It is well established that incumbents win elections at high rates. If term limits were imposed on San Clemente City Councilmembers, this will provide voters with a regular opportunity for change which can bring new expertise, innovative ideas and fresh perspectives as members could not serve more than two (2) consecutive four (4) year terms. In the history of San Clemente, there has been nothing preventing councilmembers from holding office for as many terms as they would like.

In any city, with countless constituent concerns that present themselves, having council seats occupied by the same elected officials is not always in the best interest of the community. Term limits change the culture of apathy. People get excited about running for office if they know they have a chance of winning on a fair playing field. Talented, qualified San Clementians are often at a disadvantage running against incumbents with widespread name recognition that they are discouraged from running.

Throughout California, voters have overwhelmingly supported term limits for public officials. Without them, over time, incumbents become too cozy with special interests. Beholden to those special interests, entrenched politicians often forget about the people they were elected to serve.

Many cities throughout Southern California have term limits for their elected officials, including Laguna Niguel, Anaheim, Dana Point, Newport Beach, Huntington Beach, Costa Mesa, San Diego, and Santa Barbara among others. Term limits also apply to the Orange County Board of Supervisors and California's statewide elected officers and Senate and Assembly legislators.

Measure ____ will break this cycle of entrenched incumbency by setting a reasonable limit of two (2) consecutive council terms of service beginning after the November 3, 2020 election.

Term limits will improve our political process and open up our government. Vote YES on Measure ______.

Laura Ferguson
Mayor Pro Tem

Gene James
Councilmember

ON BEHALF OF THE CITY COUNCIL
FORM OF STATEMENT TO BE FILED BY AUTHOR(S) OF ARGUMENT

All arguments concerning measures filed pursuant to Division 9, Chapter 3 (beginning with §9200) of the Elections Code shall be accompanied by the following form of statement to be signed by each proponent, and by each author, if different, of the argument:

The undersigned proponent(s) or author(s) of the (primary/rebuttal) argument (in favor of/against) ballot measure ___ at the General Municipal Election for the City of San Clemente to be held on November 3, 2020, hereby state that the argument is true and correct to the best of (his/her/their) knowledge and belief.

Print Name                  
Gene W. James
Title                   
City Council member
(If applicable): Submitted on behalf of: City of San Clemente
Name of Organization
__________________________
Date       May 18, 2020

Print Name                  
Laura Ferguson
Title                   
Mayor Pro-Tem
(If applicable): Submitted on behalf of: City of San Clemente
Name of Organization
__________________________
Signature
__________________________
Date       May 18, 2020

Print Name

Title

(If applicable): Submitted on behalf of:

__________________________
Name of Organization
__________________________
Signature
__________________________
Date