

“Californians should be appalled at this level of kickbacks and interference in California’s political system by Mr. Roski.”—U.S. Term Limits President Philip Blumel.

Roski, Jr. Doles out \$300 Thousand Against CA Term Limits; U.S. Term Limits Says it is “Fully Prepared to Meet the Challenge”

February 4th, 2010, Fairfax, VA—U.S. Term Limits (USTL) President Philip Blumel today responded to reports that Ed Roski, Jr. has donated \$300 thousand to a group pushing a ballot initiative that would lengthen the terms that can be served in either House of the Legislature.

“This is Mr. Roski’s payback to California lawmakers who created a special exemption so he could build his stadium, and it stinks,” Blumel declared.

“Californians should be appalled at this level of kickbacks and interference in California’s political system by Mr. Roski,” Blumel added, saying that USTL was “fully prepared to meet the challenge on behalf of California.”

[According to the Los Angeles Times](#) on Jan. 30th, “Ed Roski Jr., the L.A. County billionaire who got state legislators to exempt his proposed NFL stadium from environmental laws, has showered the lawmakers with tens of thousands of dollars in campaign cash... The money is part of \$505,000 that Roski put into California political campaigns during the second half of 2009, including \$300,000 toward a proposed ballot measure that would change term limits for future legislators.”

The ballot initiative would lengthen the terms to 12 years in either House, doubling the time members can serve in the Assembly and increasing by one-third the time in the Senate.

Blumel predicted that re-election rate for lawmakers would skyrocket, and said the proposal “obviously will favor incumbent legislators when it takes effect.”

Blumel has previously stated that the wording of the amendment “is quite similar to Proposition 93, and is confusing to voters. It is framed in such a way that residents will think that it reduces, rather than lengthens, a politician’s time in each chamber.”

Blumel again urged residents not to sign the petition, [Proposed Initiative 09-0048](#), saying that “the best way for Californians to kill this assault on term limits is to simply refuse to sign the petition.”

The initiative is also being sponsored by Lance H. Olson of Olson Hagel & Fishburn LLP. Olson serves as general counsel to the California Democratic Party.

Term limits were originally enacted in California in 1990. In 2002, when term limits opponents proposed Proposition 45, Californians defeated it, and in 2008 defeated Proposition 93.

The current law places three two-year terms on the State House and two four-year terms on the State Senate, and took effect in 1996 and 1998, respectively.

Blumel concluded, "Mr. Roski can spend as much money as he wishes in kickbacks to California lawmakers, but this assault on term limits will be defeated one way or another."

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