Looking Back at California’s Proposition 26 by Colantuono & Levin

Passed in the 2010 elections as a ballot initiative in the state of California, supporters championed [Proposition 26](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/California_elections,_November_2010) as the “stop hidden taxes” initiative. With 52.5 percent of the popular vote, voters passed the Proposition into law by a slim majority. Officially, the proposition broadened the definition of taxes to include many types of payments previously considered fees or charges. This, in turn, raised the voting requirements for the passage of such fees from a simple majority to a two-thirds “supermajority.” In practice, voters supported Proposition 26 to restrict elected officials from raising taxes on goods like food and gas by disguising the taxes as other charges.  
  
Opponents of the law feared that it focused too much on the interests of large corporations without enough public input. Regardless, the law went into effect three years ago and enjoys a fair amount of popularity in its implementation.   
  
For legal matters related to Proposition 26, the law firm of Colantuono & Levin retains attorneys who are among California’s leading experts on the matter. Contact Colantuono & Levin at (530) 432-7357 for more information.