VOTING BEHAVIOR AND PROPOSITION 19 TO LEGALIZE MARIJUANA IN CALIFORNIA

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This paper examines some of the possible factors that may have influenced voting behavior during the vote for Proposition 19 in California. The proposition would have essentially legalized marijuana within the state. The analysis looks at factors such as race, percentage of foreign born persons within a community, education level, income level, and support for Proposition 8 to eliminate same-sex marriage. The units of analysis were the 58 counties in California. The analysis shows that race, controlling for outliers, had little to no correlation with the percentage support for legalization of marijuana. Per capita money income, percent of persons within a county with a bachelor's degree or higher, and opposition to Proposition 8 were all statistically significant in a positive correlation with support for Proposition 19.