[MS-C087.002.013.015]

SDU 9/25/73

Voter Unit Seeks Defeat Of Prop. 1

San Diego Union Staff Dispatch

SOLANA BEACH—League of Women Voters' leaders from the five units in San Diego County spent yesterday in Solana Beach in an orientation on Proposition 1 on the Nov. 6 ballot.

The league has taken a position, on its statewide level, in opposition to the measure for tax limitations.

The ballot argument against establishing constitutional formulas on taxes was written by state league officers.

County President Jane Emerson of San Diego said the plan is to provide league speakers on Proposition 1 to all interested groups.

CALLED COMPLICATED

"The proposition is so complicated and full of little pitfalls we saw a need to train speakers on it," she said.

She said a state coalition is being formed to carry the message to voters. be speaking against it," she said. "It would take the power away from the Legislature to determine taxes and put tax matters into the state Constitution."

She said the proposition is so written that if the courts invalidate one portion, or the Legislature by two-thirds vote rules out any part, the rest remains in force if voters approve it.

"We go to the trouble of electing people we think are competent to judge, and then someone goes to the people with an initiative," said the county league leader. "This would take a lot of fiscal options away from the Legislature."

She said in this method of limiting spending, programs are competing for money and those most needed sometimes are cut out.

She said it would gradually lower income taxes but something will take its place.

She said it puts too much power on tax rates in the hands of three people, the state comptroller, chairman of the budget tee and an appointee of the Legislature.

Lowering the income tax in this manner could cause California to lose matching federal funds, she said.

DETAILS DISCUSSED

Betty Pengelley of Lemon Grove, a member of the state board of the league, oriented the 20 speakers and discussed details of the two tax-setting formulas, one based on revenue changes and the other using population and consumer price index figures.

It is a measure backed by realtros, the California Taxpayers Association, apartment owner associations and some Chambers of Commerce. It is opposed by the American Association of University Women, employe and teacher groups and the Association of County Supervisors.