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Have you taken action yet?

"Los Angeles County clean water, clean beaches measure." Sounds good doesn't it? Improving water quality is essential for all of us. But did you know this annual "fee" will have a dramatic direct affect on all of us who live and work in the County's Flood Control District?

2.1 million property owners will pay this "fee." That includes residents and business owners who own the land they do business from. The money from the fee will add another \$200 million to the Flood Control District's existing \$340 million clean-up program. The average homeowner will pay about \$54 on the property taxes. There are issues of concern. Among them is how much a commercial property owner will pay. Unlike residential property owners, there is no cap on commercial property. One business owner in the City of Industry has attempted to calculate the "fee" and has determined he will pay an extra \$4,000 on the \$1,600 he already pays on his property tax bill. This "fee" comes at time during a struggling economy. It will affect those on fixed incomes. It will cause rental property owners to consider raising their rents and it will add one more burden to business property owners who may be a tough time just trying to stay and business. It will add a straw to the back of a fragile economic recovery here in Los Angeles County.

It will also have a dramatic impact on costs to our school districts: Already-strapped schools must pay this tax: \$4.8 million for LAUSD, \$715 thousand for Long Beach Schools, \$120 thousand for Claremont and \$95 thousand for Charter Oak. Many school districts are opposing this fee.

What is most troubling is the administration of this program. It is overseen by the "Watershed Authority." It is another un-elected board like the AQMD, imposing "fees" and regulation on taxpayers without the consent their consent. I, as a taxpayer, want to know how the County's Flood Control District has already spent the \$340 million. Taxpayer groups reviewing the measure are concerned about the details or lack of details in this plan and have come up in opposition. County Supervisors Antonovich and Knabe are concerned as well. They voted against this measure. This "fee" or tax must be voted on by the people.

If you feel as many do and are opposed to this issue, take action now!

You have three ways to protest this "fee" increase. You can mail the form attached to the notice you received in the mail. There will also be a public hearing on January 15, 2013 at 9:30 a.m. at the Board of Supervisors Hearing Room, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. You can also mail a letter of protest to the Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors, P.O. Box 866006, Los Angeles, CA 90086. You will need your property's County Assessors "APN". (Assessor's Parcel Number) For more information, visit www.LACountyCleanWater.org