**Introduction 1**

Here we go again. Every year it is the same story. The deadline to pass a state budget comes and goes without one being passed, causing massive financial gridlock. Why does this happen every year? Because current law requires a two-thirds vote to pass a state budget, which inevitably results in our legislators arguing themselves into paralysis. Meanwhile, months pass without a budget in place, causing schools to suffer, services to be cut, and taxpayers to pay additional interest on top of the debt. This destructive cycle has to stop, and Proposition 25, which will replace the two-thirds vote with a simple majority vote, is an important step in the right direction. -- Kelly Gallagher

**Introduction 2**

Over 16,000 teachers in California were laid off last year and more than 26,000 pink slips were issued because of your state's budget mess. Why? Because there was no state budget in place, and when there is no state budget in place, schools have no way of accurately budgeting for the upcoming school year. Because California requires a two-thirds vote to pass a budget, the simple truth is that it has become far too difficult to get anything done. This destructive cycle has to stop, and Proposition 25, which will replace the two-thirds vote with a simple majority, is an important step in the right direction. If we want to end this damaging budget cycle, we must vote yes on 25. -- Kelly Gallagher