

## **THE CONTESTS**

### **CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICERS AND INSURANCE COMMISSIONER**

The election and duties of seven statewide officers are set forth in Articles V and IX of the California Constitution – Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, Attorney General, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The Constitution also provides for the election and describes the duties of the members of the four Board of Equalization districts. Proposition 103, adopted by voters in 1988, provided for the election and described the duties of the State Insurance Commissioner. All twelve officers are subject to term limits, serving two four-year terms.

### **UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES IN CONGRESS**

The United States House of Representatives has 435 members elected to serve two-year terms. The number of Representatives allocated to each state is determined by the state's population, as reported in the decennial census. Federal law requires the reshaping of congressional/legislative districts within each state following the census to reflect the changes in population and ensure that the "one-person, one-vote" mandate is obeyed. Since the 1879 State Constitution, the Legislature has been charged with the responsibility of reapportioning legislative, congressional and board of equalization districts. The elections and reapportionment committees of each house use the census tract maps supplied by the U.S. Bureau of the Census and precinct information supplied by the counties to realign the districts. Following the 2000 census and subsequent reapportionment of districts, California added one district, bringing its congressional delegation to 53 members of the House of Representatives. The next census will occur in 2010.

### **THE CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE**

The California State Legislature consists of two houses:

The State Senate: the “upper” house is comprised of 40 Senators, each elected to four-year terms. As with the U.S. Senate, the terms of the Senators are staggered so that half the membership is elected every two years. The Senators representing the odd-numbered districts are elected in years evenly divisible by four (the presidential election cycle). The Senators from the even-numbered districts are elected in the intervening even-numbered years (the gubernatorial election cycle).

The State Assembly: the “lower” house is comprised of 80 members, each elected to two-year terms and is on the ballot at every regularly scheduled statewide election.

Both State Senators and Members of the Assembly are subject to term limits: two four-year terms for Senators and three two-year terms for Assembly members.

## UNITED STATES SENATE

The United States Senate consists of 100 Senators, two elected from each of the 50 states to serve six-year terms. The Senate is divided into three classes, whose terms of office are staggered so that only one-third of the Senate is elected during any election year. California's Senators are in Classes 1 and 3 and were elected most recently in 2004 (Boxer) and 2006 (Feinstein). Every third statewide election there is no United States Senate contest on the ballot.

### A History of California's United States Senators

<u>Class 1</u>	<u>Took office</u>	<u>Left Office</u>
John C Fremont (D)	Sept. 9, 1850	Mar. 3, 1851
John B. Weller (D)	Jan 30, 1852	Mar. 3, 1857
David C. Broderick (D) <sup>1</sup>	Mar. 4, 1857	Sept. 16, 1859
Henry P. Haun (D) <sup>2</sup>	Nov. 3, 1859	Mar. 4, 1860
Milton S. Latham (D)	Mar. 5, 1860	Mar. 3, 1863
John Conness (UN R)	Mar. 4, 1863	Mar. 3, 1869
Eugene Casserly (D) <sup>3</sup>	Mar. 4, 1869	Nov. 29, 1873
John S. Hager (A-MON D)	Dec. 23, 1873	Mar. 3, 1875
Newton Booth (A-MONOPT)	Mar. 4, 1875	Mar. 3, 1881
John F. Miller (R) <sup>4</sup>	Mar. 4, 1881	Mar. 8, 1886
George Hearst (D) <sup>5</sup>	Mar. 23, 1886	Aug. 4, 1886
Abram P. Williams (R)	Aug. 4, 1886	Mar. 3, 1887
George Hearst (D) <sup>6</sup>	Mar. 4, 1887	Feb. 28, 1891
Charles N. Felton (R)	Mar. 19, 1891	Mar. 3, 1893
Stephen M. White (D)	Mar. 4, 1893	Mar. 3, 1899
Thomas R. Bard (R)	Feb. 7, 1900	Mar. 3, 1905
Frank P. Flint (R)	Mar. 4, 1905	Mar. 3, 1911
John D. Works (R)	Mar. 4, 1911	Mar. 3, 1917
Hiram W. Johnson (R) <sup>7</sup>	Apr. 2, 1917	Aug. 6, 1945
William F. Knowland (R) <sup>8</sup>	Aug. 26, 1945	Jan. 2, 1959
Clair Engle (D) <sup>9</sup>	Jan. 3, 1959	July 30, 1964
Pierre Salinger (D) <sup>10</sup>	Aug. 4, 1964	Dec. 31, 1964
George Murphy (R)	Jan. 1, 1965	Jan. 2, 1971
John V. Tunney (D)	Jan. 2, 1971	Jan. 1977
S. I. Hayakawa (R)	Jan. 1977	Jan. 1983
Pete Wilson (R) <sup>11</sup>	Jan. 1983	Jan. 6, 1991
John Seymour (R) <sup>12</sup>	Jan. 8, 1991	Nov. 5, 1992
Dianne Feinstein (D)	Nov. 6, 1992	

<sup>1</sup>Died Sept. 16, 1859

<sup>2</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy

<sup>3</sup>Resigned Nov. 29, 1873

<sup>4</sup>Died March 8, 1886

<sup>5</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy

<sup>6</sup>Died Feb. 28, 1891

<sup>7</sup>Died Aug. 6, 1945

<sup>8</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy. Subsequently elected.

<sup>9</sup>Died July 30, 1964

<sup>10</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy

<sup>11</sup>Resigned Jan. 6, 1991 - elected Governor

<sup>12</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy

## UNITED STATES SENATE (cont.)

<u>Class 3</u>	<u>Took Office</u>	<u>Left Office</u>
William M. Gwin (D)	Sept. 9, 1850	Mar. 3, 1855
William M. Gwin (D) <sup>1</sup>	Jan. 13, 1857	Mar. 3, 1861
James A. McDougall (D)	Mar. 4, 1861	Mar. 3, 1867
Cornelius Cole (R)	Mar. 4, 1867	Mar. 3, 1873
Aaron A. Sargent (R)	Mar. 4, 1873	Mar. 3, 1879
James T. Farley (D)	Mar. 4, 1879	Mar. 3, 1885
Leland Stanford (R) <sup>2</sup>	Mar. 4, 1885	June 21, 1893
George C. Perkins (R) <sup>3</sup>	July 26, 1893	Mar. 3, 1915
James D. Phelan (D)	Mar. 4, 1915	Mar. 3, 1921
Samuel M. Shortridge (R)	Mar. 4, 1921	Mar. 3, 1933
William Gibbs McAdoo (D) <sup>4</sup>	Mar. 4, 1933	Nov. 8, 1938
Thomas M. Storke (D) <sup>5</sup>	Nov. 9, 1938	Jan. 2, 1939
Sheridan Downey (D) <sup>6</sup>	Jan. 3, 1939	Nov. 30, 1950
Richard M. Nixon (R) <sup>7</sup>	Dec. 4, 1950	Jan. 1, 1953
Thomas H. Kuchel (R) <sup>8</sup>	Jan. 2, 1953	Jan. 2, 1969
Alan Cranston (D)	Jan. 3, 1969	Jan. 2, 1993
Barbara Boxer (D)	Jan. 3, 1993	

<sup>1</sup>Vacancy from 3/4/55 to 1/12/57 - Legislature failed to elect.

<sup>2</sup>Died June 21, 1893

<sup>3</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy. Subsequently elected.

<sup>4</sup>Resigned Nov. 8, 1938

<sup>5</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy

<sup>6</sup>Resigned Nov. 30, 1950

<sup>7</sup>Resigned Jan. 1, 1953 - elected Vice President

<sup>8</sup>Appointed by Governor to fill vacancy. Subsequently elected.

## APPOINTED SENATORS

<u>Class 1</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Left Office</u>
Henry P. Haun (D)	Nov. 3, 1859	Mar. 4, 1860
George Hearst (D)	Mar. 23, 1886	Aug. 4, 1886
William F. Knowland (R) *	Aug. 26, 1945	Jan. 2, 1959
Pierre Salinger (D)	Aug. 4, 1964	Dec. 31, 1964
John Seymour (R)	Jan. 8, 1991	Nov. 5, 1992

<u>Class 3</u>		
George C. Perkins (R) *	July 26, 1893	Mar. 3, 1915
Thomas M. Storke (D)	Nov. 9, 1938	Jan. 2, 1939
Thomas H. Kuchel (R) *	Jan. 2, 1953	Jan. 2, 1969

### Longest/Shortest Tenure - Class 1

Hiram Johnson (R) - 28 years, 4 months, 4 days	(4/2/17 - 8/6/45)
Pierre Salinger (D) - 4 months, 27 days	(8/4/64 - 12/31/64)

### Longest/Shortest Tenure - Class 3

Alan Cranston (D) - 24 years, 11 months, 30 days	(1/2/69 - 1/3/93)
Thomas M. Storke (D) - 1 month, 24 days	(11/9/38 - 1/2/39)

\*Subsequently elected to same seat

## **STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES (PROPOSITIONS)**

Statewide ballot measures (propositions) reach the ballot in a number of different ways. They are:

### **Legislative Constitutional Amendment (LCA)**

An LCA is an amendment to the state constitution proposed by the Legislature. It must be adopted in each house of the Legislature by a two-thirds vote of the membership; it does not require the Governor's signature to be placed on the ballot. Once it has been adopted by the Legislature and chaptered by the Secretary of State, the measure is placed on the next statewide ballot that occurs at least 131 days from the date of chaptering.

### **Legislative Bond Measure**

Any bill calling for the issuance of general obligation bonds must be adopted in each house of the Legislature by a two-thirds vote of the membership, and signed by the Governor (or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature). It is subject to the 131-day qualification deadline.

### **Initiative**

The initiative allows citizens to propose statutes, amendments to the state constitution or general obligation bond measures for voter approval or rejection. An initiative statute requires the signatures of registered voters equal in number to 5% of the votes cast for all candidates for governor in the last election to qualify for the ballot; an initiative constitutional amendment requires signatures equaling 8% of the gubernatorial vote. Initiatives are also subject to the 131-day qualification deadline. Any measure that qualifies after that deadline is placed on the next ensuing statewide ballot.

### **Referendum**

The referendum gives citizens the ability to approve or reject statutes adopted by the Legislature, except those that are urgency, that call for elections, or that provide for tax levies/appropriations for usual current expenses of the state. Citizens wishing to block implementation of a legislatively adopted statute must gather, within 90 days of enactment of the bill, signatures equal in number to at least 5% of the votes cast for all candidates for governor in the last gubernatorial election. A qualified referendum is placed on the ballot at a statewide election that occurs at least 31 days after the measure qualifies, or at a special election called by the Governor. The Legislature may amend or repeal referendum statutes.

### **Initiative Amendment**

Unless an initiative specifically allows for legislative amendment of its provisions, the Legislature must submit any legislatively proposed amendment to a vote of the people. A legislative initiative amendment requires only a majority vote of each house, unless otherwise specified in the initiative, and must be signed by the Governor or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature. The 131-day qualification deadline applies. An initiative amendment may also be proposed by another initiative.

## **ALL STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES REQUIRE A SIMPLE MAJORITY FOR PASSAGE, MEANING A MAJORITY OF THE VOTES CAST.**

Statewide ballot measures are numbered consecutively in ten-year cycles; the current cycle began with the eleven measures on the November 1998 general election ballot.