Proposition 36

How It Hurts Drug Treatment

Eliminates accountability — opening the door to fraud, abuse and “fly-by-night”
treatment programs.

While pretending to help, this dangerous and misleading initiative sabotages serious efforts
to improve and expand drug treatment programs that actually work.

The initiative will spend $120 million a year in tax money on drug “treatment” — but prohibits any
of the funds from being used for testing. Testing is vital because it holds drug abusers accountable.
The initiative also eliminates consequences for failing treatment. And it excludes drug treatment
programs lasting longer than 12 months and in-custody programs — even though these programs
are among the most effective treatments available.

By eliminating accountability for drug treatment programs, the initiative opens the door to fraud,
abuse and “fly-by-night” drug treatment programs run by people interested in money, not results.
It fails to require treatment programs to document their success or keep records of their operations
and evaluations. It even allows funding for programs that may only provide phone counseling,
internet chat rooms or cassette recordings.

The initiative was written by a criminal defense lawyer in San Francisco and is sponsored by three
wealthy out-of-state backers who view California as a “must win” state in their campaign to
legalize drugs.

So it’s not surprising that the initiative prohibits jail or prison for virtually any person convicted
of using or possessing heroin, methamphetamine, PCP, crack and other illegal substances
— even abusers with a long history of drug dealing, parole violations or past felony offenses.

To learn more, call Californians United Against Drug Abuse at 1-800-995-3221