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LOS ANGELES — California voters — stung by skyrocketing property tax bills — overwhelmingly approved the Jarvis-Gann initiative to cut their property taxes by more than half. The vote was 62 percent to 37 percent for the initiative.

Author Howard Jarvis hailed the vote as "the greatest victory for the people of California that has ever been achieved."

Gov. Brown, who had opposed the measure, indicated that he intends to follow what he called a mandate of the