

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Date

Your Name
Address
City, State Zip
Phone Number

Letters Editor
Name of Paper
Address
City, State Zip

Dear Editor,

Readers of *Name of Paper*, need to know the facts about Proposition H so that it may rightly be rejected on November 8. While most are aware of the initiative's language banning lawful handgun ownership by San Francisco residents - San Francisco residents only- Proposition H is fatally flawed in a number of other ways.

Proposition H sets no reimbursement for private property surrendered to the police.

Voters are being asked to approve a proposal with undefined consequences. Proposition H leaves the issue of penalties open, allowing the Board of Supervisors to set any punishment allowed by California law. Proposition H also gives Supervisors unlimited powers. Consider Section 8, which states: "By a two-thirds vote and upon making findings, the Board of Supervisors may amend this ordinance in the furtherance of reducing handgun violence." Eight Supervisors can do anything they want to expand the scope of the proposition if it passes!

Opposition to Proposition H is wide and deep. Organizations including the Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, the Libertarian Party of San Francisco, and the San Francisco Pink Pistols oppose Proposition H, because it denies citizens the means to defend themselves against crime, including hate crime.

Finally, Proposition H runs contrary to existing state law. A long-standing California preemption statute prohibits cities from passing a patchwork of conflicting gun laws. If Proposition H passes, taxpayers will have to pay for a costly lawsuit that San Francisco may very well lose, as it has done in the past.

For the aforementioned reasons and more, including the fact that the city's police resources are already stretched thin, voters must reject Proposition H on November 8.

Sincerely,

Your Name