

Dear Sunnyvale Democrat,

At the June meeting of the Democratic Club of Sunnyvale, Sally Lieber gave a presentation about how the California State budget wound up in the condition it is in and on her work to overturn the two-thirds majority rule in California.

She explained that the Bay Area Council has been pushing a Constitutional Convention. They are planning an initiative also for Nov. 2010 to ask voters to agree for a Constitutional Convention to be convened. Sally isn't keen on the Constitutional Convention idea. The issue is control over the process, who has a seat at the table, whether other modifications we don't want will be put in. For Democrats, there is the concern that existing constitutional protections would be removed, or some anti-environmental or labor provision put in. Some conservative also have reservations like whether marriage equality would get put into the state constitution by delegates they have no control over, and whether the two-thirds requirement to pass taxes would also be changed.

Sally passed around a sign-up sheet to join her effort. Sally explained that the current timeline is to get an initiative on the ballot in Nov. 2010 to change to a simple majority to adopt a budget. The massive signature gathering effort to remove the requirement for a two-thirds majority is to start end of August/early September. They need to collect something like 980,000 signatures to make sure to have enough good signatures to qualify. Every active Democrat is going to need to pitch in to help gather signatures. There is no requirement that the signatures have to be from all throughout the state. Even if they managed to get enough good signatures from just one county it would qualify.

Our next meetings are coming up soon:

July 18, 2009 Barbara Fukumoto, Halting Climate Change  
Cedarwood Clubhouse, 1288 Riesling Terrace, Sunnyvale CA

August 15, 2009 Craig Dunkerley, Public Financing: Key to Obama's Success  
Cedarwood Clubhouse, 1288 Riesling Terrace, Sunnyvale CA

We still need your help to walk precincts to get the word out to fellow Democrats about our Club. Our new postcards show our meeting location and new website address, [sunnyvaledems.org](http://sunnyvaledems.org) Please contact Margaret Okuzumi at (650) 269-4109 if you can help distribute postcards in your neighborhood.

Attachments:

- \* A copy the membership form. If your membership form is sitting in your inbox, please do take a moment to fill it out and mail it to us.
- \* A flyer about a Democracy for America Event featuring Howard Dean on Thursday, July 23rd in Stanford, CA

I look forward to seeing you soon -- at our meeting this coming Saturday!

Onward, Sunnyvale Dems!  
Nancy Smith