



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Laura Parker
Public Information Officer
California State Library
(916) 651-6798

May 4, 2010

**Thirty Years of California Library Ballot Measures
Profiled in New Report**

Sacramento – The California State Library announces the publication of “Thirty Years of California Library Ballot Measures,” an in-depth survey and analysis of local library ballot measures held in California from 1980 through 2009.

This comprehensive report covers 307 library-related ballot measures held in 95 out of 181 library jurisdictions across the state. Almost 54% of the ballot measures passed, with approval rates increasing slightly over each of the past three decades. General tax measures requiring a simple majority passed 77% of the time, while special tax measures requiring a supermajority (2/3 approval) passed 45% of the time. Ballot measures for facilities only were most successful, while measures seeking funds for both facilities and operations were least successful.

Compiled and written by Richard B. Hall, Library Consultant at the California State Library, the report, including an executive summary and links to survey data, is posted at the State Library website at www.library.ca.gov/lds/lds.html. This webpage will be updated periodically with statistical data collected annually by the State Library. Questions about the survey may be directed to Mr. Hall at (916) 651-0973 or rhall@library.ca.gov.

An Infopeople webinar discussing the results of the survey will be held at noon on May 20, 2010. For more information and to participate in the webinar, please go to http://www.infopeople.org/training/webcasts/webcast_data/427/index.html.

About the California State Library: Now celebrating its 160th anniversary, the California State Library is the main reference and research library for the Governor’s office, legislature, state employees, and the general public. It supports California’s public libraries by administering grants for programs in historical preservation, library construction, broadband connectivity, civil liberties education, literacy and volunteering. For more information, visit www.library.ca.gov.

###