

28

RESOLUTION No. 86-578

Adopted by The Sacramento City Council on date of

July 22, 1986

APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL

JUL 29 1986

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

RESOLUTION OPPOSING PROPOSITION 64 (LAROCHE INITIATIVE)

WHEREAS, AIDS is a devastating condition that has stricken over 5,200 Californians, including many members of our community; and,

WHEREAS, AIDS is spread only be intimate sexual activity or by infected blood, not by casual contact; and,

WHEREAS, Proposition 64 promotes public fears that AIDS is casually transmitted, contradicting 5½ years of scientific and medical research involving families living with people with AIDS and medical personnel caring for people with AIDS; and,

WHEREAS, it is universally known that the best way to stop the spread of AIDS is through extensive public outreach, prevention and education; and,

WHEREAS, instead of supporting a massive public education campaign, Proposition 64 promotes isolation of, and arbitrary discrimination against people with AIDS, and those merely suspected of having AIDS or carrying the AIDS virus; and,

WHEREAS, the wording of Proposition 64 is dangerously vague, opening doors to McCarthy era-like witch hunts and blacklistings which will create a climate of AIDS-related fear and prejudice; and,

WHEREAS, Proposition 64 will cause suffering for people with AIDS, and those suspected of having AIDS or carrying the AIDS virus; and,

WHEREAS, arbitrary discrimination and social isolation will accelerate the spread of the virus by impeding important research and prevention efforts; and,

WHEREAS, such public policy is a violation of basic human rights and is not in the best interest of the citizens of Sacramento.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Sacramento opposes Proposition 64, and in the strongest possible terms denounces the efforts of LaRouche and his followers to promote public fear about AIDS.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

FILED JUL 22 1986 Cont 407-29-86 BY THE CITY COUNCIL OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

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WHEREAS, AIDS is spread only by intimate sexual activity or by infected blood, not by casual contact, and

WHEREAS, Proposition 64 promotes public fears that AIDS is casually transmitted, contradicting 5 1/2 years of scientific and medical research involving families living with people with AIDS and medical personnel caring for people with AIDS, and

WHEREAS, it is universally known that the best way to stop the spread of AIDS is through extensive public outreach, prevention and education; and

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City of Sacramento opposes Proposition 64, and in the strongest possible terms denounces the efforts of LaRouche and his followers to promote public fear about AIDS.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this ____ day of ____ 1986.

280



**HUMAN RIGHTS/FAIR HOUSING COMMISSION
OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO**

2131 Capitol Avenue
Suite 206
Sacramento, CA 95816
(916) 444-6903

July 29, 1986

Members of City Council
City Hall
Room 205
915 I Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Members of City Council:

At its last meeting - The Human Rights/Fair Housing Commission of the City and County of Sacramento voted to go on record in opposition to Proposition 64 -- La Rouche AIDS Initiative -- and would urge the members of the City Council to do likewise.

As you may hear tonight, the La Rouche AIDS initiative will have an impact ranging from negligible to one resulting in forced quarantines and mass screenings of segments of the population for AIDS. Some of these possible outcomes will no doubt result in legal challenges if they are implemented.

Beyond the speculation regarding possible outcomes the Commission views the initiative as unjustified based on medical and scientific evidence.

The supporters of Proposition 64, would have us believe according to their ballot statement that AIDS is easy to get despite evidence to the contrary. A recent study done by the staff of Montefiore Hospital in New York showed that family members of AIDS victims had not contracted the disease while sharing living quarters, bathroom facilities and eating utensils with victims.

If the disease was easy to get we could reasonably assume that some if not many of the family members would also be infected with the AIDS virus.

Unfortunately, despite such results we continue to hear of incidents of people refusing to work with or serve AIDS' victims out of fear and a lack of knowledge. What we need is a rational examination of the latest medical and scientific information and the development of medical, legal, and social policy based on that information.

We would also urge the public to examine that information before they go to the polls. The Commission members themselves have taken such

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Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



steps and invited health care professionals such as Dr. Neil Flynn of the U.C. Davis Medical Center to provide us with information on AIDS and its transmission. It is based on this kind of information that we conclude that there is no justification to support such a potentially draconian measure.

The cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, West Hollywood, and Laguna Beach have already passed resolutions similar to the one you are considering tonight and we look forward to the addition of Sacramento to that list.

Sincerely,


Martin L. Kennison,
Chair

MLK:DRT