Arguments in support or opposition of the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors.

Argument against Measure M

We oppose this measure because the proponents failed to disclose that implementation will be a violation of the State of California's Display of Flag codes as noted in California Government Code sections 430 to 439 in our opinion.

1. Section 430 states that municipalities must follow the Display of Flags codes.
2. Section 436 states the National Flag has the position of **first honor**(top).
3. Section 437 states that any county citizen can seek redress for non-compliance of the display of flag provisions to the appropriate Superior Court.

If this measure passes there is the potential for significant legal expenses if a citizen seeks redress and the city decides to challenge the state. General law cities are restricted from overruling state laws.
If this passes it creates precedent for other municipalities; imagine the State of Jefferson Flag for Yreka or licensing a logo for the top position to the highest bidder.

Lowering the flag to half-staff to honor the dead from a National tragedy or for a specific person has been the tradition for over two centuries. Adding a flag above the National flag would break this honorable tradition. We don't feel that changing this symbol of honor and condolence should be rushed without a long and vigorous discussion.
Municipal governments in California in general are non-partisan. The City of Santa Clara has written in their display of flag ordinance that "municipal flags poles are not a vehicle of public discourse."

Vote NO on this Flag measure. It violates the letter and spirit of California law in our view.

/s/ Walter T. Paniak
/s/ Laura Garrett
/s/ Kim C. Brittain
/s/ Bill R. Brittain

246 words