

Tuesday, January 24th, 2012

To: Our thousands of supporters throughout the state (cc'd to the media, house & senate members, and Governor)

From: Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, Voters Want More Choices "No New Taxes 2012"

RE: Please help us so we can continue to protect the initiative process

Politicians hate the initiative process. Why? Because it challenges their policy-making monopoly. Because it lets the people decide. For 15 years, we've worked really hard to let the people decide important issues (lower car tab taxes, limits on property tax increases, performance audits of government, 2/3 vote requirements for tax increases, etc). **But we've also made it one of our top priorities to defend the initiative process from political attack.**

We are very, very pleased and proud to announce that we had a huge victory last Friday.

QUICK BACKGROUND: last year, in response to our initiative in Monroe on red-light cameras qualifying for the ballot, the Mayor and City Council refused to put it on the ballot and **SUED US** for sponsoring the initiative. A lawsuit against citizens for exercising their right to initiative? It was despicable. They asked the court to impose a \$10,000 fine on us and tried to force us to pay THEIR attorneys fees. Under the threat of escalating legal costs against an adversary (the government) with unlimited financial resources to pay their taxpayer-funded lawyers, lots of folks would've folded their tent and gone home. We didn't -- we fought back.

After months of anguish and stress, we prevailed against their anti-initiative effort on Friday as Snohomish County Superior Court Judge George Bowden found that their action was a SLAPP lawsuit (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation) and imposed a \$10,000 fine on the city (!!!) and green-lighted the initiative for a public vote.

As Judge Bowden wrote: *"Having secured enough valid signatures to place (the initiative) on the ballot, the City's lawsuit burdens the initiative sponsors with having to defend the right of the voters to express their opinions and weigh in on a matter that will directly affect them."*

We are thrilled with this court decision because it sends a clear message to other arrogant politicians that such obstructionist tactics will not only fail, but result in substantial financial penalties. IT IS A HUGE, HUGE VICTORY FOR INITIATIVE RIGHTS IN WASHINGTON.

Yesterday, I drove down to Olympia to testify against one of a series of anti-initiative bills that have become a yearly tradition in our state's Capitol. More on that later.

Please help us so we can continue to protect the initiative process from both legislative and judicial attack.

We really, really need your financial support.

For our pro-initiative and pro-taxpayer efforts, please send us a donation for \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$2500, \$5000 or more (there are no limits on how much can be given). Please consider a monthly pledge. You can make a secure PayPal / VISA / MC contribution by going to our website -- www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com -- *sometimes clicking on this link doesn't work so please cut and paste it if you have to, sorry for the extra step* -- OR, you can print out the form below, fill it out, and return it with a check or credit card information.

We ask for your support so we can continue fighting. Thank you.

Sincerely, Tim Eyman, Jack Fagan, & Mike Fagan, **Fighting for Taxpayers for 15 Years**, ph: 425-493-9127, email: tim_eyman@comcast.net

P.S. There are thousands of politicians, bureaucrats, lobbyists, and special interest groups working each and every day to raise your taxes. Shouldn't there be at least one person, one team, one organization that fights to lower your taxes? Please help us so we can continue our successful efforts on behalf of taxpayers.

VOTERS WANT MORE CHOICES "No New Taxes 2012" . PO Box 18250 . Spokane . WA . 99228 . PH: 425-493-8707 . FAX: 425-493-1027 . www.VotersWantMoreChoices.com . jakatak@comcast.net

Guys, I really appreciate what you're doing - keep fighting for us. Please accept my contribution for \$ _____

Please supply the information below so we can send you a thank you letter (it's really important to fill this out).

Your Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip, Phone # _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ Made payable to **VOTERS WANT MORE CHOICES "No New Taxes 2012"**

Occupation _____ Employer & Employer zip code _____

VISA or M/C number _____ Exp. date (MM/YY) ____/____ Amt. \$ _____

CRITICAL: Email address (please print clearly) _____

Voluntary donations to VOTERS WANT MORE CHOICES "No New Taxes 2012" are not tax-deductible.
Voluntary donations to VOTERS WANT MORE CHOICES "No New Taxes 2012" are political donations that will be effectively used to protect taxpayers in 2012.