes, a single, unelected and unaccountable staffer will have the sole power to determine what is appropriate for Huntington Beach children.

That’s wrong.

Vote NO to maintain parent’s rights.

Vote NO to prevent outside influence groups from forcing their standards on Huntington Beach.

Vote NO to protect children from being exposed to inappropriate content in our libraries.

Vote NO to ensure that the community has a voice in decisions that directly impact the health and safety of our children.

Don’t fall victim to the false claims of Measure A supporters.

Vote NO on Measure A.

s/ Gricelda Aide Larrea Van Der Mark  
Council Woman

s/ Patrick J Burns  
Mayor

s/ Casey McKeon  
Mayor Pro Tem



# Ballot Measures-A

## Argument Against Measure A

## Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure A

The current City Ordinance provides for a Community Review Board to safeguard children from exposure to library books and/or materials that may be considered lewd or pornographic.

**VOTE YES on Measure A to Protect Parental Rights and Our Children**

The Community Review Board, consisting of 21 parents and members, will be dedicated to evaluating books and/or materials for obscene or sexually explicit content prior to purchase or being placed in areas where children may access.

**California law and Huntington Beach policy already prohibit libraries from circulating obscene materials. Our City's trained library staff have multiple levels of oversight to ensure materials are appropriate for readers of all ages.**

If this measure passes, those safeguards will be eliminated. Instead of community input, a single unelected individual with no oversight will decide what books are appropriate for children to access. Instead of a transparent, community-driven process, the authority to determine what is appropriate for children will be given to the Director of Community & Library Services.

There are no obscene materials in the Huntington Beach Public Libraries.

Voting NO on this measure preserves community input and parental control over what our children are exposed to in the libraries. The existing law ensures that the public retain control over book selections, keeping access to quality literature that supports academic growth without exposing children to inappropriate content.

Opponents claim the Director of Community and Library Services will have sole authority over what books are allowed. This is untrue.

The existing law DOES NOT ban books since not a single book has been removed from the Library collection, rather certain books have been relocated to the age-appropriate sections of the Library, just like the Parental Guidance system for motion pictures with an All Access Card available with Parental consent. This is about choice. The community deserves a voice in shaping their children's education and maintaining the right to instill values that align with their community values, especially in public libraries paid for by the Huntington Beach residents and taxpayers.

The statements of the opponents are blatant attempts to misinform the public. These statements show the opponents' stark lack of understanding of how Huntington Beach public libraries operate.

Vote NO on this measure to protect our children from access to inappropriate books and materials at the libraries.

For years now, parents have been able to voice concerns or appeal the selection of library materials. This appeal process works.

s/ Patrick J. Burns  
Mayor

**VOTE YES** to enshrine The First Amendment in Huntington Beach, as it protects freedom of speech and the right to receive information.

s/ Gricelda Aide Larrea Van Der Mark  
Council Woman

**VOTE YES** to ensure that parents have the primary say in what their children may read, especially regarding their moral and religious beliefs.

s/ Casey McKeon  
Mayor Pro Tem

**VOTE YES** to repeal the politically-appointed committee that will make final and non-appealable decisions on books.

**VOTE YES** to protect parental rights and their children's access to a wide range of information and perspectives, to foster critical thinking and learning.

### **VOTE YES on Measure A**

s/ Diana Marie Marks  
President, Huntington Beach City School District

s/ Jack C Souders  
Vice President, Ocean View School District