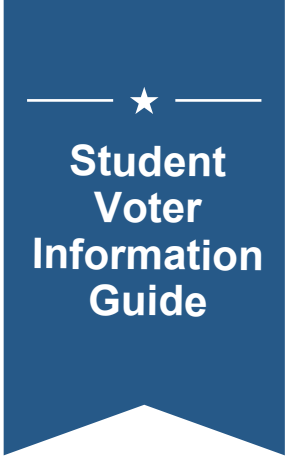





CALIFORNIA
**STUDENT
MOCK
ELECTION**
— TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2024 —



The California Student Mock Election is jointly sponsored by the California Secretary of State and the California Superintendent of Public Instruction.

VOTER BILL OF RIGHTS

YOU HAVE THE FOLLOWING RIGHTS:

- 1** **The right to vote if you are a registered voter.** You are eligible to vote if you are:
 - a U.S. citizen living in California
 - at least 18 years old
 - registered where you currently live
 - not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony, and
 - not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court
- 2** **The right to vote if you are a registered voter even if your name is not on the list.** You will vote using a provisional ballot. Your vote will be counted if elections officials determine that you are eligible to vote.
- 3** **The right to vote if you are still in line when the polls close.**
- 4** **The right to cast a secret ballot** without anyone bothering you or telling you how to vote.
- 5** **The right to get a new ballot if you have made a mistake,** if you have not already cast your ballot. You can:
 - Ask an elections official at a polling place** for a new ballot,
 - Exchange your vote-by-mail ballot** for a new one at an elections office, or at your polling place, or
 - Vote using a provisional ballot.**
- 6** **The right to get help casting your ballot** from anyone you choose, except from your employer or union representative.
- 7** **The right to drop off your completed vote-by-mail ballot at any polling place** in California.
- 8** **The right to get election materials in a language other than English** if enough people in your voting precinct speak that language.
- 9** **The right to ask questions to elections officials about election procedures** and watch the election process. If the person you ask cannot answer your questions, they must send you to the right person for an answer. If you are disruptive, they can stop answering you.
- 10** **The right to report any illegal or fraudulent election activity** to an elections official or the Secretary of State's office.
 -  On the web at www.sos.ca.gov
 -  By phone at **(800) 345-VOTE (8683)**
 -  By email at elections@sos.ca.gov

**IF YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE BEEN DENIED ANY OF THESE RIGHTS, CALL THE SECRETARY OF STATE'S
CONFIDENTIAL TOLL-FREE VOTER HOTLINE AT (800) 345-VOTE (8683).**

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United States Presidential Candidates

United States presidential candidate statements can be found online at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

★ **STUDENT MOCK ELECTION VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE STATEMENT** ★

The contents of this guide were obtained from the November 5, General Election state Voter Information Guide. The information included in this guide is non-partisan. ★

Arguments printed in this guide are the opinions of the authors and have not been checked for accuracy by any official agency. The views and opinions of the candidates are their own and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of the Secretary of State's Office. ★

Tabulating and Reporting Mock Election Results

October 8 is Student Mock Election Day

Please enter your school's results once voting is complete and you have tallied your school's votes.

Enter your results:

sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection/

View statewide mock election results:

sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection/mock-election-results/

Although most schools will vote and report their results on October 8, you may begin voting and report your results as early as October 1. Results will be posted on the Student Mock Election website beginning at 5:00 p.m. on October 8, and final results will be announced on October 11.

Pre-register at Sixteen. Vote at Eighteen.

What is Pre-registration?

If you are 16 or 17 years old and meet all other voter eligibility requirements, you can pre-register to vote at registertovote.ca.gov.

Pre-registration is available for eligible 16- and 17-year-olds at registertovote.ca.gov or via the paper voter registration form. California youth who re-register to vote will have their registration become active once they turn 18 years old. Visit registertovote.ca.gov for a complete list of the registration requirements.

Pre-register in 2 easy steps:

1. Visit RegisterToVote.ca.gov
2. Click the "Pre-register to Vote" button

You are automatically registered on your 18th birthday.

What if I would like to make changes to information such as my address or political party preference before I turn 18?

Update your information by re-registering (or pre-registering) to vote online at registertovote.ca.gov. Voter registration applications are also available at your local county elections office, local Department of Motor Vehicles field office, and other public locations.

Voter Registration

To register or update your existing voter registration, visit the Secretary of State's website at: RegisterToVote.ca.gov



QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 2 AUTHORIZES BONDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACILITIES. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.

PROP 3 CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO MARRIAGE. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by the Legislature*

Authorizes \$10 billion in general obligation bonds for repair, upgrade, and construction of facilities at K–12 public schools (including charter schools), community colleges, and career technical education programs, including for improvement of health and safety conditions and classroom upgrades. Requires annual audits. **Fiscal Impact:** Increased state costs of about \$500 million annually for 35 years to repay the bond. **Supporters:** California Teachers Association; California School Nurses Organization; Community College League of California **Opponents:** Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: The state could borrow \$10 billion to build new or renovate existing public school and community college facilities.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: The state could not borrow \$10 billion to build new or renovate existing public school and community college facilities.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Many schools and community colleges are outdated and need basic health and safety repairs and upgrades to prepare students for college and careers and to retain and attract quality teachers. Prop. 2 meets those needs and requires strict taxpayer accountability so funds are spent as promised with local control.

CON Proposition 2 will increase our bond obligations by \$10 billion, which will cost taxpayers an estimated \$18 billion when repaid with interest. A bond works like a government credit card—paying off that credit card requires the government to spend more of your tax dollars! *Vote NO on Prop. 2.*

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
Yes on Proposition 2—
Californians for Quality
Schools
info@californiansforqualityschools2024.com
www.californiansforqualityschools2024.com

AGAINST
Assemblyman Bill Essayli
California State Legislature
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0063
(916) 319-2063
Assemblymember.Essayli@assembly.ca.gov
<https://ad63.asmrc.org/>

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by the Legislature*

Amends California Constitution to recognize fundamental right to marry, regardless of sex or race. Removes language in California Constitution stating that marriage is only between a man and a woman. **Fiscal Impact:** No change in revenues or costs for state and local governments. **Supporters:** Sierra Pacific Synod of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Dolores Huerta Foundation; Equality California **Opponents:** Jonathan Keller, California Family Council; Rev. Tanner DiBella

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Language in the California Constitution would be updated to match who currently can marry. There would be no change in who can marry.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Language in the California Constitution would not be changed. There would be no change in who can marry.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Proposition 3 protects Californians' freedom to marry, regardless of their race or gender. Proposition 3 removes discriminatory language from the California Constitution stating marriage is only between a man and a woman. Proposition 3 reinforces California's commitment to civil rights and protects personal freedom. *Vote YES!*
YesonProp3CA.com

CON Proposition 3 removes all rules for marriage, opening the door to child marriages, incest, and polygamy. It changes California's constitution even though same-sex marriage is already legal. By making moms and dads optional, it puts children at risk. This careless measure harms families and society. *Vote No on Proposition 3.*

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
YES ON PROPOSITION 3,
SPONSORED BY EQUALITY
CALIFORNIA
info@yesonprop3ca.com
YesonProp3CA.com

AGAINST
Jonathan Keller
California Family Council
P.O. Box 7937
Fresno, CA 93747
(866) 866-7993
Proposition3@CaliforniaFamily.org
<https://CaliforniaFamily.org/Proposition3>

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 4 AUTHORIZES BONDS FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, AND PROTECTING COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL LANDS FROM CLIMATE RISKS. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.

PROP 5 ALLOWS LOCAL BONDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE WITH 55% VOTER APPROVAL. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by the Legislature*

Authorizes \$10 billion in general obligation bonds for water, wildfire prevention, and protection of communities and lands. Requires annual audits. **Fiscal Impact:** Increased state costs of about \$400 million annually for 40 years to repay the bond. **Supporters:** Clean Water Action; CALFIRE Firefighters; National Wildlife Federation; The Nature Conservancy **Opponents:** Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: The state could borrow \$10 billion to fund various activities aimed at conserving natural resources, as well as responding to the causes and effects of climate change.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: The state could not borrow \$10 billion to fund various activities aimed at conserving natural resources, as well as responding to the causes and effects of climate change.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Yes on 4 for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, clean air, and protection of natural resources. California firefighters, conservation groups, clean water advocates urge YES. Accountable, fiscally responsible, with independent audits, strict transparency. Proactive approach saves money and prevents the worst impacts of devastating wildfires, smoke, droughts, and pollution.

CON Bonds are the most expensive way to fund government spending. *Water and wildfire mitigation are necessities, not luxuries.* They should be *budgeted* for, not *bonded*. Mismanagement led to this crisis. This \$10 billion bond will cost taxpayers almost \$2 to repay for every dollar spent. Vote NO on Prop. 4.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR Californians for Safe Drinking Water and Wildfire Prevention, Sponsored by Environmental Organizations
555 Capitol Mall, Suite 400
Sacramento, CA 95814
Info@CAYeson4.com
CaYeson4.com

AGAINST hjta.org/hjta-ballot-measure-recommendations

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by the Legislature*

Allows approval of local infrastructure and housing bonds for low- and middle-income Californians with 55% vote. Accountability requirements. **Fiscal Impact:** Increased local borrowing to fund affordable housing, supportive housing, and public infrastructure. The amount would depend on decisions by local governments and voters. Borrowing would be repaid with higher property taxes. **Supporters:** California Professional Firefighters; League of Women Voters of California; Habitat for Humanity California **Opponents:** California Taxpayers Association; California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce; Women Veterans Alliance

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Certain local bonds and related property taxes could be approved with a 55 percent vote of the local electorate, rather than the current two-thirds approval requirement. These bonds would have to fund affordable housing, supportive housing, or public infrastructure.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Certain local bonds and related property taxes would continue to need approval by a two-thirds vote of the local electorate.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Prop. 5 shifts local spending priorities away from state government, giving local voters and taxpayers the choice and the tools to address the challenges facing their communities. Whether it's housing affordability, safer streets, more fire stations, or other community-driven projects, Prop. 5 empowers local voters to solve local problems. Vote YES.

CON Prop. 5 changes the constitution to make it easier to increase bond debt, leading to higher property taxes. Prop. 5 shifts the financial burden from the state to local communities, increasing costs for homeowners, renters, and consumers. Politicians wrote loopholes in Prop. 5 so "infrastructure" can mean just about anything.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR Yes on Prop. 5
www.YesOnProp5.org

AGAINST Protect Local Taxpayers
info@VoteNoProp5.com
VoteNoProp5.com

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 6 ELIMINATES CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION ALLOWING INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

PROP 32 RAISES MINIMUM WAGE. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by the Legislature*

Amends the California Constitution to remove current provision that allows jails and prisons to impose involuntary servitude to punish crime (i.e., forcing incarcerated persons to work). **Fiscal Impact:** Potential increase or decrease in state and local costs, depending on how work for people in state prison and county jail changes. Any effect likely would not exceed the tens of millions of dollars annually. **Supporters:** Assemblymember Lori Wilson **Opponents:** None submitted

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Involuntary servitude would not be allowed as punishment for crime. State prisons would not be allowed to discipline people in prison who refuse to work.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Involuntary servitude would continue to be allowed as punishment for crime.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Proposition 6 ends slavery in California and upholds human rights and dignity for everyone. It replaces carceral involuntary servitude with voluntary work programs, has bipartisan support, and aligns with national efforts to reform the 13th Amendment. It will prioritize rehabilitation, lower recidivism, and improve public safety, resulting in taxpayer savings.

CON No argument against Proposition 6 was submitted.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Esteban Nunez
Anti-Recidivism Coalition
1320 E. 7th Street, Suite 260
Los Angeles, CA 90021
(323) 830-0177
enunez@antirecidivism.org
antirecidivism.org

AGAINST

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures*

Raises minimum wage as follows: For employers with 26 or more employees, to \$17 immediately, \$18 on January 1, 2025. For employers with 25 or fewer employees, to \$17 on January 1, 2025, \$18 on January 1, 2026. **Fiscal Impact:** State and local government costs could increase or decrease by up to hundreds of millions of dollars annually. State and local revenues likely would decrease by no more than a few hundred million dollars annually. **Supporters:** None submitted **Opponents:** California Chamber of Commerce; California Restaurant Association; California Grocers Association

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: The state minimum wage would be \$18 per hour in 2026. After that, it would go up each year based on how fast prices are going up.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: The state minimum wage likely would be about \$17 per hour in 2026. After that, it would go up each year based on how fast prices are going up.

ARGUMENTS

PRO YES on Proposition 32 raises the minimum wage to \$18 so more SERVICE, ESSENTIAL, AND OTHER WORKERS, and SINGLE MOMS can AFFORD the state's COST OF LIVING. CORPORATE PROFIT MARGINS INCREASED 100% since 2000 because CORPORATIONS SPIKED the PRICES OF GOODS. YES on PROP. 32 so workers can afford life's basic needs.

CON Prop. 32 was written by one multimillionaire alone, and he wrote a horribly flawed measure. Prop. 32 increases the cost of living, eliminates jobs, makes our state and local government budget deficits worse, and makes California's complex minimum wage laws even harder for businesses and workers to understand. No on 32!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

livingwageact.com

AGAINST

Californians Against Job Losses and Higher Prices, No on Prop. 32
info@stopprop32.com
StopProp32.com

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 33 EXPANDS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' AUTHORITY TO ENACT RENT CONTROL ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

PROP 34 RESTRICTS SPENDING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG REVENUES BY CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures*

Repeals Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995, which currently prohibits local ordinances limiting initial residential rental rates for new tenants or rent increases for existing tenants in certain residential properties. **Fiscal Impact:** Reduction in local property tax revenues of at least tens of millions of dollars annually due to likely expansion of rent control in some communities. **Supporters:** CA Nurses Assoc.; CA Alliance for Retired Americans; Mental Health Advocacy; Coalition for Economic Survival; TenantsTogether **Opponents:** California Council for Affordable Housing; Women Veterans Alliance; California Chamber of Commerce

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: State law *would not* limit the kinds of rent control laws cities and counties could have.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: State law *would continue to* limit the kinds of rent control laws cities and counties could have.

ARGUMENTS

PRO The rent is too damn high. One million people have left California. Rent control in America has worked to keep people in their homes since 1919. California's 17 million renters need relief. Homeowners and taxpayers benefit from stable communities. The California dream is dying. You can help save it.

CON Don't be fooled by the latest corporate landlord anti-housing scheme. California voters have rejected this radical proposal twice before, because it would freeze the construction of new housing and could effectively reverse dozens of new state housing laws. Vote No on 33 to protect new affordable housing and California homeowners.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
Susie Shannon
Renters and Homeowners for Rent Control Yes on 33,
Sponsored by AIDS
Healthcare Foundation
1250 6th Street, Suite 205
Santa Monica, CA 90401
(310) 576-1233
info@prop33.org
www.yeson33.org

AGAINST
No on Prop. 33, Californians for Responsible Housing
2350 Kerner Blvd. #250
San Rafael, CA 94901
(916) 292-8100
info@californiansforresponsiblehousing.org
NoOnProp33.com

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures*

Requires certain providers to spend 98% of revenues from federal discount prescription drug program on direct patient care. Authorizes statewide negotiation of Medi-Cal drug prices. **Fiscal Impact:** Increased state costs, likely in the millions of dollars annually, to enforce new rules on certain health care entities. Affected entities would pay fees to cover these costs. **Supporters:** The ALS Association; California Chronic Care Coalition; Latino Heritage Los Angeles **Opponents:** National Org. for Women; Consumer Watchdog; Coalition for Economic Survival; AIDS Healthcare Foundation; Dolores Huerta

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Certain health care entities would have to follow new rules about how they spend revenue they earn from a federal drug discount program. Breaking these rules would result in penalties (such as not being able to operate as a health care entity), generally for a ten-year period.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: These new rules would not go into effect.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Proposition 34 will protect patients and ensure public healthcare dollars actually go to patients who need it. Prop. 34 will close a loophole that allows corporations to spend this money on things like buying stadium naming rights and multi-million dollar CEO salaries. Protect Patients Now. Vote Yes on Proposition 34.

CON Prop. 34—The Revenge Initiative. California Apartment Association, representing billionaire corporate landlords, doesn't care about patients. Their sole purpose is silencing AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the sponsor of the rent control initiative. 34 weaponizes the ballot, is a threat to democracy, and opens the door to attacks on any non-profit.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
YES on 34, Protect Patients Now: A Coalition of Women, Veterans, LGBTQ+ Advocates, and Patient Groups
2350 Kerner Blvd. #250
San Rafael, CA 94901
(916) 447-7881
info@protectcapatientsnow.com
YesOnProp34.com

AGAINST
Susie Shannon
Stop the Revenge Initiative—
No on 34, sponsored by AIDS
Healthcare Foundation
1250 6th Street, Suite 205
Santa Monica, CA 90405
(310) 576-1233
info@voteno34.org
www.voteno34.org

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 35 PROVIDES PERMANENT FUNDING FOR MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

PROP 36 ALLOWS FELONY CHARGES AND INCREASES SENTENCES FOR CERTAIN DRUG AND THEFT CRIMES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures*

Makes permanent the existing tax on managed health care insurance plans, which, if approved by the federal government, provides revenues to pay for Medi-Cal health care services. **Fiscal Impact:** Short-term state costs between roughly \$1 billion and \$2 billion annually to increase funding for certain health programs. Total funding increase between roughly \$2 billion to \$5 billion annually. Unknown long-term fiscal effects. **Supporters:** Planned Parenthood Affiliates of CA; American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists; American Academy of Pediatrics, CA **Opponents:** None submitted

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: An existing state tax on health plans that provides funding for certain health programs would become permanent. New rules would direct how the state must use the revenue.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: An existing state tax on health plans would end in 2027, unless the Legislature continues it. The new rules would not become law.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Yes on 35 addresses our urgent healthcare crisis by securing dedicated funding—*without raising taxes*—to protect access to primary and specialty care, community clinics, hospitals, ERs, family planning, and mental health providers. Prop. 35 prevents the state from redirecting funds for non-healthcare purposes. Supported by Planned Parenthood, pediatricians, California Medical Association.
www.VoteYes35.com

CON No argument against Proposition 35 was submitted.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR Yes on 35—Protect Our Health Care
2350 Kerner Blvd. #250
San Rafael, CA 94901
(916) 238-8310
info@VoteYes35.com
VoteYes35.com

AGAINST

SUMMARY *Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures*

Allows felony charges for possessing certain drugs and for thefts under \$950, if defendant has two prior drug or theft convictions. **Fiscal Impact:** State criminal justice costs likely ranging from several tens of millions of dollars to the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Local criminal justice costs likely in the tens of millions of dollars annually. **Supporters:** Crime Victims United of California; California District Attorneys Association; Family Business Association of California **Opponents:** Diana Becton, District Attorney Contra Costa County; Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: People convicted of certain drug or theft crimes could receive increased punishment, such as longer prison sentences. In certain cases, people who possess illegal drugs would be required to complete treatment or serve up to three years in prison.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Punishment for drug and theft crimes would remain the same.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Prop. 36 makes California communities safer by addressing rampant theft and drug trafficking. It toughens penalties for fentanyl and drug traffickers and “smash-and-grabs” while holding repeat offenders accountable. It targets serial thieves and encourages treatment for those addicted to drugs, using a balanced approach to fix loopholes in current laws.

CON Don't be fooled. Proposition 36 will lead to more crime, not less. It reignites the failed war on drugs, makes simple drug possession a felony, and wastes billions on prisons, while slashing crucial funding for victims, crime prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. This puts prisons first and guts treatment. Vote No.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR Californians for Safer Communities
info@VoteYesProp36.com
VoteYesProp36.com

AGAINST
Info@StopProp36.com
StopProp36.com

Pre-registration FAQs

Who can pre-register to vote?

You can pre-register to vote in California if you are 16 or 17 years old and meet the following requirements:

- A United States citizen and a resident of California,
- Not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony, and
- Not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.

How do I pre-register? Can I do it online?

To pre-register to vote you must complete a voter registration application online or on paper.

When you pre-register online, the system will search the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) database for your California driver license or identification card number, date of birth, and last four digits of your social security number. If your information is found and you authorize elections officials' use of your DMV signature, an electronic image of your DMV signature will be added to your voter pre-registration application after you click "submit" at the end of the online application. If there is no signature on file with DMV, all of your information will be transmitted to your county elections office; you will just need to click "print," sign the paper application, and mail it. You will be sent confirmation when your voter pre-registration application is approved or when more information is needed to confirm your eligibility.

You can also pick up a paper application at your county elections office, any DMV office, and many post offices, public libraries, and government offices. High schools are also provided with applications that are available to students. To request a paper application, call your county elections office or the Secretary of State's voter hotline at **(800) 345-VOTE**.

Can I pre-register to vote when I apply for a California driver license or identification card at DMV? Yes.

Voter pre-registration is available to all eligible 16- and 17-year-old Californians when applying for a driver license or identification card or changing their address with DMV. If you indicate that you are eligible to pre-register to vote during your DMV transaction and you do not opt out of voter registration, your voter information is transmitted securely and electronically to the California Secretary of State. Once your eligibility is determined and you turn 18 years old, you will automatically be registered to vote.

Do I need a California driver license or identification card to apply online?

All Californians who are eligible to pre-register to vote may fill out a voter registration application through the Secretary of State's website. If you do not have a California driver license or identification card number, but you enter your other information, the website will create a pre-filled voter registration application for you to print, sign, and mail. All of your information will be sent directly to your county elections office so that when your signed application arrives in the mail, the county elections staff will simply add your signature to your voter pre-registration record.

Are pre-registration voter registration applications available in languages other than English?

The California Secretary of State's online application is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Tagalog, Thai, and Vietnamese.

What happens after I pre-register to vote?

After you pre-register to vote you will receive a postcard notifying you that your application was received and processed.

What should I do if I have moved? Am I required to re-register?

Your voter pre-registration record should always reflect your current residence. If you move, you should update your pre-registration and note your change of address on the registration form. However, if you have only moved from your home temporarily, you can continue to use your permanent residence where you were pre-registered to vote.

What happens when I turn 18?

When you turn 18 years old, the county elections office will mail a postcard to you stating that your voter registration is now active. At the time of the next election, your county elections official will automatically mail your election related materials to your registered address. If your confirmation postcard is returned undeliverable, possibly because you have moved, the county elections office may inactivate your record until a new Voter Registration Application is submitted.

If I have problems pre-registering to vote or have additional questions who should I contact?

Call the Secretary of State's toll-free voter hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683) or contact your county elections office, which is where your voter registration record is maintained.

Top Contributors to State Candidates and Ballot Measures

When a committee (a person or group of people who receive or spend money for the purpose of influencing voters to support or oppose candidates or ballot measures) raises at least \$1 million, it must report its top 10 contributors to the California Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC). The committee must update the list when there is any change.

These lists are available on the FPPC website at:
fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html

To research campaign contributions for candidates or ballot measures, visit the Secretary of State's website at powersearch.sos.ca.gov.



Visit the Secretary of State's Website to:

- Research campaign contributions and lobbying activity
cal-access.sos.ca.gov OR powersearch.sos.ca.gov
- View this voter guide in other languages
voterguide.sos.ca.gov
- Check your registration status and registration information
voterstatus.sos.ca.gov
- Find your polling place or a vote center on Election Day
sos.ca.gov/elections/polling-place OR voterstatus.sos.ca.gov
- Get vote-by-mail ballot information
sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail
- Read helpful information for first-time voters
sos.ca.gov/elections/voting-resources/voting-california
- Watch live election results after polls close on Election Day
electionresults.sos.ca.gov

PROPOSITION **2** **AUTHORIZES BONDS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY COLLEGE FACILITIES. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.**

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 70 and the Secretary of State's website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Authorizes \$10 billion in state general obligation bonds for repair, upgrade, and construction of facilities at K–12 public schools (including charter schools) and community colleges.
- Provides funding for new facilities, to improve school health and safety conditions at existing facilities, and for classroom upgrades (e.g., science, engineering, transitional kindergarten, and vocational classrooms).
- Expands eligibility for financial hardship grants for small and disadvantaged school districts.
- Provides higher percentage of state matching funds to schools demonstrating greatest need.
- Requires public hearings and performance audits.
- Appropriates money from General Fund to repay bonds.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Increased state costs of about \$500 million annually for 35 years to repay the bond.

State Bond Cost Estimate

Amount borrowed	\$10 billion
Average repayment cost	\$500 million per year over 35 years
Source of repayment	General tax revenue

**FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON AB 247 (PROPOSITION 2)
(CHAPTER 81, STATUTES OF 2024)**

Senate:	Ayes 34	Noes 3
Assembly:	Ayes 72	Noes 1

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

California Has Many Public Schools and Community Colleges. Currently, there are about 10,000 public schools statewide (including about 1,300 charter schools). These schools serve elementary through high school students. Local school districts govern most of these public schools. California

also has 115 local community colleges that offer associate degrees and other programs for adults. Local community college districts govern these colleges. School and community college districts usually build new facilities when they are growing in enrollment and need additional space. They renovate existing facilities when those facilities are old or unsafe.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

State and Districts Usually Split Education Facility Costs. For public school districts, the state usually pays 50 percent of the cost of new construction projects and 60 percent of the cost of renovation projects. School districts are expected to pay remaining project costs using local funds. The state also often shares the cost of new construction and renovation projects with community college districts. Though the share of costs varies among projects, the state commonly pays about half of the cost, with community college districts paying the rest using local funds.

State Mainly Uses Bonds to Pay Its Share of Costs. Bonds are a way that the state borrows money and then repays the money plus interest over time. For more information about bonds, see “Overview of State Bond Debt” later in this guide. Over the past 20 years, the bulk of state facility funding for schools and community colleges has come from voter-approved bonds (a total of \$31.8 billion). Recently, the state provided an additional \$4.6 billion in other funding for school and community college facilities. Almost all of this funding has already been awarded for specific projects.

Districts Usually Pay Their Share of Costs Using Local Bonds. School and community college districts tend to pay

their share of project costs using local bonds. Districts must get at least 55 percent of their voters to approve the sale of local bonds. State law limits the total amount of local bonds that school and community college districts may issue. These limits are based on the total assessed property value within the district. School districts that are unable to raise at least \$5 million under these limits may apply for additional state funding. Over the past 20 years, voters approved \$181 billion in local bonds for public school and community college facility projects.

PROPOSAL

New Bond for Public School and Community College Facilities.

Proposition 2 allows the state to sell a \$10 billion bond for public school and community college facilities. As Figure 1 shows, the \$8.5 billion for public schools (or 85 percent of the total

Figure 1

Uses of Proposed Bond Funds

(In Billions)

Public School Facilities	\$8.5
Renovation of existing buildings	\$4.0
New construction (including buying land)	3.3
Facilities for career technical education programs	0.6
Charter schools	0.6
Community College Facilities	\$1.5
Total	\$10.0

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

bond amount) is split among four types of facility projects. For new construction and renovation projects, school districts would apply for and be awarded funding mainly on a first-come, first-served basis. The state would award the career technical education and charter school funds through a competitive application process. A small portion of new construction and renovation funds must be set aside for small school districts. Unlike for public schools, the \$1.5 billion for community colleges (or 15 percent of the total bond amount) is not split in a prescribed way among specific types of projects. Community college bond funds may be used for any mix of new buildings, renovations, land purchases, and equipment. Community colleges would prepare a plan listing their statewide project priorities. The Governor and the Legislature would select specific projects to fund. Proposition 2 requires districts to complete certain tasks to help ensure bond funds are spent as intended.

Some Renovation Funding Available for Certain Types of School Projects. Proposition 2 allows up to \$115 million in renovation funds to be used for reducing lead levels in water at public school sites. Proposition 2 also allows school districts to receive extra renovation funding to build a new classroom or renovate an existing classroom that would be used for transitional kindergarten. (Beginning with the 2025–26 school year, all four-year olds will be eligible for

a year of transitional kindergarten before entering kindergarten.) In certain cases, school districts also could receive extra renovation funding to expand or build a new gymnasium, multipurpose room, library, or school kitchen.

Increases State Share of Costs for Certain School Districts. For some school districts, Proposition 2 increases the state’s share of new construction project costs from 50 percent to as much as 55 percent. Proposition 2 also increases the state’s share of renovation project costs from 60 percent to as much as 65 percent for these school districts. In general, the state would pay a higher share of project costs for school districts that have lower assessed property values and have a higher share of their students who are low income, English learners, or foster youth.

Allows More School Districts to Apply for Additional State Funding. Proposition 2 allows school districts that are unable to raise at least \$15 million from local bonds (up from \$5 million) to apply for additional state funding. This amount would increase by inflation in future years.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Increased State Costs of About \$500 Million Each Year for 35 Years to Repay the Bond. The estimated cost to repay the bond would be **about \$500 million each year (annually) over a 35-year period.** Payments would be made from the state General Fund. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

education, health care, and prisons.) This would be less than one-half of 1 percent of the state's total General Fund budget. Since the state has to pay interest on the money it borrows, the total cost of the bond would be about 10 percent more (after adjusting for inflation) than if the state paid up front with money it already has.

Unclear Effect on Local Costs Statewide.

The availability of state bond funds could affect some districts' local costs. For example, some districts could respond by seeking new local bonds to help them meet project matching requirements. These districts would see an increase in their local costs. In contrast, other

districts could respond by borrowing less because the state funds could pay costs districts otherwise would have covered. These districts would see a decrease in their local costs. Overall, the effect on local costs statewide is unclear.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 2 ★

VOTE YES ON PROP. 2 TO HELP MORE CALIFORNIA STUDENTS LEARN IN SAFE, CLEAN, UPGRADED SCHOOLS!

Many public schools and community colleges throughout California are outdated and need repairs and upgrades to meet basic health and safety standards, prepare students for college and 21st Century careers, and retain and attract quality teachers. Prop. 2 will meet those needs and is guided by strict taxpayer accountability protections so funds are spent as promised with local control.

REPAIRING AND UPGRADING CALIFORNIA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Many schools in California are old, deteriorating, unsafe and cannot support the basic needs of our children. Prop. 2 provides funding for urgent repairs to leaky roofs; deteriorating gas, electrical, and sewer lines; plumbing and restrooms; providing clean drinking water; removing hazardous mold, asbestos, and lead paint from our schools; and protecting students from extreme heat.

MAKING SCHOOLS SAFER

Too many of our local schools lack adequate safety and security protections. Prop. 2 will make students safer by funding door locks, emergency communications and security systems, fire alarms, smoke detectors, and more.

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR 21st CENTURY CAREERS

Prop. 2 will upgrade local schools and community colleges including science, engineering, career technical, and vocational education classrooms; labs; and learning technology. It will help more students get job training, technical knowledge, and specialized skills to compete for good-paying jobs in the competitive economy.

INCREASING ACCESS TO AN AFFORDABLE COLLEGE EDUCATION

Prop. 2 will increase access to quality, affordable higher education for all Californians—allowing more students to start their college education, earn college credits, and transfer to a four-year university without crushing debt.

HELPING RETURNING VETERANS

Prop. 2 helps local community colleges upgrade facilities to expand veteran services, job training, and support for the tens of thousands of California's returning veterans who rely on their local community college for job training and to complete their education and enter the civilian workforce.

RESTORING SCHOOLS AFFECTED BY WILDFIRES, EARTHQUAKES, AND OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS

Prop. 2 provides immediate assistance to schools that are damaged or destroyed by wildfires, floods, earthquakes, and other natural disasters so they can quickly get up and running.

PROTECTING LOCAL CONTROL OVER EVERY PROJECT

Prop. 2 protects local control by requiring that its funding only be used for projects approved by local school and community college districts, with local community input. All of the money will be controlled and spent locally, where taxpayers have a voice in deciding how these funds are best used to improve their neighborhood schools, without increasing local property taxes.

FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE WITH TOUGH TAXPAYER ACCOUNTABILITY

Prop. 2 requires public disclosure of every dollar, tough independent financial audits, and strict limits on administrative and bureaucratic costs. These protections ensure that funding is spent directly on schools and used efficiently and as promised.

Our schools are in desperate need of upgrades and repairs to ensure our students are safe and ready to learn. Prop. 2 will help our students succeed.

PLEASE JOIN US IN VOTING YES ON PROP. 2.

David Goldberg, President

California Teachers Association

Sheri Coburn, Executive Director

California School Nurses Organization

Larry Galizio, Chief Executive Officer

Community College League of California

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 2 ★

PROPOSITION 2 WILL INCREASE DEBT AND RESULT IN HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES

California already owes big banks and billionaire investors more than \$78 billion. Prop. 2 adds another \$10 billion—\$18 billion when repaid with interest—for school and community college districts. This is on top of the approximately 40% of the total state budget guaranteed to go to public education from Proposition 98.

Under the funding formula used in Prop. 2, school districts must provide a "local match" of funds to receive money from the bonds. That will lead to districts issuing new local school bonds, which are paid for by adding new charges to property tax bills.

PROP. 2 IGNORES DECLINING ENROLLMENT IN SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES

It's reckless to borrow billions more to pay for more school buildings when district enrollment is declining. According to

the state Department of Finance, "California experienced the 6th consecutive decrease in total Public K–12 Enrollment in the 2022–23 school year," and over the next ten years, if current trends hold, a further decline of 661,500 by 2032–33.

Prop. 2 borrows \$1.5 billion for California Community College facilities, but enrollment in the state's community colleges has declined since 2019. The Public Policy Institute of California projects that community college enrollment "will not recover to pre-pandemic levels."

While the promises made by proponents cannot be guaranteed, Prop. 2 does guarantee higher taxes for overburdened Californians.

VOTE NO ON PROP. 2.

Assemblyman Bill Essayli

Jon Coupal, President

Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 2 ★

NO ON PROPOSITION 2: Tell politicians to prioritize education funding over free healthcare for illegal immigrants in our state budget, rather than further burdening taxpayers to pay off Sacramento's ballooning bond debt.

Proposition 2 is yet another attempt to circumvent California's financial problems by asking taxpayers to approve a \$10 billion bond for education financing that should have been included in this year's \$288 billion budget package.

A budget is a reflection of priorities, and our State Legislature chose to prioritize over \$5 billion for universal illegal immigrant healthcare rather than providing funds to support and repair our school infrastructure. Billions in new bond debt is not the answer.

Prop. 2 Saddles Future Generations with Debt that Our Kids Will Be Paying Off for Decades

The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association points out that bonds are borrowed money that must be paid back, plus interest, even if that means cutting vital programs to do it. Governor Newsom recently declared a budget emergency because California spends more than it takes in. Children in school today will be drowning in new debt for decades if Prop. 2 passes.

Politicians want to borrow \$10 billion from Wall Street and make Californians pay it back with interest, forcing taxpayers to pay up to \$10 billion for debt service payments.

California Is Out of Money, Californians Are Over-taxed, Prop. 2 Will Make Things Worse

California, with rampant inflation and the highest gas and graduated income taxes in the nation, already has over \$109 billion of outstanding and unissued bonds alongside almost \$200 billion of unfunded pension liabilities and retiree medical benefits—over a quarter trillion dollars.

Californians will have to shoulder a greater increase in their tax burden paying off our bonds and related

interest payments. Our bond debt alone is already \$2,460 per person.

Sacramento politicians overspend, issue bonds, and punish us with tax hikes on our cars, gasoline, and income. And those tax dollars rarely go where politicians say they will—our roads crumble while billions go to High-Speed Rail.

Prop. 2 Is the Latest in a Long List of Broken Promises

In 2012, California voters approved Proposition 30's "temporary" increases to income and sales taxes. Then, Proposition 55 in 2016 extended many of those "temporary" taxes to 2028. Both times, teachers' unions promised billions in funding for our schools.

Money pits in the vast education bureaucracy will suck up most Prop. 2 funds without one cent going toward direct instruction in school classrooms. Instead, this money will be spent on wasteful construction projects benefiting special interests.

California's schools are consistently ranked near the lowest in the country. Rather than throwing nearly \$20 billion into school construction projects, our state needs a well thought out, long-term solution to achieve a high standard of excellence in reading, writing, and math. Prop. 2 does nothing to improve classroom instruction or help our children succeed.

Voters rejected Proposition 13, a \$15 billion school bond, in 2020 for exactly these reasons.

VOTE NO ON PROP. 2.

Assemblyman Bill Essayli

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 2 ★

Prop. 2 ensures that California students have the opportunity to learn in safe, updated schools while protecting taxpayers.

PROP. 2 IS NOT A TAX INCREASE

Prop. 2 will fund local upgrades and repairs to schools and community colleges without raising state or local taxes, despite what critics say. Some of the voices against Prop. 2 are ignorant about state bond financing and are making untrue claims because they simply want the state to cut funding for public education.

WE CAN'T WAIT ANY LONGER

Too many California students attend schools with leaky roofs, unsafe drinking water, mold, asbestos, lead paint, and lead pipes. There is a massive backlog of local school repairs but no state funding available for them. Prop. 2 provides the funding so our schools get the upgrades they desperately need, ensuring students have safe, healthy schools to support learning.

TOUGH ACCOUNTABILITY AND TAXPAYER PROTECTIONS

Prop. 2 puts local voters in control of how school bond

monies are spent. It requires public disclosure of all state and local spending, annual audits, and tough accounting standards. Additionally, it protects taxpayers from higher local property taxes by providing state matching funds to local communities so they do not need to raise even more money to fund the full cost of school repairs and upgrades. Prop. 2 is a bipartisan measure that will help more students get a quality education, increase access to an affordable college education, and improve job training opportunities for veterans and students.

Vote YES on Prop. 2.

Susan Dixon, State President
California Retired Teachers Association

Diana Limon, Director
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 11

Sheri Coburn, Executive Director
California School Nurses Organization

PROPOSITION **3** **CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO MARRIAGE.**
LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

3

The text of this measure can be found on page 75 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Amends California Constitution to recognize fundamental right to marry, regardless of sex or race.
- Removes language in California Constitution stating that marriage is only between a man and a woman.

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S
ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:**

- No change in revenues or costs for state and local governments.

FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON ACA 5 (PROPOSITION 3)
(CHAPTER 125, STATUTES OF 2023)

Senate:	Ayes 31	Noes 0
Assembly:	Ayes 67	Noes 0

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

The federal courts have said that same-sex couples can marry, but outdated language in the California Constitution still says that marriage can only be between a man and a woman.

PROPOSAL

Proposition 3 updates the Constitution to match what the federal courts have said about who can marry.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Proposition 3 would not change who is allowed to marry in California. This means there would be no change in revenues or costs to state and local governments.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 3 ★

3

VOTE YES on Proposition 3—*Protect Your Freedom to Marry!*

Proposition 3 protects every Californian’s right to marry—regardless of gender or race.

Proposition 3 would update our state constitution to align with existing law that allows marriage for same-sex couples, reflecting current court decisions and our values as Californians.

Proposition 3 is supported by a broad and bipartisan coalition of civic and faith leaders as well as civil rights leaders.

Why we need Proposition 3:

Although marriage equality for same-sex couples has been the law of the land in the United States for years, California’s Constitution still says that same-sex couples are not allowed to marry. Recent threats against fundamental rights have made it clear California must be proactive in protecting the freedom to marry regardless of gender or race.

Proposition 3 removes discriminatory language from the California Constitution that states marriage is only between a man and a woman and replaces it with a provision that establishes the right to marry as a fundamental right, enshrining protections for same-sex and interracial couples.

California has always been a leader in protecting civil rights and individual freedom. Proposition 3 continues that legacy.

The proposition respects the freedom of religion in California. It would not change the existing rights of clergy and religious denominations to refuse to perform a marriage.

Supporters of Proposition 3 urge you to vote YES:

“Proposition 3 protects the right of every Californian, regardless of gender or race, to marry the person they love.”—Equality California

“As a faith leader, I support Proposition 3 because it protects the right to marry while respecting faith communities’ First Amendment rights.”—The Rev. Jeff R. Johnson, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America’s Sierra Pacific Synod

“This ballot measure comes at a pivotal moment when the U.S. Supreme Court has made clear its willingness to revoke hard-won rights, endangering the freedoms of millions of Californians.”—American Civil Liberties Union of Northern California

“Although marriage equality for same-sex couples has been the law of the land in the United States for years, California’s Constitution still says that same-sex couples are not allowed to marry. Let’s fix it by voting YES on Proposition 3. Honoring the fundamental rights of all people and fighting discrimination wherever it exists is a California value. Prop. 3 helps further California’s commitment to protecting civil rights for all its residents.”—Dolores Huerta, President, Dolores Huerta Foundation

YES on Proposition 3 means FREEDOM and EQUAL RIGHTS for all.

Learn more at: yesonprop3CA.com

Assemblymember Evan Low

Tony Hoang, Executive Director
Equality California

Jodi Hicks, CEO
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 3 ★

The authors of Proposition 3 claim it’s about the “freedom to marry,” but that’s not true. This extreme amendment goes TOO FAR and puts vulnerable people at risk. It’s not just about updating our state laws. This measure takes away essential safeguards that protect marriage and children.

Supporters say we need Prop. 3 due to “discrimination.” But same-sex marriage has been legal since 2015, and no one is trying to change that: not the Supreme Court nor anyone else. There is simply NO REASON to pass this dangerous measure.

Proposition 3 removes ALL protections on marriage, including limits on children, close relatives, and three or more people marrying each other. All civilized societies prohibit these things because they HURT PEOPLE. That’s why the unclear wording of Prop. 3 will cause huge problems.

Backers claim to care about civil rights and fairness. However, Proposition 3 puts what adults want ahead

of what children need. By saying mothers and fathers aren’t necessary, it IGNORES years of studies and basic common sense affirming that kids do best when raised by both parents in a stable home.

California can support equal rights without this risky and unnecessary measure. Proposition 3 THREATENS our shared values of healthy families, healthy children, and a healthy society. It’s not about equality; it’s about radically changing marriage and family.

Let’s protect our kids, families, and communities. Vote NO on Proposition 3!

Learn more at www.Proposition3.net or www.CaliforniaFamily.org.

Jonathan Keller, President
California Family Council

Rev. Tanner DiBella, Founder
The American Council of Evangelicals

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 3 ★

Californians should vote NO on Proposition 3, the so-called “Freedom to Marry” initiative. Supporters say it updates our constitution to match current laws, but it actually changes the definition of marriage in DANGEROUS and unexpected ways.

The big problem with Proposition 3 is that it overrides all laws on marriage. A “fundamental right” to marry means it would remove protections against child marriages, incest, and polygamy. Is this what we want for California? The unclear wording of Prop. 3 would lead to SERIOUS PROBLEMS that harm our society.

You may hear we need this measure to protect against possible Supreme Court decisions. But same-sex marriage has been legal across the country since 2015. Proposition 3 is fixing a problem that doesn't exist and is instead causing HARM.

Some supporters say “extremist politicians” could threaten marriage rights. But it is the backers of Proposition 3 who are EXTREME by wanting to remove all marriage guidelines. Sadly, all the talk about “equality” hides the RADICAL changes behind this proposal.

Current laws and court decisions already protect the right to marry, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, race, or ethnicity. These laws also protect children, prevent exploitation, and keep marriage as a union between two consenting adults. But Proposition 3 would REMOVE these defenses.

Instead of protecting civil rights in California, this measure risks the civil rights of children. It even opens the door to polygamy—marriage between more than two people. This would only exploit vulnerable women and children. Is this the kind of “EQUALITY” we want in our state?

By changing the definition of marriage, this measure also suggests that children don't need both a mom and a dad.

This goes against years of research showing that kids do best when raised by their mother and father in a stable, married home.

Children without a mother or father are more likely to have emotional issues, take part in risky behaviors, struggle in school, and face financial problems.

Proposition 3 INCREASES RISKS to kids' emotions, physical health, and education.

California is a leader in diversity and acceptance. But TRUE PROGRESS doesn't mean getting rid of all rules and protections. We should update our laws carefully while keeping necessary safeguards.

Instead of rushing to redefine marriage in ways that EXCLUDE a child's mother or father, we should insist that all adults conform to the needs of children. Proposition 3 FAILS this test badly.

Don't be tricked by talk of “love” and “acceptance.” Proposition 3 is a RECKLESS and unneeded measure that would hurt our state. It removes important protections for marriage while pretending to expand rights.

Californians deserve better than this poorly written and HARMFUL proposition. We can protect marriage and civil rights without allowing child brides, incest, and polygamy. Vote NO on Proposition 3 to keep common-sense marriage rules and protect our children, families, and society.

For more information, visit www.Proposition3.net or www.CaliforniaFamily.org.

Jonathan Keller, President
California Family Council

Tanner DiBella, President
The American Council for Evangelicals

3

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 3 ★

Proposition 3's opponents are wrong. Here are the facts: Proposition 3 PROTECTS the right of Californians to marry, regardless of gender or race.

Proposition 3 DOES NOT change California's laws regarding age requirements for marriage or the number of people in a marriage.

Aaron Tang, a constitutional law expert at the University of California, Davis, notes, “Proposition 3 removes outdated language in the California Constitution prohibiting marriage between same-sex couples.”

For decades, Proposition 3's opponents have sought to deny marriage rights to same-sex couples. They want to keep discriminatory language in the state constitution. That is why they oppose Proposition 3.

FAITH LEADERS & CIVIL RIGHTS GROUPS SUPPORT YES ON 3

The vast majority of Californians believe that every Californian, regardless of gender or race, should have

the right to marry the person they love. That's why Proposition 3 is supported by a broad and bipartisan coalition of faith leaders, civil rights advocates, and family-centered organizations.

California has always been a leader in protecting civil rights and individual freedom. Proposition 3 continues that legacy.

Learn more at yesonprop3CA.com.

VOTE YES ON PROPOSITION 3—PROTECT YOUR FREEDOM TO MARRY

Senator Scott Wiener

Mia Kirby, Senior Regional Organizing Lead
Human Rights Campaign

Maria Roman, Vice President
TransLatin@ Coalition

PROPOSITION **4** **AUTHORIZES BONDS FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, AND PROTECTING COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL LANDS FROM CLIMATE RISKS. LEGISLATIVE STATUTE.**

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 75 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

4

- Authorizes \$10 billion in state general obligation bonds for various projects to reduce climate risks and impacts: \$3.8 billion for safe drinking water and water resilience; \$1.95 billion for wildfire prevention and extreme heat mitigation; \$1.9 billion for protection of natural lands, parks, and wildlife; \$1.2 billion for protection of coastal lands, bays, and oceans; \$850 million for clean energy; and \$300 million for agriculture.
- Prioritizes projects benefitting disadvantaged communities.
- Requires annual audits.
- Appropriates money from General Fund to repay bonds.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Increased state costs of about \$400 million annually for 40 years to repay the bond.

State Bond Cost Estimate	
Amount borrowed	\$10 billion
Average repayment cost	\$400 million per year over 40 years
Source of repayment	General tax revenue

FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON SB 867 (PROPOSITION 4)
(CHAPTER 83, STATUTES OF 2024)

Senate:	Ayes 33	Noes 6
Assembly:	Ayes 66	Noes 6

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

State Pays for Natural Resources and Climate Activities. The state pays for many activities aimed at conserving natural resources, as well as responding to the causes and effects of climate change (“natural resources and climate activities”). These activities focus on increasing the amount of water available for use, conserving land to benefit fish and wildlife, increasing recreational opportunities at state and local parks, and other purposes. In some cases, state government agencies perform natural resources and climate activities. In other cases, the state provides grants and loans to local governments, not-for-profit organizations, and businesses to support similar activities.

State Pays for Natural Resources and Climate Activities in Various Ways. Sometimes the state pays up front for natural resources and climate

activities with money it already has. In other cases, the state pays for these activities by using bonds. Bonds are a way that the state borrows money and then repays the money plus interest over time. (For more information about bonds, please see “Overview of State Bond Debt” later in this guide.)

Over the past decade, the state has spent an average of about \$13 billion each year (annually) on natural resources and climate activities. About 15 percent of this amount has been from bonds. The state still has a few billion dollars remaining from prior natural resources and climate bonds that have not yet been committed for specific activities.

Local and Federal Governments Also Pay for Similar Activities. In addition to the state funding, other entities also pay for natural resources and climate activities. For example,

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

in some areas, local governments pay for water and energy infrastructure as part of their roles as local utilities. Local governments such as cities and counties also pay for local parks. The federal government also pays for various natural resources and climate activities. For example, the federal government provides money to improve local drinking water systems and to build energy infrastructure.

PROPOSAL

New Bond for Natural Resources and Climate Activities. Proposition 4 allows the state to sell a

\$10 billion bond for natural resources and climate activities. Much of the bond money would be used for loans and grants to local governments, Native American tribes, not-for-profit organizations, and businesses. Some bond money also would be available for state agencies to spend on state-run activities.

Funding Would Pay for a Variety of Activities. As shown in Figure 1, Proposition 4 pays for activities within eight broad categories, each with different goals. Some of the main activities in each category are summarized below:

Figure 1

Key Goals of Proposition 4 Bond Funds
(In Millions)

Category	Key Goals	Amount
Drought, Flood, and Water Supply	Increase the amount and quality of water available for people to use and reduce the risk of flooding.	\$3,800
Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention	Improve the health of forests and protect communities from wildfires.	1,500
Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Areas	Reduce the risks from sea-level rise, restore coastal areas, and protect fish.	1,200
Land Conservation and Habitat Restoration	Protect and restore natural areas.	1,200
Energy Infrastructure	Support the state’s shift to more renewable sources of energy, such as offshore wind.	850
Parks	Expand, renovate, and repair local and state parks.	700
Extreme Heat	Reduce the effects of extreme heat on communities.	450
Farms and Agriculture	Help farms respond to the effects of climate change and become more sustainable.	300
Total		\$10,000

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

4

- **Drought, Flood, and Water Supply (\$3.8 Billion).** Roughly half of this money would be for activities to increase the amount and quality of water available for people to use (\$1.9 billion). This would include storing water so it can be used during future droughts, as well as cleaning polluted water to make it safe to drink. Money would also be used to help reduce the risk of floods, such as by repairing dams and capturing and reusing stormwater (\$1.1 billion). The rest of the money would be used for various activities, such as restoring rivers and lakes.
 - **Forest Health and Wildfire Prevention (\$1.5 Billion).** All of this money would support activities to improve the health of forests and reduce the risk of severe and destructive wildfires. This would include thinning trees in forests that are overgrown and clearing vegetation near where people live. Money would also be used for other activities, such as helping homeowners make their properties more resistant to wildfire damage.
 - **Sea-Level Rise and Coastal Areas (\$1.2 Billion).** Most of this money would pay for activities to restore coastal areas and protect them from the effects of rising sea levels (\$890 million). This could include restoring wetlands so they can serve as buffers to rising sea levels. The rest of this money would be used to improve ocean habitats and protect fish and other marine wildlife (\$310 million).
 - **Land Conservation and Habitat Restoration (\$1.2 Billion).** This money would be used to protect and restore land for the benefit of fish and wildlife. For example, it could support purchasing land to set aside so that it is not developed.
 - **Energy Infrastructure (\$850 Million).** More than half of this money would support the development of wind turbines off the California coast (\$475 million). Most of the remaining money would pay for building infrastructure such as transmission lines to carry electricity long distances (\$325 million). The rest of the money would pay for projects to build large batteries that store electricity for when it is needed (\$50 million).
 - **Parks (\$700 Million).** The bulk of this money would support various activities that expand recreational opportunities at parks or reduce the impacts of climate change on parks (\$300 million). These activities could include adding new trails and parking areas. Some of this money would provide grants to local communities to build new parks or renovate existing parks (\$200 million). The rest of this money would be used to repair state parks and provide nature education (\$200 million).
 - **Extreme Heat (\$450 Million).** Much of this money would pay for activities focused on protecting communities from extreme heat (\$200 million). These activities could include adding trees and greenspaces. Money would also support places for people to go during heatwaves or disasters (\$100 million). The rest of the money would provide grants for local communities to conduct activities that provide environmental benefits, such as reducing air pollution (\$150 million).
 - **Farms and Agriculture (\$300 Million).** Much of this money would be used for activities that encourage farmers to improve soil health, reduce air pollution, and use less water (\$105 million). This money would also support community gardens and farmers' markets, such as by purchasing shade canopies (\$60 million). The rest of this money would support a range of other activities, such as purchasing vans to transport farmworkers and conserving farmland.
- Establishes Other Requirements for the Use of Funds.** Proposition 4 requires the bond money to be used in certain ways. For example, at least 40 percent of bond money must be used for activities that directly benefit communities that

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

have lower incomes or are more vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Proposition 4 also requires regular public reporting of how the bond money is spent.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Increased State Costs of About \$400 Million Annually for 40 Years to Repay the Bond. The estimated cost to repay the bond would be **about \$400 million annually over a 40-year period.**

Payments would be made from the state General Fund. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons.) This would be less than one-half of 1 percent of the state’s total General Fund budget. Since the state has to pay interest on the money it borrows, the total cost of the bond would be about 10 percent more (after adjusting for inflation) than if the state paid up front with money it already has.

Likely Reduced Local Costs for Natural Resources and Climate Activities. The availability of state bond funds could have various fiscal effects on local governments. In some cases, the additional state funding could replace local government money that would otherwise be needed to pay for a project. For example, this could include using bond funds to help support an essential water treatment facility the local government otherwise would have needed to fund by itself. In other

cases, however, the availability of state funds could encourage local governments to spend more money to build larger projects than they otherwise would. For example, this could include adding additional amenities to a local park. On net, Proposition 4 likely would result in savings to local governments. The amount of these savings is uncertain but could average tens of millions of dollars annually over the next few decades.

Potential State and Local Savings if Funding Prevents Disasters. To the extent the bond funds result in completing activities that reduce the risk or amount of damage from disasters, it could reduce state and local costs for responding to and recovering from those events. For example, improving a levee could reduce the amount of flooding that occurs. Additionally, thinning trees in a forest could reduce the severity of wildfires. The amount of such potential savings is uncertain.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee’s top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 4 ★

4

YES on 4: TO CLEAN AND PROTECT OUR DRINKING WATER, PREVENT WILDFIRES

Prop. 4 makes urgent, commonsense investments to protect our communities, health, economy, and natural resources by:

- Cleaning up and protecting water supplies
- Preventing devastating wildfires
- Protecting forests, beaches, fresh water sources, and wildlife habitat

Voting Yes on 4 is urgently needed. California faces increasing threats from wildfires, water pollution, and extreme heat. Investments *today* can prevent future costs and damage from a changing climate and more frequent natural disasters.

PROVIDING CLEAN, SAFE DRINKING WATER

Prop. 4 will clean up and protect California’s drinking water supplies in all regions of California—remove toxic pollutants from our drinking water, addressing infrastructure risks like weakened dams and levees, and increasing supplies.

Today, nearly 1 million Californians lack access to drinking water that meets safety and reliability standards, according to the State Water Board. Yes on 4 helps ensure we all have safe water to drink.

PREVENTING DEVASTATING WILDFIRES AND SMOKE

Recent California wildfires have burned 2 million acres, released toxic smoke into our air, and polluted drinking water supplies. Fire damage and smoke have harmed quality of life and health, including children’s lungs, in every corner of California. Prop. 4 invests in projects to prevent wildfires, reduce their intensity when they do occur, and improve disaster response.

“Giving firefighters the tools to prevent wildfires is the best, most cost effective way to prevent the human and financial costs of these disasters. Prop. 4 makes the right investments to save lives and billions in response and recovery costs.”—Tim Edwards, President, CALFIRE Firefighters

PROTECTING FORESTS, BEACHES, RIVERS, STREAMS, AND WILDLIFE

Our beaches, forests, and mountains make California special, and we have a responsibility to protect them for our children and future generations. Protecting natural areas and wildlife is more urgent today than ever before, as we lose wildlife habitat, farm and ranchland, and even beaches wash away. Prop. 4 protects these natural areas from wildfire, pollution, and other threats from a changing climate.

PROTECTING PUBLIC HEALTH

By removing pollution from the air and toxins from our water, Prop. 4 protects the health of vulnerable seniors and children.

STRONG FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY, ACCOUNTABILITY & TRANSPARENCY

California is already paying the price for failing to adequately prepare for drought and a changing climate. This measure helps shift from disaster response to *prevention*.

Our state and communities will save billions more by avoiding and reducing damage from wildfires, droughts, and floods.

Prop. 4 contains strict fiscal accountability and transparency:

- Annual independent audits
- Full public disclosure of all future funding

Join California firefighters (CalFire Local 2881), the National Wildlife Federation, the Nature Conservancy, Clean Water Action, and water agencies including San Diego Co Water Authority: YES on 4.

Jennifer Clary, State Director
Clean Water Action

Tim Edwards, President
CALFIRE Firefighters

Beth Pratt, California Regional Executive Director
National Wildlife Federation

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 4 ★

Clean drinking water and preventing destructive wildfires are necessities, not luxuries. These should be addressed within our state budget, not by demanding \$10 billion more from the taxpayers in the form of a bond that will cost nearly double to repay—\$19.3 billion.

The challenges we face with wildfires and water supply are the result of decades of neglect and mismanagement of our resources. Empowering tribal leaders for forest management and investing in water infrastructure could have prevented these crises. These aren’t random occurrences, but repercussions of misguided policies.

Despite politicians’ frequent promises for accountability, since 2000 California voters have approved over \$30 billion in natural resources bonds—with little to show. After years of refusing to prioritize spending on forest management, we are suffering the aftermath of major wildfires that could have been prevented, or at least minimized. After years of refusing to invest in water storage, we are facing water supply instability.

Instead of burdening taxpayers with a bond that overpromises, we should tackle these issues in the budget. *Real change stems from commitment, not quick fixes.* This isn’t just policy, it’s our future. Let’s choose pragmatism over procrastination.

Sacramento politicians should not demand more money from the taxpayers or pressure voters to pass an unrealistic bond package that lacks any lasting change to state policy. Vote NO on Proposition 4.

Vote NO on deferring our environmental responsibility at double the cost. Let’s invest in a greener tomorrow today.

Senate Minority Leader Brian W. Jones
Assemblyman Jim Patterson

Jon Coupal, President
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 4 ★

TOO MUCH DEBT, TOO LITTLE BENEFIT: THE PROBLEM WITH PROPOSITION 4

Bonds are the most expensive way for the government to pay for things. Proposition 4 would add a whopping *\$10 billion* of debt to the taxpayers—PLUS an estimated *\$9.3 billion* in interest—to pay for climate-related programs. This funding would also cover administrative costs and salaries for grant recipients. But remember, this is borrowed money.

At the start of the year, California already had over *\$78 billion* of bond debt. Proposition 1 in March added another *\$6.38 billion*. Now there's a proposal to add an additional *\$10 billion* for ambiguous climate programs. Guess who's going to foot the bill? That's right—we taxpayers. Our tax dollars will be diverted from essential services to cover interest payments and principal repayment of the bond.

Bonds are borrowed money that must be paid back, PLUS INTEREST, no matter what the state must cut to do it. Governor Newsom already declared a budget emergency because the state spends more than it takes in. How many programs will have to be cut in the future to pay for Proposition 4? According to the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office, we had a *\$62 billion* deficit this year. What will happen when we have both a deficit AND the obligation to repay this enormous bond debt?

Two years ago, California had a nearly *\$100 billion SURPLUS*. If these climate projects had been prioritized then, we could have covered the entire cost of this bond with just 10 percent of that surplus. Now, due to the government's inability to manage its spending, they are asking voters for more of their hard-earned money.

AS A VOTER, YOUR TAX DOLLARS SHOULD FUND YOUR HIGHEST PRIORITIES, NOT PET PROJECTS.

Bonds should be reserved for financing essential projects that will build infrastructure lasting beyond the 30-year payoff period. However, many elements of Proposition 4 fail to meet that standard, resulting in *\$10 billion* of spending just being added to the taxpayers' credit card—with a lack of accountability or measured metrics for success! Proposition 4 is full of money being funneled to unproven technologies that may sound promising on paper but have no concrete evidence of success. By committing funds to speculative projects, Proposition 4 overlooks long-term water storage and critical wildfire fuel management programs in favor of short-term, unproven projects.

IT'S RECKLESS TO USE COSTLY BORROWED MONEY TO PAY FOR UNPROVEN PROGRAMS.

Proposition 4 represents a reckless increase in state debt with questionable benefits. The government should prioritize essential services and ensure that any borrowing is reserved for projects that provide lasting, tangible benefits to the state and its residents. Vital programs should be funded in the budget with the taxes we already pay, not through costly borrowing. What's in the budget that's a higher priority than safe drinking water and wildfire prevention? Politicians should answer that question before racking up another *\$10+ billion* in debt that will have to be paid back, WITH INTEREST.

Senate Minority Leader Brian W. Jones
Assemblyman Jim Patterson
Jon Coupal, President
 Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

4

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 4 ★

YES on 4: ADDRESSES CALIFORNIA'S HIGHEST PRIORITY DRINKING WATER and FIRE PREVENTION NEEDS

California firefighters, clean water organizations, public health experts, and conservation groups urge YES on 4, to address our state's *most vital needs* for a safe water supply, wildfire prevention, and clean air.

The opposition itself admits, clean water and wildfire prevention are critical priorities.

Prop. 4 makes efficient, sensible investments in proven solutions: upgrading drinking water treatment to remove contaminants, fixing crumbling dams and levees to prevent floods, creating groundwater storage and recycling plants to boost supply and prepare for drought, and investing in effective wildfire prevention and containment strategies.

YES on 4: SMART, URGENT INVESTMENTS WITH STRICT ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS, PROTECTS COMMUNITIES AND PREVENTS BILLIONS IN FUTURE COSTS

Yes on 4 is fiscally responsible and fully transparent. Nearly 1 million Californians lack access to clean drinking water. Yes on 4's investments strengthen safe water

supplies and flood control infrastructure—saving billions in temporary fixes and economic losses.

A UCLA study found 10 years of wildfire smoke have caused 50,000 premature deaths and \$400 billion in economic losses. Wildfire prevention saves six times its cost in reduced damage, while protecting our health.

“California's financial health is vulnerable to natural disasters, neglected infrastructure, and a changing climate. Without raising taxes, Yes on Prop. 4 saves California money while helping state and local governments protect our communities.”—Tim Gage, former state Director of Finance. California communities can't wait.

YES on 4: CLEAN DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, and OUR HEALTH.

Susana De Anda, Executive Director
 Community Water Center
Sarah Gibson, Fire Manager
 The Nature Conservancy
Christopher Chavez, Deputy Policy Director
 Coalition for Clean Air

ALLOWS LOCAL BONDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE WITH 55% VOTER APPROVAL. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 94 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Allows local bonds for affordable housing for low- and middle-income Californians, or for public infrastructure including roads, water, and fire protection to be approved by 55% of voters, rather than current two-thirds approval requirement.
- Bonds must include specified accountability requirements, including citizens oversight committee and annual independent financial and performance audits.
- Allows local governments to assess property taxes above 1% to repay affordable housing and infrastructure bonds if approved by 55% of voters instead of current two-thirds approval requirement.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Increased local borrowing to fund affordable housing, supportive housing, and public infrastructure. The amount of increased borrowing would depend on decisions by local governments and voters. Borrowed funds would be repaid with higher property taxes.

FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON ACA 1 (PROPOSITION 5) (CHAPTER 173, STATUTES OF 2023)

Senate:	Ayes 29	Noes 10
Assembly:	Ayes 55	Noes 12

FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON ACA 10 (PROPOSITION 5) (CHAPTER 134, STATUTES OF 2024)

Senate:	Ayes 31	Noes 8
Assembly:	Ayes 54	Noes 8

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

Housing Is Expensive in California. A typical California home currently costs around twice the national average. Similarly, renters in California typically pay about 50 percent more for housing than renters in other states.

Local Programs Help Pay for Housing. Some programs help low-income Californians afford housing. For example, governments help pay for housing reserved for low-income residents. Other programs provide housing and services to specific groups. Examples of such groups

include people with disabilities or those at risk of chronic homelessness. We refer to affordable and supportive housing programs as “housing assistance.”

Local Governments Also Pay for Public Infrastructure. Examples of infrastructure projects paid for by local governments include roads, hospitals, fire stations, libraries, and water treatment facilities.

Local Governments Often Use Bonds to Pay for Housing Assistance Programs and Public

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

Infrastructure. Bonds are a way for local governments to borrow money and then repay it plus interest over time. Similar to the way a family pays off a mortgage on their home, bonds allow governments to spread costs over a few decades.

Certain Bonds Require Two-Thirds Approval of Local Voters. For cities, counties, and special districts, bonds paid for by increased property taxes typically require two-thirds of local voters to approve them. These are called general obligation bonds.

PROPOSAL

Proposition 5 changes the rules in the California Constitution for approving certain local government general obligation bonds. It also requires local governments to monitor the use of revenues in specific ways.

Lowers Voter Approval Requirement for Certain Bonds. Proposition 5 lowers the voting requirement needed to approve local general obligation bonds if they would fund housing assistance or public infrastructure. Specifically, Proposition 5 lowers the voter approval requirement from two-thirds to 55 percent.

Requires Specific Oversight Activities. Proposition 5 requires local governments to take specific steps to monitor the use of bond funds supporting housing assistance and public infrastructure. For example, local governments would need to conduct annual independent financial and performance audits. Citizens' oversight committees also would be appointed to help supervise spending.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Certain Local Bonds More Likely to Pass. A lower voter approval requirement would make it easier to pass local general obligation bonds for housing assistance and public infrastructure. Recent local election results suggest that an additional 20 percent to 50 percent of local bond measures would have passed under Proposition 5's lower voter approval requirement. Those measures would have raised a couple billion dollars over many years. A lower voter approval requirement also could mean local governments propose more measures.

Increased Local Funding for Housing Assistance and Public Infrastructure. An increase in the approval of local bonds could increase funding available for housing assistance and public infrastructure. The amount of this increase is not clear. Based on recent trends, it could be at least a couple billion dollars over many years. The amount of the increase would vary across local governments. If local voters approve more bonds, local governments also would have more borrowing costs. These costs would be paid with higher property taxes. Ultimately, any future bond approval would depend on decisions by local governments and voters.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 5 ★

VOTE YES ON PROP. 5

Prop. 5 gives local voters more control over funding for affordable housing and vital infrastructure projects including roads, bridges, local fire protection and water systems. Without raising taxes, Prop. 5 shifts local public policy decisions and spending priorities away from state government, giving local voters and taxpayers more tools, more power, and greater autonomy to address those issues in their own communities.

PROP. 5: AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR LOW- AND MIDDLE-INCOME CALIFORNIANS

We have a massive shortage of affordable housing for low- and middle-income Californians. The high cost of housing consumes too much of our paychecks, and many middle-class families are being pushed out of the communities where they work and where their children go to school.

Prop. 5 gives local communities more tools to make housing more affordable, including: • Providing first-time homebuyers' programs; • Building new housing, including affordable for-sale ownership and rental housing, for low- and middle-income Californians, seniors, veterans, and homeless families; and • Renovating and repairing existing affordable housing.

PROP. 5: LOCAL PROJECTS SUPPORTING NEW HOUSING AND SAFE COMMUNITIES

In addition to affordable housing, Prop. 5 makes it easier for local voters who choose to invest in safety repairs and improvements to bridges, roads, public transportation, water systems, and other critical public infrastructure as they see fit. Local voters can also approve bonds for emergency preparedness, including local fire stations and engines, ambulances, and early-warning systems for natural disasters. Prop. 5 trusts local voters to prioritize what's most important in their communities.

PROP. 5: LOCAL CONTROL. INCREASED ACCOUNTABILITY

Prop. 5 does not raise taxes. It simply gives voters more

power to address the unique needs of their communities without relying on the state, which has not met the challenges facing most California families.

But with increased control, comes increased accountability, transparency, and oversight to ensure that these programs truly deliver results. To increase protection of local tax dollars, qualifying bond measures have strict accountability requirements including: • A clear list of the specific types of projects to be funded. • All funding must be spent to benefit the jurisdiction that approves the bonds, ensuring that local taxpayers benefit. • Caps on administrative costs so resources are used for the projects local taxpayers voted for. • Independent performance and financial audits of spending must be posted publicly and reviewed by the State Auditor. • Strict conflict of interest checks for local officials. • Oversight by an independent citizens committee.

For years, local voters have known what challenges their communities face, and how best to address those issues. Voting Yes on Prop. 5 empowers local voters to make decisions about what their communities need, and makes it easier to solve those local problems, with less reliance on state government which has proven to be too slow and unable to address the critical needs of our individual communities.

Prop. 5 trusts local voters to know what's best for their own communities when faced with affordable housing shortages and other infrastructure challenges, and gives them the tools to invest in their own local solutions.

Vote Yes on Prop. 5.

Brian K. Rice, President
California Professional Firefighters

Christopher Carson, President
League of Women Voters of California

Leah Miller, Chairperson
Habitat for Humanity California

5

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 5 ★

NO ON PROP. 5: MORE GOVERNMENT DEBT AND HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES

Politicians claim they need Prop. 5 to make it easier to pass bonds, but they don't tell you bonds are not free. Bonds are debt. A \$20 billion bond costs \$30 billion to repay—and it's paid off with *higher property taxes*.

NO ON PROP. 5: A TRICK TO USE TAXPAYERS AS A CREDIT CARD

The politicians in Sacramento turned a \$100 billion surplus into a \$73 billion deficit in just two years. Now, they want to use local taxpayers as a credit card to keep spending. They want you to pay for affordable housing and other "infrastructure" projects with higher property taxes.

NO ON PROP. 5: LOOPHOLES THAT GO BEYOND "INFRASTRUCTURE"

Politicians say Prop. 5 will build "infrastructure," but the fine print defines "infrastructure" so broadly that it can include just about anything they want to fund on the backs of local taxpayers.

NO ON PROP. 5: MORE WASTEFUL SPENDING

Politicians say Prop. 5 is needed to build "affordable" housing, but they don't tell you their version of affordable housing costs as much as \$1 million per unit and comes with expensive state mandates.

NO ON PROP. 5: HIGHER TAXES, HIGHER RENTS, HIGHER PRICES

Since 1879, California has required a 2/3 majority approval to approve most bonds. Prop. 5 reduces that threshold—meaning more debt and higher property taxes for homeowners, higher rents for renters, higher costs to farmers, and higher prices for everything we buy and use. Don't trust the politicians. Vote NO on Prop. 5.

Jon Coupal, President
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

Rev. Dwight E. Williams, Chairman
California Senior Alliance

Greg Van Dyke, President
California Consumer Advocates for Affordability and Safety

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 5 ★

NO ON PROP. 5: WRITTEN BY POLITICIANS TO INCREASE DEBT AND RAISE TAXES

Prop. 5 changes the constitutional requirements that have existed for 145 years by reducing the voter approval requirements to pass bonds. Prop. 5 makes it easier for cities, counties, and special districts to increase property taxes to pay for our already massive debt levels in California. Increased debt, combined with skyrocketing interest rates, means HIGHER PROPERTY TAXES ultimately paid for by every Californian.

NO ON PROP. 5: EVEN MORE UNSUSTAINABLE DEBT

California already has more debt than any other state, with more than \$500 billion in state and local debt. When this debt is added to the state’s total unfunded liabilities, it totals a staggering \$1.6 TRILLION. Prop. 5 puts taxpayers on the hook for even more—saddling future generations with the bill!

NO ON PROP. 5: HIGHER TAXES, HIGHER RENTS, HIGHER PRICES

Bonds are not free money. Like a loan, mortgage, or credit card debt, bonds have to be paid back—with interest. Interest charges turn a \$20 billion bond into a \$30 billion tax after principal and interest—and TAXPAYERS PAY those costs through higher property taxes.

Higher property taxes mean higher house payments for homeowners, higher rents for renters, higher costs to farmers, and higher prices for everything we buy since local businesses will have to pass their higher property taxes on to consumers.

NO ON PROP. 5: SHIFTS STATE BURDEN TO LOCAL TAXPAYERS

The politicians in Sacramento have made a mess with their financial mismanagement and wasteful spending, turning a \$100 billion surplus into a \$73 billion deficit with unsustainable spending. Prop. 5 allows politicians to cover up their mess by shifting the costs for state programs to local

taxpayers. And Prop. 5 was written to define “infrastructure” so broadly that it can include just about anything the politicians and special interests want to fund on the backs of taxpayers.

PROP. 5: BEWARE THE FINE PRINT

The politicians who wrote Prop. 5 even snuck in a provision buried in the fine print that would make it RETROACTIVE—meaning that any bond passed this November would only need a lower vote total to pass. Normally, when voters approve a measure on the ballot, it doesn’t go into law until after the election results are certified. By making Prop. 5 retroactive, they hope to saddle taxpayers with billions in new taxes and debt immediately. That means taxpayers could see their property taxes skyrocket right away.

NO ON PROP. 5: IT WILL MAKE EVERYTHING MORE EXPENSIVE

Californians already struggle with the highest cost of living in the nation. We already pay the highest income, sales, and gas taxes in the country, and Prop. 5 will lead to even higher property taxes and higher costs for everyone. Homeowners will be hit with higher taxes, renters with higher rent, and consumers with higher prices on everything from food to gas and utilities to services.

PROP. 5 will make everything more expensive when Californians can least afford it.

NO on PROP. 5.

Robert Gutierrez, President
California Taxpayers Association

Julian Canete, President
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Kendra Moss, Advisory Member
Women Veterans Alliance

5

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 5 ★

YES ON PROP. 5 DOES NOT RAISE TAXES: Prop. 5 simply shifts local public policy decisions and spending priorities away from state government, giving local voters and taxpayers more tools and greater autonomy to address issues in their own communities. Unlike statewide bond measures, Prop. 5 requires that projects funded by local taxpayers must benefit local taxpayers, and gives more power to those communities that choose to use Prop. 5 to solve real problems.

PROP. 5 IS NOT A BOND OR A TAX: Prop. 5 finally gives local communities the choice to address critical infrastructure needs if supported by a super-majority of local voters.

Whether it’s making it easier for first-time homebuyers, seniors, veterans, and working families to afford housing, or fixing the local roads and bridges that families depend upon for safe travel to and from work and school, Prop. 5 empowers local voters to solve local problems.

PROP. 5 REQUIRES INCREASED ACCOUNTABILITY: For those communities that choose to utilize Prop. 5, strict

taxpayer protections will be mandatory, including: • A list of projects to be funded. • Caps on administrative costs and strict conflict of interest rules. • Independent audits made public, and a trained local citizens oversight committee.

VOTE YES ON PROP. 5: Voters have always known what challenges their communities face and how best to address important issues including housing affordability, water systems, road repair, fire stations, and other critical infrastructure needs. Prop. 5 will empower local voters with the choice and the tools to solve those challenges.

Daniel Parra, President
League of California Cities

John Valencia, President
Middle Class Taxpayers Association

Michelle Gutierrez Vo, President
California Nurses Association

PROPOSITION **6** **ELIMINATES CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION ALLOWING INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 97 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Amends the California Constitution to remove the current constitutional provision that allows jails and prisons to impose involuntary servitude to punish crime (*i.e.*, forcing incarcerated persons to work).
- Prohibits the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation from punishing incarcerated persons for refusing a work assignment. Allows incarcerated persons to voluntarily accept work assignments in exchange for credit to reduce their sentences.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Potential increase or decrease in state and local criminal justice costs, depending on how rules around work for people in state prison and county jail change. Any effect likely would not exceed the tens of millions of dollars annually.

6

FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON ACA 8 (PROPOSITION 6)
(CHAPTER 133, STATUTES OF 2024)

Senate:	Ayes 33	Noes 3
Assembly:	Ayes 68	Noes 0

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

“Involuntary Servitude” Banned Except as a Punishment for Crime. The California Constitution bans involuntary servitude except as a punishment for crime. The Constitution does not define involuntary servitude. However, involuntary servitude commonly refers to forcing people to work against their will.

Some People in State Prison and County Jail Work. People in prison and jail can be required to work or do other

activities such as taking classes. Work includes jobs like cooking, cleaning, or other tasks needed to run prisons and jails. Roughly one-third of people in prison work. Many of these workers are paid less than \$1 per hour. Workers can also earn “time credits” that reduce the amount of time they serve in prison or jail. People who refuse to work or do other activities can face consequences such as losing the ability to make regular phone calls.

PROPOSAL

Bans Involuntary Servitude as a Punishment for Crime. Proposition 6 changes the Constitution to ban involuntary servitude as a punishment for crime. It also bans state prisons from disciplining people who refuse to work. However, Proposition 6 states it does not stop prisons from giving people time credits for working.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Potential Increase or Decrease in State and Local Criminal Justice Costs.

The fiscal effects of Proposition 6 on state and local criminal justice costs are uncertain. This is because it would depend on how Proposition 6 would change rules around work for people in state prison and county jail and how people would respond to those changes. For example, if people in prison and jail no longer face consequences for refusing to work,

prisons and/or jails might have to find other ways to encourage working. If this is done by increasing pay, costs would increase. If this is done by giving more time credits instead, costs would decrease because people would serve less time. **Any potential increase or decrease in state and local criminal justice costs likely would not exceed the tens of millions of dollars each year (annually).** This amount is less than one-half of 1 percent of the state’s total General Fund budget. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons.)

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee’s top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 6 ★

Proposition 6: Ending Slavery in California's Carceral System

VOTE YES on PROPOSITION 6. Proposition 6 eliminates all forms of slavery and involuntary servitude within California, ensuring no person is subjected to such conditions regardless of their confinement circumstances.

PROPOSITION 6 RESTORES HUMAN DIGNITY BY ENDING FORCED LABOR, WHICH CONSTITUTES SLAVERY AND VIOLATES HUMAN RIGHTS. Incarcerated people should have dignity and the agency to pursue a rehabilitative path because forced labor serves no rehabilitative purpose. This amendment focuses on the moral imperative of allowing voluntary work assignments, emphasizing the importance of human rights.

PROPOSITION 6 ENHANCES PUBLIC SAFETY BY PRIORITIZING REHABILITATION. Forced labor in prisons is cruel and unfair, often leading to harsh punishments like violence, solitary confinement, and denial of services. These practices undermine rehabilitation and increase the likelihood of reoffending. In contrast, Proposition 6 expands voluntary prison work programs and ensures dignity, choice, and rehabilitation. Incarcerated individuals will voluntarily take part in education, job training, and other programs that help prevent crimes against Californians.

ENDING SLAVERY IS A BIPARTISAN PRIORITY WITH WIDESPREAD SUPPORT. ACA 8, now known as Proposition 6, passed unanimously in the Assembly (68-0) and with overwhelming approval in the Senate (33-3). California is one of 16 states that still allow this practice, highlighting the urgent need for reform.

PROPOSITION 6 SUPPORTS THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT BY CLOSING THE LOOPHOLE IN CALIFORNIA'S VERSION OF THE 13TH AMENDMENT. While it does not change federal law, it upholds justice by preventing forced labor in California. Voluntary work programs reduce recidivism by offering skill development and rehabilitation, aiding formerly incarcerated individuals in reintegrating into society. Productive work, rooted in dignity, allows reintegration by letting formerly incarcerated people use their work experiences as proof of their efforts.

Many states have amended their constitutions to close the loopholes that allow forced labor and involuntary servitude under certain conditions. This includes significant voter support: over 66% in Colorado (2018), over 80% in Utah, and over 68% in Nebraska (2020). In 2022, similar measures saw over 76% approval in Alabama, over 55% in Oregon, over 79% in Tennessee, and over 88% in Vermont. Nevada is also referring this issue to voters for the 2024 election. Additionally, federal legislators are moving this session to close the loophole in the 13th Amendment with Senate Joint Resolution 33, introduced by Senators Jeff Merkley and Cory Booker, and House Joint Resolution 72 by Representative Nikema Williams.

Lori Wilson, Assemblymember
California Legislature

Dolores Huerta, Executive Director
Dolores Huerta Foundation

Stephen Downing, Deputy Chief (Ret.)
Law Enforcement Action Partnership

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 6 ★

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 6 WAS SUBMITTED.

PROPOSITION **RAISES MINIMUM WAGE.**
32 INITIATIVE STATUTE.

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 97 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- California’s minimum wage is currently \$16 per hour. This measure increases that minimum, as follows:
 - Employers with 26 or more employees would pay \$17 hourly for the remainder of 2024 and \$18 hourly beginning on January 1, 2025.
 - Employers with 25 or fewer employees would pay \$17 hourly beginning January 1, 2025, and \$18 hourly beginning January 1, 2026.
- Thereafter, as existing law provides, the minimum wage annually adjusts for inflation.
- In addition to the generally applicable minimum wage described above, current laws establish a higher minimum wage in specified industries. This measure does not amend those laws.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- State and local government costs could increase or decrease. This change likely would not exceed the high hundreds of millions of dollars annually.
- State and local tax revenues likely would decrease. This revenue loss likely would not exceed a few hundred million dollars annually.

32

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

State and Local Laws Set Minimum Wages. Employers must pay their workers at least the minimum wage. California’s minimum wage currently is \$16 per hour. Some local governments have higher minimum wages. Minimum wage laws do not apply to independent contractors and other self-employed people.

Inflation Adjustments Under Current Law. Prices tend to go up over time. These rising prices are called “inflation.” The state adjusts its minimum wage every year based on inflation. Each adjustment matches U.S. inflation, except in two cases:

- If inflation is negative, the adjustment is zero.
- If inflation exceeds 3.5 percent, the adjustment is 3.5 percent.

State Sets Higher Minimum Wages for Some Employers. State laws set higher minimum wages for employers in some industries. For example, most fast food restaurants must pay their workers at least \$20 per hour.

PROPOSAL

Higher Minimum Wage in 2025. In 2025, California would have different minimum wages for employers of different sizes. Employers with 26 or more employees would have a minimum wage of \$18 per hour. Employers with 25 or fewer employees would have a minimum wage of \$17 per hour. Without Proposition 32, the minimum wage for all employees would be about \$16.50 per hour. The proposition would not change any local or industry-specific minimum wages.

Minimum Wage \$18 Per Hour in 2026. In 2026, the minimum wage would be \$18 per hour for all employees. Without Proposition 32, it likely would be about \$17 per hour.

Inflation Adjustments Paused Until 2027. The minimum wage would be adjusted for inflation every year starting in 2027. These adjustments would follow the current rules described earlier.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Fiscal Effects Depend on Economic Effects.

Proposition 32 could have a wide range of economic effects:

- **Higher Wages.** Workers who would have made less than \$18 per hour would instead make \$18 or more per hour by 2026. Higher minimum wages also tend to push up wages for other workers. This means that many workers making a bit more than \$18 per hour also likely would get a raise.
- **Likely Higher Prices.** Higher wages would increase costs for many businesses. Some businesses likely would charge customers higher prices. The overall price increase from Proposition 32 likely would be smaller than one-half of 1 percent.
- **Likely Lower Profits.** The costs of higher wages likely would reduce some businesses' profits.
- **Effect on Jobs.** The number of jobs in the state could go up or down. This change likely would be smaller than one-quarter of 1 percent.

Government Costs Could Go Up or Down.

Proposition 32 would increase state and local government costs in some ways but would decrease them in other ways:

- **Higher Government Costs to Pay for Workers.** The state and many local governments would have higher costs to pay their employees. They also would have higher costs to pay for work done by workers who are not their employees.
- **Savings From Lower Enrollment in Health and Human Services Programs.** Proposition 32 would change the number of people enrolled in health and human

services programs (such as California's Medicaid program, Medi-Cal) because it would change people's incomes. These enrollment changes likely would reduce state and local government costs.

Combining these two pieces, total state and local government costs could go up or down. This change likely would not exceed the high hundreds of millions of dollars each year (annually). (Total state and local government spending in California exceeds \$500 billion annually.)

The change in costs to the state's General Fund likely would be less than one-half of 1 percent of the state's total General Fund budget. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons.)

Lower Revenues. Proposition 32 would affect income tax and sales tax revenues because it would change incomes and prices. Overall, the proposition likely would reduce state and local government revenues. Revenues would be lower mainly due to lower incomes for business owners. The net revenue loss likely would not exceed a few hundred million dollars annually. Last year, total state and local revenue from these taxes was about \$200 billion.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 32 ★

Every Californian who works at least a full-time, 40-hour work week should be able to afford life's basic needs. However, there are about 2 million Californians who are working full time, and more, but earn less than \$18 per hour. Most of these Californians who earn less than \$18 per hour are heads of their households. Most of these Californians who earn less than \$18 per hour have kids. We can all agree that Californians who work hard, working full time or more, should not live in poverty. But that's exactly how millions of Californians are living because their wages are too low to afford how expensive life has become in California.

In addition, when people who work hard are paid wages that aren't enough to cover life's basic needs, a bigger burden is put on taxpayers to make up the difference that some corporations aren't honoring. It is wrong for all the businesses that do right by their workers that some corporations are allowed to pay Californians such low wages that those workers are left needing taxpayer funded aid. Taxpayers should not be subsidizing some corporations that choose to pay extremely low wages and enabling them to keep the rest as excess profit for their owners.

By raising the minimum wage to \$18 per hour, Proposition 32 will bring a much-needed raise to 2 million California workers and create a more prosperous system where big corporations aren't allowed to exploit smaller businesses, our communities, and our hardest working neighbors.

Finally, when more Californians earn a fair wage for their work, our entire economy does better. Working people are better able to afford their rent, provide three meals per day for their kids, and all of that spending boosts the economies of our local communities. That boosted spending creates more jobs in our communities, which makes everyone better off.

It's time that we make California a place that working families can afford. By raising the minimum wage to \$18, Proposition 32 will directly better the lives of 2 million Californians who will get a raise and we will stimulate more spending in our communities that most need that boost. That boost will create more jobs and more prosperity for everyone.

VOTE YES ON PROP. 32!

Joe Sanberg, Anti-Poverty Advocate

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 32 ★

VOTE NO on PROPOSITION 32!

Ballot measures shouldn't be toys for multimillionaires.

ONE PERSON ALONE—A MULTIMILLIONAIRE—IS BEHIND PROP. 32.

One person alone wrote Prop. 32, spent millions getting it on the ballot, and wrote the argument for Prop. 32.

SMALL BUSINESS AND WORKING FAMILY ADVOCATES DON'T WANT PROP. 32

Many of California's leading voices for working families and small businesses didn't even want Prop. 32 on the ballot, but this one author had to have it his way.

Even leading advocates for higher minimum wages urged him to pull Prop. 32 from the ballot. He refused.

One person shouldn't try to dictate labor policy for 39 million Californians, with the only qualification that he's rich. No wonder Prop. 32 is so flawed.

Prop. 32 forces small businesses to **INCREASE PRICES**, adding to inflation and raising the cost of living in California even more. That hurts working families!

Prop. 32 raises costs for state and local governments by **BILLIONS**, meaning they'll cut vital services and raise taxes.

Prop. 32 **COSTS JOBS**, with the greatest impact on teens and people of color who are trying to get a career started with entry level jobs. That's why leaders across California who previously supported minimum wage increases have changed course and asked for them to be slowed down.

And Prop. 32 worsens California's increasingly complex patchwork of minimum wage laws, confusing both workers and small business owners.

Prop. 32 seems to be an ego project, not a real solution for working Californians.

Get the facts at StopProp32.com.

VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 32!

Jot Condie, President
California Restaurant Association

Jennifer Barrera, President
California Chamber of Commerce

Ron Fong, President
California Grocers Association

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 32 ★

VOTE NO on PROPOSITION 32.

PROPOSITION 32 INCREASES YOUR PERSONAL COSTS; MAKES CALIFORNIA'S HUGE BUDGET DEFICIT WORSE; PUNISHES SMALL BUSINESSES; COSTS JOBS; AND HURTS THE VERY WORKERS IT'S SUPPOSED TO HELP.

PROPOSITION 32 MAKES OUR BUDGET DEFICIT WORSE BY BILLIONS EACH YEAR AND JEOPARDIZES FUNDING FOR PUBLIC SAFETY AND EDUCATION

California just experienced a \$50 billion budget deficit. Many cities and counties face huge deficits as well. The independent fiscal analysis of Prop. 32 in this same ballot pamphlet says a minimum wage increase will likely cost state and local governments billions of dollars EACH YEAR.

That means two things. You paying higher taxes to make up the difference and cuts to important programs like K-12 education, public safety, healthcare, and getting homeless people off the streets.

PROPOSITION 32 INCREASES PRICES FOR CALIFORNIANS WHEN WE CAN LEAST AFFORD IT

The cost of living in California is too high. Prices are up more than 20% in the last three years for food, gas, utilities, healthcare, and clothing. Proposition 32 makes it even worse as it will increase costs on family-owned businesses who can least afford it and force small employers to increase prices for consumers to absorb the higher minimum wage. Looking at the new California fast-food minimum wage law, fast-food prices in California have gone up 7% in six months, the fastest in the nation. Some well-known "value meals" now cost over 40% more in California than the rest of the country.

Prop. 32 brings these record-setting price increases to small restaurants, grocery stores, convenience stores,

small retail shops, farmers, and more, so we're going to see the same sticker shock everywhere.

PROPOSITION 32 WILL HURT SMALL, FAMILY-OWNED BUSINESSES

Proposition 32 imposes the same high minimum wage on small businesses as it does for large corporations. Small businesses are more vulnerable to the impact of this higher cost and could force these family-owned businesses in our neighborhoods and communities to shut down.

PROPOSITION 32 COSTS JOBS

Raising the minimum wage again sounds like something that would help workers struggling to make ends meet. Who doesn't want workers to get paid more? It makes us feel good if we think we're helping our fellow Californians out.

But the reality has now been confirmed, raising the minimum wage, especially when we raise it TOO FAST, costs thousands of jobs, and when a worker loses a job, or the company goes out of business, the wage is ZERO DOLLARS PER HOUR. And this job loss especially impacts our vulnerable populations the most, with young African-American, Latino, and non-college educated workers trying to find their first jobs facing the biggest burdens. Get the facts at StopProp32.com, and vote NO ON PROPOSITION 32!

Jot Condie, President
California Restaurant Association

Jennifer Barrera, President
California Chamber of Commerce

Ron Fong, President
California Grocers Association

32

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 32 ★

YES on PROPOSITION 32 means a RAISE for SERVICE, ESSENTIAL, AND OTHER WORKERS to help them afford life's basic needs.

YES ON PROPOSITION 32 means a RAISE for SINGLE MOMS to help them afford life's basic needs.

YES ON PROPOSITION 32 means CLOSING THE GENDER PAY GAP for over a million working women.

The goods and services you buy have become more expensive because CORPORATIONS ARE MAKING RECORD PROFITS! CORPORATE PROFIT MARGINS HAVE INCREASED 100% since the year 2000. The STOCK MARKET has repeatedly made ALL-TIME HIGHS this year. CORPORATE LOBBYISTS who will MAKE MORE MONEY BY KEEPING WAGES LOW are trying to convince you that raising the minimum wage will increase the cost of living,

but that's false. Record corporate profit margins are what has increased the cost of living. Now, we have to RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE TO HELP SERVICE WORKERS, ESSENTIAL WORKERS, SINGLE MOMS, and other WORKING CALIFORNIANS to be able to AFFORD LIFE'S BASIC NEEDS.

YES on PROP. 32!

Learn more at: livingwageact.com

Ada F. Briceño, Co-President
UNITE HERE Local 11

Nanette Barragán, Congresswoman
U.S. House of Representatives, California 44th District

Saru Jayaraman, President
One Fair Wage

PROPOSITION **EXPANDS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' AUTHORITY TO ENACT RENT CONTROL ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

33

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 100 and the Secretary of State's website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Current state law (the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995) generally prevents cities and counties from limiting the initial rental rate that landlords may charge to new tenants in all types of housing, and from limiting rent increases for existing tenants in (1) residential properties that were first occupied after February 1, 1995; (2) single-family homes; and (3) condominiums.
- This measure would repeal that state law and would prohibit the state from

limiting the ability of cities and counties to maintain, enact, or expand residential rent-control ordinances.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Reduction in local property tax revenues of at least tens of millions of dollars annually due to likely expansion of rent control in some communities.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

Rental Housing Is Expensive in California.

Renters in California typically pay about 50 percent more for housing than renters in other states. In some parts of the state, rent costs are more than double the national average. Rent is high in California because the state does not have enough housing for everyone who wants to live here. People who want to live here must compete with other renters for housing, which increases rents.

Several Cities Have Rent Control Laws.

Some local governments in California have laws that limit how much landlords can increase rents from one year to the next. These laws often are called rent control. About one-quarter of Californians live in communities with local rent control. Examples of places with rent control are the Cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, and San Jose.

State Law Limits Rent Increases. In addition to local rent control laws, a state law

prevents most landlords from increasing a tenant's rent by more than 5 percent plus inflation (up to a total of 10 percent) in a year. This law lasts until 2030.

State Law Limits Local Rent Control.

Another state law, known as the *Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act* (Costa-Hawkins), limits local rent control laws in three main ways. First, rent control cannot apply to any single-family homes. Second, rent control cannot apply to any housing built on or after February 1, 1995. Third, rent control laws generally cannot tell landlords what they can charge a new renter when first moving in. Instead, rent control can only limit how much landlords increase rent for existing renters.

PROPOSAL

Allows Local Governments to Expand Rent Control. Proposition 33 eliminates Costa-Hawkins. Under the proposition, cities and counties can control rents for any housing. They also can limit how much a landlord

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

may increase rents when a new renter moves in. The proposition itself does not make any changes to existing local rent control laws. Generally, cities and counties would have to take separate actions to change their local laws.

Limits State Ability to Regulate Rent Control. Proposition 33 prevents the state from taking future actions to limit local rent control.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Effects on Renters and Landlords. If Proposition 33 passes, local rent control laws probably would expand in some communities. This could have many effects on renters, landlords, and rental properties. The most likely effects are:

- Some renters who live in properties covered by rent control would spend less on rent. Some renters who live in properties not covered by rent control would spend more on rent.
- Some renters would move less often.
- Fewer homes would be available to rent. One reason for this is that some landlords would sell their properties to new owners who would live there instead of renting it out.
- The value of rental housing would decline because potential landlords would not want to pay as much for these properties.

The size of these effects would depend on how many properties end up being covered

by local rent control and how much rents are limited. These things would be decided by future actions of local governments and voters.

Reduced Local Property Tax Revenues.

A decline in the value of rental properties would reduce the amount of property taxes paid by landlords. This would reduce property tax revenues for cities, counties, special districts, and schools. With time, these property tax reductions likely would be at least tens of millions of dollars each year (annually). This is less than one-half of 1 percent of all property tax revenue. About half of the reduction would be property tax revenues that would have gone to schools. In some years, the state might give more money to schools to cover their losses.

Increased Local Government Costs. If local rent control laws expand, local governments could have increased costs to carry out these laws. These costs could range from a few million dollars to tens of millions of dollars annually. These costs likely would be paid by fees on landlords.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 33 ★

Where will I live?—This is the question that haunts California's 17 million renters. 55% of Californians are rent burdened, paying more than 30% of their income on rent and there is no end in sight. Rent increases are far outstripping pay increases. A starting teacher, cop, or fire fighter is paying half their salary to afford the average apartment in California's cities. Many who live on a fixed income are one rent increase away from homelessness—and seniors represent the fastest growing homeless population. Something has to give. The affordable housing crisis is destroying the California Dream.

California, the Golden State, was once the land of opportunity. However, things have changed dramatically. Nearly one million people have left California in the last five years. If this mass exodus continues, it will have catastrophic consequences for our state. California faces a \$68 billion deficit which will only get worse as young talented people leave and the needy remain.

We love California. It is a land of natural beauty. We are at the cutting edge of technological innovation with vast amounts of wealth. Yet, based on the cost of living, we are the poorest state in America. We have way too many seniors, single parents, low-wage workers, and veterans choosing between paying rent and putting food on the table.

The housing crisis is complex. There isn't one magic bullet to solve it, but the place we have to start is keeping people in their homes. *The only practical way to do it is to allow local government to enact and expand rent control because one size doesn't fit all.* What's practical for Los Angeles doesn't work in Los Gatos.

We need to build more affordable housing and preserve the affordable units we have. But while we are waiting, we need

to protect tenants and keep them housed—when you're in a hole, stop digging.

Rent control is an American tradition since 1919 and works well in many cities. It was largely shut down in 1995 when the landlord lobby convinced Sacramento to drastically curtail it. Ever since, corporate landlords have made sure that the Legislature doesn't modify the law no matter how bad things get.

We understand that mom and pop landlords have invested their life savings into their buildings and can identify with the plight of their tenants. The CA Constitution guarantees them a reasonable rate of return. But it is the billionaire corporate landlords who are calling the shots and causing skyrocketing rents.

Even if you are not a renter, your quality of life and the value of your property are still harmed by the housing crisis.

Proposition 33 will return fairness to the equation. Visit www.yeson33.org

Supporters: California Democratic Party, Veterans' Voices, California Nurses Association, CA Alliance for Retired Americans, Housing Is a Human Right, American Federation of Teachers 1521, 2121, Tenants Together, Consumer Watchdog, Coalition for Economic Survival, Social Security Works, Mental Health Advocacy, Housing NOW, ACCE, UNITE HERE Local 11

Basil Kimbrew, Executive Director
Veterans' Voices

Pauline Brooks, Board President
California Alliance for Retired Americans

William Arroyo, Board President
AIDS Healthcare Foundation / Housing Is a Human Right

33

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 33 ★

They're at it again. Proponents of Prop. 33 have taken millions of taxpayer dollars—money that is supposed to be used to help low-income HIV and AIDS patients—and spent it on yet another of their anti-housing crusades.

Once again, they are pushing a measure that will hurt small mom and pop landlords.

AHF, which has received billions of taxpayer dollars meant to serve patients, has diverted that money to pay for things that have nothing to do with healthcare—building their own real estate empire, while housing people in slum-like conditions in buildings they refuse to fix, and being fined repeatedly for their misuse of funds.

Just like this measure, AHF is not what it appears to be. But don't take our word for it. Read the stories that show AHF's true colors:

One of the state's largest slumlords <https://www.latimes.com/homeless-housing/story/2023-11-16/aids-healthcare-foundation-low-income-housing-landlords>

Even allowing a blind tenant to fall down an open elevator shaft <https://www.latimes.com/homeless-housing/story/2023-01-20/ahf-madison-hotel-elevator-lawsuit-story>

While they claim to fight for tenants, they are throwing low-income tenants out on the street, while suing dozens of poor people in small-claims court: <https://www.poz.com/article/aids-healthcare-foundation-reportedly-houses-tenants-squalid-conditions>

Meanwhile, they are wasting taxpayer dollars on lawsuits to block new housing <https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/Lawsuit-seeks-to-block-Scott-Wiener-s-rezoning-16480766.php> and spending millions on political campaigns to push its no-growth agenda: <https://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-aids-foundation-political-spending-20170221-story.html>

The state even terminated its multi-million dollar contracts with AHF, citing "improper negotiation tactics" <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2022-06-30/california-aids-healthcare-foundation-state-contract>

And audits by LA County found AHF overcharged taxpayers by millions <https://archive.kpcc.org/blogs/politics/2013/07/18/14304/aids-healthcare-foundation-asks-judge-to-delay-la/>

Don't be misled by AHF's latest scheme to fool California voters. Vote No on Prop. 33.

Michael Hedges, President
California Small Business Association

Julian Canete, President
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce

Rev. Dwight Williams, Chair
California Senior Alliance

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 33 ★

PROP. 33 IS A DEEPLY FLAWED SCHEME THAT WILL INCREASE HOUSING COSTS AND BLOCK AFFORDABLE HOUSING

If Prop. 33 seems familiar, it's because nearly 60% of California voters rejected the same flawed scheme in 2018 and 2020. Seniors, veterans, and affordable housing experts all oppose Prop. 33 because it will make the housing crisis dramatically worse. The Housing Action Coalition calls Prop. 33 "deeply flawed and deceptively anti-housing."

Here's why you should vote NO on Prop. 33:

FUNDED BY NOTORIOUS SLUMLORD

Prop. 33 was written and bankrolled by Corporate CEO Michael Weinstein of AHF. The Los Angeles Times describes Weinstein as a "slumlord" with a long record of health and safety violations and unfair evictions. State housing regulators cited his residents living in "squalid conditions, exposed to roach and bedbug infestations."

NOT WHAT IT SEEMS. PROP. 33 IS A TROJAN HORSE THAT OVERTURNS STATE AFFORDABLE HOUSING LAWS

Prop. 33 is misleading. The measure could effectively overturn more than 100 state housing laws, including laws making it easier to build affordable housing, and fair housing and tenant eviction protections. It could also strip the Attorney General's ability to enforce certain current housing laws. It's why one of the state's most notorious corporate "slumlords" is bankrolling Prop. 33.

WORSENS HOUSING CRISIS

Economists and housing experts at Stanford and UC Berkeley say Prop. 33 will make California's housing crisis significantly worse by reducing the construction of new affordable housing. Prop. 33 will make it harder to become a homeowner or find a place to rent, driving up costs for renters and home buyers.

ELIMINATES HOMEOWNER PROTECTIONS

Prop. 33 takes away basic protections for homeowners and allows bureaucrats, politicians, and regulators to tell single-family homeowners how much they can charge to rent out

a single room. Millions of homeowners will be treated just like corporate landlords and subject to regulations and price controls enacted by unelected boards.

WEAKENS RENTER PROTECTIONS

Prop. 33 undermines the strongest statewide rent control law in the nation signed by Governor Newsom and has no protections for renters.

REDUCES HOME VALUES UP TO 25%

Non-partisan researchers at MIT estimate extreme rent control measures like this result in an average reduction in home values up to 25%. Californians can't afford to take another hit with the economic collapse threatening their home values and life savings.

OFFERS NO PROTECTIONS FOR SENIORS, VETERANS, OR THE DISABLED

Prop. 33 has no protections for seniors, veterans, or the disabled. Veterans, seniors, and social justice organizations agree it's the last thing we need right now.

OPPOSED BY A BROAD BIPARTISAN COALITION

Democrats and Republicans agree Prop. 33 will make the housing crisis worse. Opponents include: California Small Business Association • California Senior Alliance • California Conference of Carpenters • California YIMBY • California Chamber of Commerce • Senate President Pro Tem Emeritus Toni Atkins • Democratic Assemblymember Buffy Wicks • Marine Corps Veterans Association

DEMAND REAL HOUSING SOLUTIONS

We should Vote "NO" on Prop. 33 and demand real solutions.

VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION 33. Learn more at NoOnProp33.com

Ken Rosen, Economics Professor Emeritus
UC Berkeley

Jenna Abbott, Executive Director
California Council for Affordable Housing

Kendra Moss, Advisory Member
Women Veterans Alliance

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 33 ★

Who do you believe? The billionaire landlords behind the California Apartment Association which has spent hundreds of millions of dollars opposing renter protections? Or do you believe the AIDS Healthcare Foundation—the largest AIDS organization in the world—Veterans' Voices, the Coalition for Economic Survival, 100 local elected officials, and the cities of San Francisco, Santa Monica, and West Hollywood? The billionaire landlords will fill the airwaves and your mailbox with lies and deceptions paid for by extorting exorbitant rents from people on social security or disability. Our proposition is just 23 words. It allows cities to regulate rents the way they did until 1995 when Sacramento, at the demand of these same billionaires, took that right away—nothing more. Every city will decide for themselves whether or not they need rent control.

Academics and non-profits for hire will say anything the billionaire landlords want them to for a price.

Believe your own eyes. We are facing a \$68 billion deficit made worse by the one million people who have left California. More than half of California's 17 million renters are paying more than 30% of their income on rent.

The billionaire landlords are using fear to get homeowners and renters to vote against your own interests. Homeowners will only benefit from healthy communities. Renters are desperate to remain in their homes.

Rent control is an American tradition since 1919. New York and many other cities with rent control have only seen property values soar.

Vote Yes—the rent is too damn high.

Sandy Reding, President
California Nurses Association

Pauline Brooks, Board President
California Alliance for Retired Americans

Larry Gross, Executive Director
Coalition for Economic Survival

PROPOSITION **RESTRICTS SPENDING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG REVENUES BY
34 CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 103 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Requires health care providers meeting specified criteria to spend 98% of revenues from federal discount prescription drug program on direct patient care.
- Applies only to health care providers that: (1) spent over \$100,000,000 in any ten-year period on anything other than direct patient care; and (2) operated multifamily housing reported to have at least 500 high-severity health and safety violations.
- Penalizes noncompliance with spending restrictions by revoking health care licenses and tax-exempt status.
- Permanently authorizes state to negotiate Medi-Cal drug prices on statewide basis.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Increased state costs, likely in the millions of dollars annually, to enforce new rules on certain health care entities. Affected entities would pay fees to cover these costs.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

DRUG COVERAGE IN MEDI-CAL

Medi-Cal Pays for Prescription Drugs for Low-Income People. Medi-Cal is a federal-state program that provides health coverage for low-income people. This coverage includes the cost of prescription drugs.

Medi-Cal Has a New Approach to Pay for Drugs. Before 2019, Medi-Cal paid for the cost of prescription drugs in different ways. In 2019, the state adopted a single approach called “Medi-Cal Rx.” Medi-Cal Rx likely saves the state money because Medi-Cal pays for drugs at more discounted prices.

New Approach Is Not in State Law. Medi-Cal Rx is not reflected in state law, but it

is the approach used to pay for drugs in Medi-Cal.

FEDERAL DRUG DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Federal Program Provides Discounts on Drugs to Certain Health Care Providers.

Under a federal program, drug makers provide discounts on their drugs to hospitals, clinics, and other providers. To qualify for these discounts, providers must meet certain rules. Eligible providers are public or private nonprofits that focus on serving low-income people. (These public and private nonprofits generally are exempt from paying taxes on their revenue.)

Providers Tend to Earn Revenue From Federal Discounts. Providers tend to earn net revenue from the federal drug discount program. They do so by charging

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

payors of health care (such as private health plans and government programs) more than the cost to provide the drugs. However, providers generally do not earn net revenue on these drugs in Medi-Cal. This is because state law bans providers from charging Medi-Cal more than the discounted price of the drug.

Providers Decide How to Spend Revenue.

According to the federal government, the intent of the federal drug discount program is to allow eligible providers to increase services and serve more low-income patients. Providers can do so by spending their net revenue on services to patients. Federal and state law, however, does not directly restrict how providers spend their revenue from federal drug discounts.

STATE LICENSING

Health Care Entities Must Be Licensed.

Health care entities must be licensed to provide services in the state. Several departments license health care entities, such as the Department of Managed

Health Care (for most health plans) and the Department of Public Health (for hospitals, clinics, and certain other kinds of facilities).

Licensed Entities Must Follow Certain Rules.

Licensed entities must follow certain rules. For example, they cannot engage in conduct that is unprofessional, dishonest, or harmful to public health or safety. An entity that violates these rules can face penalties, including losing its license (which means the entity can no longer operate as a health care entity).

PROPOSAL

Restricts How Certain Entities Spend Revenue From Federal Discounts.

Proposition 34 creates new rules about how certain health care entities spend revenue from the federal drug discount program. Specifically, the entities would have to spend at least 98 percent of their net revenue earned in California on health care services provided directly to patients (“direct patient care”). As Figure 1 shows,

34



these rules apply only to entities that meet certain conditions (“affected entities”).

Requires Affected Entities to Report Annually to the State. Proposition 34 requires affected entities to report certain information to the state each year (annually). The affected entities would have to report how much revenue they earned in California and nationwide from the federal drug discount program and how they spent this revenue. The state would use this information to help determine compliance with the new rules. The proposition allows the state to charge fees on affected entities to cover its enforcement costs. Under Proposition 34, affected entities that do not submit timely and accurate information would be engaging in conduct that is unprofessional, dishonest, or harmful to public health or safety.

Establishes Penalties for Violating Rules. As Figure 2 shows, Proposition 34 establishes four penalties for violating the new rules. All four penalties would apply if affected entities spend less than 98 percent of their net federal

discount revenue on direct patient care. The penalties also would apply if the affected entities engage in conduct that is unprofessional, dishonest, or harmful to public health or safety.

Adds Medi-Cal’s Approach to Pay for Drugs to State Law. Proposition 34 adds Medi-Cal Rx to state law. Because Medi-Cal Rx already is in effect, the proposition does not change the current approach Medi-Cal uses to pay for drugs.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Has Limited Statewide Fiscal Effects. Under Proposition 34, likely few entities would meet the conditions described in Figure 1. The exact number of affected entities, however, is not known. Because few entities would be affected, the proposition’s statewide fiscal effect (described below) would be limited.

Increases State Enforcement Costs, Paid by New Fees. Proposition 34 would increase state costs to enforce the new restrictions. These costs likely would be in the millions of dollars annually. The state

Figure 2

Proposition 34 Establishes Four Penalties

For Ten Years:

- Entity loses California tax-exempt status.
- Entity loses license.
- Entity cannot receive state and local government contracts or grants.
- Entity’s leaders cannot serve leadership roles in a California health plan, pharmacy, or clinic.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

would cover this cost by charging fees on affected entities.

Could Have Other Fiscal Effects.

Proposition 34 could have other uncertain fiscal effects, such as:

- **Savings From Increased Spending on Direct Patient Care.** Some affected entities could increase spending on direct patient care to comply with Proposition 34. If this increase results in more spending on Medi-Cal patients, there could be savings to the state. This would depend on what health care services are provided.
- **Costs From Fewer Federal Drug Discounts.** Affected entities would have to pay fees and report to the state annually. Some entities might change their operations to avoid these requirements. For example, they could stop participating in the federal discount program. To the extent this results in fewer federal discounts to the Medi-Cal program, there would be state costs.

- **Fiscal Effects From Violating Rules.** Were an affected entity to violate Proposition 34's restrictions or engage in bad conduct, it would face penalties (such as the loss of its tax-exempt status and its health care licenses for ten years). These penalties could put it out of business. This could affect state tax revenue, state spending on Medi-Cal, or spending on other state and local government programs. The fiscal effect would depend on which affected entities face penalties.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

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★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 34 ★

Rising healthcare costs are squeezing millions of Californians. Prop. 34 will give California patients and taxpayers much needed relief, and lowers state drug costs, while saving California taxpayers billions.

CUT PRESCRIPTION DRUG PRICES

Prop. 34 will drastically cut the cost of prescription drugs for Medi-Cal patients by permanently authorizing the State of California to negotiate lower Medi-Cal prescription drug costs.

PROTECT PATIENTS AND TAXPAYERS

Prop. 34 stands to save taxpayers millions of dollars more every year by requiring the greediest healthcare corporations to spend at least 98% of the taxpayer funds they receive through the drug discount program in California on directly treating patients.

STOP HEALTHCARE CORPORATION FINANCIAL ABUSE IN CALIFORNIA

Prop. 34 stops egregious financial abuse of the taxpayer-funded drug discount program in California.

Over 30 years ago, the federal government began offering discounted prescription drugs and other treatments to uninsured and low-income patients. However, healthcare corporations across the country have used a legal loophole to game the system and divert money from the drug discount program to pet projects that have done nothing to benefit patients: wasting money on renting out football stadiums to put on private concerts, giving their executives multimillion dollar salaries, paying for naming rights on sports stadiums, spending millions on lobbying, and dumping millions more into political campaigns.

Worse yet, these same corporations that get billions in taxpayer dollars have spent hundreds of millions of dollars on housing projects that are often run like slums. An LA Times investigation found that residents at several

of these housing projects were forced to live in squalid conditions, exposed to roach and bedbug infestations, putting the health and safety of tenants at risk.

Prop. 34 will prevent this abuse from occurring in California and requires drug discount program dollars generated in California to be used for their intended purpose: helping patients.

HOLD ABUSERS ACCOUNTABLE

Prop. 34 holds violators accountable. Healthcare organizations that break the rules and misuse these taxpayer dollars must either recommit to spending on direct patient care or risk losing their California tax-exempt status and professional licenses.

Prop. 34 is targeted at those bad actors who have continually abused the system to pocket billions of taxpayer dollars for their own use. That's why it is supported by a wide coalition, including organizations that advocate to help patients and leaders in the LGBTQ community. Those supporting Prop. 34 include the California Chronic Care Coalition, the ALS Association, the Defeating Epilepsy Foundation, California Senior Alliance, AiArthritis, Support Fibromyalgia Network, Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc., and the Community Access National Network.

It's time to close the corporate loophole that allows wealthy pharmacy corporations to divert money meant to help patients. Protect Patients Now. Vote Yes on Prop. 34. Learn more at YesOnProp34.com.

Assemblymember Evan Low, Former Chair
Legislative LGBT Caucus

Kelly Goss, Managing Director
The ALS Association

Nilza Serrano, Founder
Latino Heritage Los Angeles

34

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 34 ★

Vote No on 34—The Revenge Initiative. The California Apartment Association, representing the billionaire landlords, is lying through its teeth. Prop. 34 has one and only one purpose: to prevent AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) from supporting rent control.

Do you believe that these billionaire landlords are suddenly so concerned about access to healthcare for poor Californians? And it is a lie that it will lower drug costs since Medi-Cal has already implemented a low-cost drug program.

AHF is the sponsor of Prop. 33—the rent control initiative. Landlords are spending tens of millions to protect their obscene corporate profits while more than 50% of California's 17 million renters are paying more than 30% of their income on rent.

You might notice that they don't even mention AHF by name because they don't want you to know that they want to harm the largest AIDS organization in the world.

They are lying when they call the federal 340B drug discount program government money. 100% of the funds

derived from 340B come from discounts that come right out of the pockets of drug companies. Don't be fooled—big pharma has contributed to many of the supporting organizations for Prop. 34. A strong 340B program is good for California, bad for big pharma.

As they themselves admit, non-profits are permitted by federal law to use these drug company discounts in accordance with their non-profit mission—advocating for rent control, women's reproductive rights, and a healthy environment.

Vote No on The Revenge Initiative.

Jerilyn Stapleton, Board Member
National Organization for Women

Jamie Court, President
Consumer Watchdog

Larry Gross, Executive Director
Coalition for Economic Survival

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 34 ★

Proposition 34 is sponsored by the billionaire landlords who control the California Apartment Association (CAA). This initiative is a wolf in sheep's clothing. It has only one purpose: to prevent AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) from promoting rent control. It claims to protect patients, but its real intent is to stop AHF from putting tenant protections on the ballot.

On this same ballot is Proposition 33, the rent control initiative which is simply 23 words:

"The state may not limit the right of any city, county, or city and county to maintain, enact or expand residential rent control." AHF is the principal funder of this rent control initiative. Proposition 33 restores the ability of localities to stabilize rents and give some relief to California's 17 million struggling renters.

CAA and the billionaire supporters who have been gouging renters want to stop rent control at all costs. Can anyone believe that these corporate landlords are suddenly interested in healthcare? And guess who's behind the endless ads you will see for Prop. 34—the big drug companies through their bought and paid for front groups. These two rogue industries are united in wanting to destroy AHF, which is the most powerful voice for lower rents and lower drug prices.

AHF is the largest AIDS organization in the world with 2 million lives in care in 47 countries across the globe. Our mission is: Cutting Edge Medicine and Advocacy Regardless of Ability to Pay.

AHF was born out of outrage that AIDS patients were often dying in the hallways of the county hospital. AIDS patients needed a home to die in. Fortunately, HIV treatment has drastically improved so that today housing is the #1 problem facing our patients.

Proposition 34 is a grave danger to democracy. It seeks to weaponize the initiative process by allowing powerful interests to target a single organization to punish and shut them up. If passed, this proposition would threaten the ability of organizations to advocate for reproductive rights, renter needs, and environmental protections. The Los Angeles Times even described it as a "self-serving" ballot initiative that reached a "new low."

If this becomes the law, where will it stop? For this reason, it is opposed by The National Organization for Women, Consumer Watchdog, The Coalition for Economic Survival, UNITE HERE Local 11, Dolores Huerta, and many others.

We trust that you, the voters, will see through this corporate landlord scam and vote NO on Proposition 34.

Visit www.voteno34.org for more information.

Jerilyn Stapleton, Board Member
National Organization for Women

Larry Gross, Executive Director
Coalition for Economic Survival

Condessa M. Curley, M.D. /MPH, Board Member
AIDS Healthcare Foundation

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 34 ★

When we have bad corporate actors that profit off public programs, the services our families rely upon take the hit, including schools, public safety, and emergency responders. The current system is being abused by corporations that are wasting billions of dollars intended for patient care every year and making our communities less safe, endangering the public's health and safety.

Instead of helping patients, those funds are being used to: Finance slums that are unsafe and violate health codes:

<https://www.latimes.com/homeless-housing/story/2023-11-16/aids-healthcare-foundation-low-income-housing-landlords>

Sue low-income tenants and throw them out on the street:

<https://www.poz.com/article/aids-healthcare-foundation-reportedly-houses-tenants-squalid-conditions>

Buy stadium naming rights:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/09/24/health/bonsecours-mercy-health-profit-poor-neighborhood.html>

And pay corporate CEOs millions:

<https://lowninstitute.org/projects/2023-shkreli-awards/>
Prop. 34 would stop the worst corporate abuses of the federal low-cost prescription drug program and ensure that money meant for patients is not wasted on corporations' pet projects, political crusades, or misused in ways that risk the public's health and safety. Prop. 34 will ensure corporations that are misusing public funds are held accountable. It's time to stop the rip-off. We must make sure that money meant for patients is spent on taking care of those who need help, not risking public safety. Vote Yes on 34.

Brian K. Rice, President
California Professional Firefighters

Stuart Fong, Chair
San Francisco Hep B Free

Rev. Dwight Williams, Chair
California Senior Alliance

PROPOSITION **35** PROVIDES PERMANENT FUNDING FOR MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 109 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Makes permanent the existing tax on managed health care insurance plans (currently set to expire in 2026), which, if approved by the federal government, provides revenues to pay for health care services for low-income families with children, seniors, disabled persons, and other Medi-Cal recipients.
- Requires revenues to be used only for specified Medi-Cal services, including primary and specialty care, emergency care, family planning, mental health, and prescription drugs.
- Prohibits revenues from being used to replace existing Medi-Cal funding.
- Caps administrative expenses and requires independent audits of programs receiving funding.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- In the short term, increased funding for Medi-Cal and other health programs between roughly \$2 billion and \$5 billion annually (including federal funds). Increased state costs between roughly \$1 billion to \$2 billion annually to implement funding increases.
- In the long term, unknown effect on state tax revenue, health program funding, and state costs. Fiscal effects depend on many factors, such as whether the Legislature would continue to approve the tax on health plans in the future if Proposition 35 is not passed by voters.

35

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

State Charges a Specific Tax on Health Plans. Since 2009, California typically has charged a specific tax on certain health plans, such as Kaiser Permanente. This tax is called the Managed Care Organization Provider Tax (“health plan tax”). The tax has worked differently over time. Currently, it charges plans based on the number of people to whom they provide health coverage, including those in Medi-Cal. The tax rate is higher for those in Medi-

Cal compared to other kinds of health coverage. (Medi-Cal is a federal-state program that provides health coverage for low-income people. The federal government and the state share the cost of the program. By charging the health plan tax, the state can receive more federal funding.)

State Uses Tax for Two Purposes.

The amount of revenue raised by the health plan tax has changed over time. Based on recent legislative action, we estimate the tax is expected to result

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

in between \$7 billion to \$8 billion each year (annually) to the state. The state uses this money for two purposes.

- ***Paying for Existing Costs in Medi-Cal.*** Some revenue helps pay for existing costs in the Medi-Cal program. Using the tax revenue in this way allows the state to spend less money from the General Fund on Medi-Cal. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons. Medi-Cal is expected to get around \$35 billion from the General Fund this year.) In other words, the health plan tax revenue reduces costs to the state General Fund.
- ***Increasing Funding for Medi-Cal and Other Health Programs.*** Some of the revenue increases funding for Medi-Cal and other health programs. For example, the state is increasing Medi-Cal payments to doctors and other health care providers. This is a new use of health plan tax revenue. Some of these funding increases began in 2024, but most will begin in 2025 and 2026. Once they all begin in 2026, the increases likely would result in around \$4 billion more for Medi-Cal annually. Around half of this amount will come from the health plan tax. (The rest will come from increased federal funding.)

Tax Will End, Unless It Is Approved Again. The Legislature has not permanently approved this tax. Instead, it has approved it for a few years at a time. The federal government also must approve the tax. The tax was most recently approved in 2023. It will expire at the end of 2026, unless the Legislature and federal government approve it again.

PROPOSAL

Makes Existing Health Plan Tax Permanent. Proposition 35 makes the existing health plan tax permanent beginning in 2027. The state would still need federal approval to charge the tax. The tax would continue to be based on the number of people to whom health plans provide health coverage. The proposition allows the state to change the tax, if needed, to get federal approval, within certain limits.

Creates Rules on How State Uses Tax Revenue. In addition to making the health plan tax permanent, Proposition 35 creates rules on how to use the revenue. Generally, these rules require the state to use more of the revenue to increase funding for Medi-Cal and other health programs. The rules are different in the short term (in 2025 and 2026) and the long term (in 2027 and after). Proposition 35 also changes which Medi-Cal services and other health programs get funding increases compared to current law.

Figure 1

Proposition 35 Changes Which Services Get Funding Increases

Funding Increases in the Short Term (in 2025 and 2026)

	Current Law	Proposition 35 ^a
Doctors and other related providers ^b	✓	✓
Specified hospital services		✓
Outpatient facilities		✓
Safety net clinics	✓	✓
Behavioral health facilities		✓
Reproductive health and family planning	✓	✓
Emergency medical transportation	✓	✓
Nonemergency medical transportation	✓	
Private duty nursing	✓	
Certain long-term supports	✓	
Community health workers	✓	c
Continuous Medi-Cal coverage for children up to five-years old	✓	
Medi-Cal workforce programs	✓	✓
Doctor postgraduate training programs		✓

^a More services are eligible for funding increases in the long term (beginning in 2027).

^b Current law and Proposition 35 include some differences over which related providers get funding increases.

^c Eligible for funding increases in the long term (beginning in 2027), depending on how much money is raised by the health plan tax.

Figure 1 shows these changes in the short term.

FISCAL EFFECT

In Short Term, Three Key Fiscal Effects. In the short term (in 2025 and 2026), Proposition 35 would have the following key fiscal effects:

- ***No Change to State Tax Revenue.*** Proposition 35 does not change the existing temporary tax on

health plans, which expires at the end of 2026. For this reason, the proposition would have no effect on state tax revenue over this period of time.

- ***Increased Funding for Health Programs.*** Proposition 35 would increase funding for Medi-Cal and other health programs. This is because the proposition requires the state to use more health plan

tax revenue for funding increases. The total increase in funding likely would be between roughly \$2 billion and \$5 billion annually. About half of this amount would come from the tax on health plans. (Because the federal government shares the cost of Medi-Cal with the state, the rest of the funding increase would come from federal funds. Including all fund sources, Medi-Cal is expected to get over \$150 billion this year.)

- **Increased State Costs.** Proposition 35 would increase state costs. This is because it reduces the amount of health plan tax revenue that can be used to help pay for existing costs in Medi-Cal. Instead, the state likely would have to use more money from the General Fund for this purpose. **The annual cost would be between roughly \$1 billion to \$2 billion in 2025 and 2026.** These amounts are between one-half of 1 percent and 1 percent of the state’s total General Fund budget.

In Long Term, Unknown Fiscal Effects.

In the long term (2027 and after), Proposition 35 makes the temporary tax on health plans permanent and creates new rules about how to spend the money. The fiscal effect of these changes depends on many factors.

For example, the state could approve the tax in the future, as it has done in the past, even if the proposition is not passed by voters. Also, it is uncertain how large of a tax the federal government would approve in the future. Given these uncertain factors, the proposition’s long-term effects on tax revenue, health program funding, and state costs are unknown.

Temporarily Increases State Spending Limit.

The California Constitution has various rules that impact the state budget. One rule limits how much state tax revenue can be spent on any purpose annually. Voters may increase this limit for up to four years at a time. In line with these rules, Proposition 35 temporarily increases the limit by the size of the health plan tax for four years. After the temporary increase ends, the long-term effect of the proposition on the state’s spending limit is uncertain. This is because it is unknown how Proposition 35 would affect state tax revenue in the future.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee’s top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 35 ★

CALIFORNIA’S HEALTHCARE SYSTEM IS IN CRISIS

Hospitals and health clinics are closing in rural and urban communities across California. Emergency rooms are overcrowded. More than 40 California hospitals have stopped offering labor and delivery services. Patients wait months to see a doctor for important preventative care, and often cannot get an appointment for specialty care when needed. The healthcare crisis is made worse because the state has redirected more than \$30 billion in healthcare funding over the last 15 years to other purposes.

THE CRISIS IS WORST FOR CALIFORNIA’S CHILDREN & MOST VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

More than 15 million Californians rely on Medi-Cal for health insurance coverage, including more than 50% of all children in the state and low-income families, seniors, and persons with disabilities. But lack of adequate and ongoing funding means Medi-Cal patients must wait months to see primary care doctors or cardiologists, cancer doctors, pediatric specialists, or orthopedists.

YES ON PROP. 35 PROVIDES DEDICATED FUNDING TO IMPROVE THE HEALTHCARE SYSTEM FOR ALL OF US—WITHOUT RAISING TAXES

Prop. 35 will address our most urgent healthcare priorities by securing dedicated, ongoing funding—*without raising taxes on individuals*—to protect and expand access to care at primary care and specialty care physicians, community health clinics, hospitals, emergency rooms, family planning and mental health providers. Prop. 35 extends an *existing* levy on health insurance companies that will otherwise expire in 2026. And Prop. 35 prevents the state from redirecting these funds for non-healthcare purposes.

YES ON 35 PROTECTS AND EXPANDS ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR ALL PATIENTS

Prop. 35 dedicates funding for:

- Expanding access to preventative healthcare so patients don’t have to rely on crowded ERs or urgent care clinics as their primary source of care
- Reducing wait times in emergency rooms
- Hiring more first responders and paramedics to reduce emergency response times
- Primary care and physicians’ offices
- Community health centers
- OBGYNs and specialty care like cancer and cardiology care

- Family planning
- Expanded mental health treatment
- Healthcare workforce training to address the worker shortage
- Services for Medi-Cal patients to expand access to hospitals, physicians, women’s health centers, and community clinics.

YES ON 35’S STRONG ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS ENSURE MONEY IS SPENT ON PATIENT CARE

Prop. 35 prevents the state from redirecting these funds for non-healthcare purposes and requires that 99% of the revenues must go to patient care. It caps administrative expenses at 1%. Lastly, the measure requires annual independent performance audits to ensure funds are spent effectively and as intended.

PROP. 35 IS SUPPORTED BY FIRST RESPONDERS, HEALTHCARE WORKERS, PHYSICIANS, NURSES, AND A BIPARTISAN COALITION

Prop. 35 is supported by:

- International Association of EMTs and Paramedics
- Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
- California Medical Association
- American Academy of Pediatrics, California
- American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists—District IX
- California Chapter, American College of Emergency Physicians
- California Primary Care Association
- La Clínica de la Raza
- Community Clinic Association of Los Angeles County
- California Dental Association
- California Academy of Family Physicians

Yes on 35 will help address our urgent healthcare crisis and protect healthcare for all California patients.

www.VoteYes35.com

Dr. Yasuko Fukuda, Chair

American Academy of Pediatrics, California

Jack Yandell, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

International Association of EMTs and Paramedics

Jodi Hicks, CEO

Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 35 ★

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 35 WAS SUBMITTED.

PROPOSITION **36** **ALLOWS FELONY CHARGES AND INCREASES SENTENCES FOR CERTAIN DRUG AND THEFT CRIMES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 126 and the Secretary of State’s website at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.

- Allows felony charges for possessing certain drugs and for thefts under \$950—both currently chargeable only as misdemeanors—with two prior drug or two prior theft convictions, as applicable. Defendants who plead guilty to felony drug possession and complete treatment can have charges dismissed.
- Increases sentences for other specified drug and theft crimes.
- Increased prison sentences may reduce savings that currently fund mental health and drug treatment programs, K–12 schools, and crime victims; any remaining savings may be used for new felony treatment program.

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST’S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:

- Increased state criminal justice costs, likely ranging from several tens of millions of dollars to the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually, primarily due to an increase in the prison population.
- Increased local criminal justice costs, likely in the tens of millions of dollars annually, primarily due to county jail, community supervision, and court-mandated mental health and drug treatment workload.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

BACKGROUND

PUNISHMENT DEPENDS ON SERIOUSNESS OF CRIME AND CRIMINAL HISTORY

Punishment for Felonies. A felony is the most serious type of crime. People can be sentenced to county jail or state prison for felonies, depending on the crime and their criminal history. In some cases, people can be supervised in the community by a county probation officer instead of serving some or all of their sentence in jail or prison. This is called county community supervision. The length of a sentence mostly depends on the crime. For example, murder

can be punished by 15 years or more in prison. In contrast, selling drugs can be punished by up to five years in jail or prison, depending on the drug. Sentences can also be lengthened due to details of the crime. For example, sentences for selling certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, or methamphetamine) can be lengthened based on the amount sold.

Punishment for Misdemeanors. A misdemeanor is a less serious crime. Examples include assault and drug possession. People can be sentenced to county jail, county community supervision, and/or a fine for

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

misdemeanors. Sentences can be up to one year in jail.

PROPOSITION 47 REDUCED PUNISHMENTS FOR SOME THEFT AND DRUG CRIMES

In 2014, Proposition 47 changed some theft and drug crimes from felonies to misdemeanors. For example, shoplifting (stealing items worth \$950 or less from a store) and drug possession generally became misdemeanors.

PROPOSAL

Proposition 36 makes several key changes related to punishments for theft and drug crimes. First, it increases punishment for some of these crimes. Second, it creates a new treatment-focused court process for some drug possession crimes. Third, it requires courts to warn people convicted of selling or providing illegal drugs to others that they can be charged with murder if they keep doing so and someone dies.

INCREASES PUNISHMENT FOR SOME THEFT AND DRUG CRIMES

Proposition 36 increases punishment for some theft and drug crimes in three ways:

- **Turns Some Misdemeanors Into Felonies.** For example, currently, theft of items worth \$950 or less is generally a misdemeanor. Proposition 36 makes this crime a felony if the person has two or more past convictions for certain theft crimes (such as shoplifting, burglary,

or carjacking). The sentence would be up to three years in county jail or state prison. These changes undo some of the punishment reductions in Proposition 47.

- **Lengthens Some Felony Sentences.** For example, Proposition 36 allows felony sentences for theft or damage of property to be lengthened by up to three years if three or more people committed the crime together.
- **Requires Some Felonies Be Served in Prison.** For example, as discussed above, sentences for selling certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, or methamphetamine) can be lengthened based on the amount sold. Currently, these sentences are served in county jail or state prison depending on the person’s criminal history. Proposition 36 generally requires these sentences be served in prison.

CREATES NEW COURT PROCESS FOR SOME DRUG POSSESSION CRIMES

Proposition 36 allows people who possess illegal drugs to be charged with a “treatment-mandated felony,” instead of a misdemeanor, in some cases. Specifically, this applies to people who (1) possess certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, or methamphetamine) and (2) have two or more past convictions for some drug crimes (such as possessing or selling drugs). These people would generally

get treatment, such as mental health or drug treatment. Those who finish treatment would have their charges dismissed. Those who do not finish treatment could serve up to three years in state prison. This change undoes some of the punishment reductions in Proposition 47.

REQUIRES WARNING OF POSSIBLE MURDER CHARGES FOR SELLING OR PROVIDING DRUGS

Proposition 36 requires courts to warn people that they could be charged with murder if they sell or provide illegal drugs that kill someone. This warning would be given to people convicted of selling or providing certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine). This could make it more likely for them to be convicted of murder if they later sell or provide illegal drugs to someone who dies.

FISCAL EFFECTS

Proposition 36 would have various fiscal effects on the state and local governments. The size of these effects would depend on uncertain factors, such as what decisions local prosecutors would make.

Increases State Criminal Justice Costs.

Proposition 36 would increase state criminal justice costs in two main ways.

- ***Increase in State Prison Population.*** It would require some people who now serve their sentences at the county level to serve them in state

prison. Also, it lengthens some prison sentences. In total, the prison population could increase by around a few thousand people. (There are about 90,000 people in prison now.)

- ***Increase in State Court Workload.***

This is because felonies usually take more time to resolve than misdemeanors. Also, treatment-mandated felonies would increase court workload.

In total, Proposition 36 would **increase state criminal justice costs, likely ranging from several tens of millions of dollars to the low hundreds of millions of dollars each year (annually)**. This amount is less than one-half of 1 percent of the state’s total General Fund budget. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons.)

Increases Local Criminal Justice Costs.

Proposition 36 would increase local criminal justice costs in two main ways.

- ***Net Increase in County Jail and Community Supervision Population.***

In some ways, Proposition 36 would reduce the jail and community supervision population. This is because some people would go to state prison instead of the county level. In other ways, it would increase this population. This is because some people would spend more time in county jail or on

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

community supervision. Overall, Proposition 36 likely would increase the county population. This increase could be around a few thousand people. (There are about 250,000 people at the county level now.)

- **Increase in Local Court-Related Workload.** It would also increase workload for local prosecutors and public defenders. This is because felonies usually take more time to resolve than misdemeanors. Also, treatment-mandated felonies would create workload for some county agencies (such as probation or behavioral health departments).

In total, Proposition 36 would **increase local criminal justice costs, likely by tens of millions of dollars annually.**

Reduces Amount State Must Spend on Certain Services. Proposition 47 created a process in which the estimated state savings from its punishment reductions must be spent on mental health and drug treatment, school truancy and dropout prevention, and victim services. These estimated savings totaled

\$95 million last year. By undoing parts of Proposition 47, Proposition 36 reduces the state savings from Proposition 47. This would reduce the amount the state must spend on mental health and drug treatment, school truancy and dropout prevention, and victim services. This reduction likely would be in the low tens of millions of dollars annually.

Other Fiscal Impacts. Proposition 36 could have other fiscal effects on the state and local governments. For example, if the increased punishments or mandated treatment reduce crime, some state and local criminal justice costs could be avoided. However, it is unknown if these or other effects would occur.

Visit sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2024-ballot-measure-contribution-totals for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 36 ★

YES ON PROP. 36: TOUGHER LAWS TO MAKE OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER AND HOLD REPEAT CRIMINALS ACCOUNTABLE

California is suffering from an explosion in crime and the trafficking of deadly hard drugs like fentanyl. Prop. 36 will fix the mess our politicians have ignored for far too long. It is a balanced approach that corrects loopholes in state law that criminals exploit to avoid accountability for fentanyl trafficking and repeat retail theft.

YES ON PROP. 36: TOUGHER LAWS TO STOP “SMASH-AND-GRAB” THEFTS

The explosion in retail theft has caused stores across California to raise prices, lock up items, and close their doors. Prop. 36 increases penalties for smash-and-grab crimes when three or more people act together to commit theft. It also allows prosecutors to file felony charges if a defendant has two or more prior theft convictions.

“California needs Prop. 36’s tougher laws against smash-and-grab thefts so we can keep small businesses open in every community.”—Robert Rivinius, Executive Director, Family Business Association of California

YES ON PROP. 36: TOUGHER PROSECUTION OF SERIAL THIEVES

Under current California law, thieves can get away with the equivalent of a TRAFFIC TICKET if the value of items stolen in one instance is \$950 or less. That means someone can steal an UNLIMITED amount—so long as each individual crime is not over \$950—and likely avoid jail time and even arrest.

“Prop. 36 will allow prosecutors to combine the value of items stolen from multiple thefts and increase accountability for serial thieves.”—Mike Hestrin, Riverside County District Attorney

YES ON PROP. 36: TOUGHER PENALTIES FOR FENTANYL TRAFFICKING

Fentanyl is one of the top killers in California, with more young people dying of drug overdoses than car accidents. Yet fentanyl is treated less seriously than methamphetamine,

heroin, PCP, and cocaine when offenders are armed with a firearm. Prop. 36 will close this loophole while increasing penalties for trafficking large quantities and when a trafficker sells drugs to someone who dies as a result.

“Fentanyl has killed too many people, yet traffickers can avoid the consequences. We need Prop. 36 because no parent should ever have to bury another child killed by fentanyl poisoning.”—Gina McDonald, Co-Founder, Mothers Against Drug Addiction and Deaths

YES ON PROP. 36: HOLD CAREER CRIMINALS ACCOUNTABLE AND ENFORCE DRUG TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS

In California, criminal justice reforms have advanced equity and reduced incarceration rates. But the unintended consequences of these policies include an epidemic of drug use, trafficking, and repeat retail theft because the people committing these crimes don’t face any serious consequences.

“Prop. 36 will make our justice system fair and create effective tools for holding individuals accountable for their crimes and helping those who suffer from addiction to hard drugs get the necessary treatment to begin new lives.”—Rev. Jonathan Moseley, Western Regional Director, National Action Network Los Angeles

VOTE YES ON PROP. 36 FOR SAFER CALIFORNIA COMMUNITIES

Prop. 36 will toughen California’s laws on “smash-and-grab” theft and fentanyl trafficking. That’s why small businesses, law enforcement, social justice, crime victims’, and drug survivors’ advocates, along with 900,000 Californians support Prop. 36.

Read it for yourself at VoteYesProp36.com.

Gregory Totten, Chief Executive Officer
California District Attorneys Association

Harriet Salarno, Founder
Crime Victims United

Michael Hedges, President
California Small Business Association

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 36 ★

36

Retail theft and fentanyl are real problems. Californians deserve real solutions. Prop. 36 is a false promise, not a fix.

Prop. 36 will reignite the failed war on drugs, wasting billions on jails and prisons, and slashing crucial funding for crime prevention, treatment, victims, and rehabilitation. That will mean more crime, not less.

Prop. 36 makes simple drug possession a felony, costing taxpayers billions in incarceration without reducing crime. The nonpartisan Legislative Analyst Office concluded the measure will require the state to spend billions more on prisons over the next several years. That means bigger cuts to schools, healthcare, and other essential services.

The measure is also so poorly drafted that it will simply create confusion in the courts and not lead to higher penalties in many retail theft cases.

In the last two years, state leaders increased funding for retail theft prosecutions and fentanyl trafficking, leading to more convictions. Lawmakers continue to pass strong new

laws targeting retail theft rings, illegal online markets, and fentanyl.

California law already requires felonies for smash-and-grab robberies, drug trafficking, and repeat theft, and these serious crimes can lead to tough penalties. There is no loophole—under current law, fentanyl traffickers and repeat thieves can and do spend years behind bars. Prop. 36 doesn’t fix anything—it’s about funding prisons instead of treatment and prevention. This sends California backward, not forward.

Don’t be fooled by false solutions. Vote No on Prop. 36.

Cristine Soto DeBerry, Executive Director
Prosecutors Alliance Action

Don Frazier, Executive Director
Reentry Providers Association of California

David Guizar, Co-Founder
Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 36 ★

VOTE NO ON PROP. 36! THIS IS A WASTEFUL APPROACH THAT MAKES CALIFORNIA LESS SAFE. PROP. 36 is an extreme measure that will waste \$750 million in taxpayer dollars; cut funding from mental health, drug treatment, and rehabilitation programs; and do nothing to make us safer.

PROPOSITION 36 IS THE WRONG ANSWER. We must have an all-of-the-above approach to stop fentanyl use and improve public safety, but PROP. 36 is the opposite of that. This is a one-size-fits-all prison-first approach. It will lock up people who are not a danger, slash desperately needed money from proven crime prevention and treatment programs, and cost taxpayers hundreds of millions more on prisons.

PROP. 36 IS TOO EXTREME. Prop. 36 is so extreme that stealing a candy bar could lead to felony charges. It is a gross overreach that brings back 1980s “drug war” style tactics that packed our state prisons with people convicted of low-level drug offenses, harming public safety and damaging families and communities.

We must address persistent problems like theft and fentanyl, but we must use solutions that work and are targeted at the actual issue, instead of the scattershot failed solutions of the past. By making simple drug possession a felony, this measure will send thousands into state prison, drive up prison costs, and slash money for local safety programs. That will make crime worse, not better.

PROP. 36 STRIPS MONEY FROM CRIME VICTIMS, REHABILITATION, AND MENTAL HEALTH. Prop. 36 will strip millions away from dedicated funding that is spent on rehabilitation and services for crime victims, and it will expand the state prisons budget instead.

Local public safety programs that are working with law enforcement to prevent crime and stop people from cycling in and out of jails will **LOSE** funding if Prop. 36 passes.

These include effective recidivism reduction programs that get people struggling with mental health and addiction off the streets and into treatment, as well as trauma recovery centers for crime victims and programs providing truancy and dropout prevention for at-risk youth. These programs have a proven track record of stopping crime. We need **MORE** of these programs, working hand-in-hand with law enforcement, not less. This measure only locks more people up in state prison.

PROPOSITION 36 IS BEING PUSHED BY MAGA-REPUBLICANS. Don't be fooled. Law enforcement leaders, crime victims, and rehabilitation experts oppose Prop. 36 because it slashes money for public safety, victims, and treatment programs that stop repeat offending.

EXPERTS ON CRIME, SPENDING, AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGREE: Prop. 36 will **NOT** make our communities safer. Prop. 36 **WILL** waste hundreds of millions of **YOUR** taxpayer dollars on methods that are proven to be inefficient and ineffective.

Voting for Prop. 36 would be a vote to cut money for treatment and victims and waste taxpayer dollars. Voting NO on Prop. 36 maintains serious penalties for drug trafficking and organized crime, and protects dedicated funding for treatment, crime prevention, and rehabilitation that successfully reduce crime and recidivism.

VOTE NO ON PROP. 36

More info: StopProp36.com

Diana Becton, District Attorney
Contra Costa County

William Lansdowne, Police Chief (ret.)
City of San Diego

Jess Nichol, Victim Advocate
Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 36 ★

YES ON PROP. 36: BALANCED, RESPONSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO RISING CRIME

California has a serious crime problem, and the politicians have failed to fix it. Prop. 36 is a tailored reform focused on the root causes of rising crime: • Repeat retail theft • Fentanyl trafficking • Drug addiction without incentives for treatment

PROP. 36: TARGETED RESPONSE TO CALIFORNIA'S CRIME CRISIS

Prop. 36 increases penalties for smash-and-grab theft and serial thieves who victimize businesses repeatedly. No one will go to prison for “stealing a candy bar,” and judges are given discretion to assess the severity of crimes for sentencing. Prop. 36 won't result in over-incarceration.

PROP. 36: SMART APPROACH TO TREATING DRUG ADDICTION

Prop. 36 does not automatically lock up drug users. Instead, it restores drug courts, providing offenders who've been convicted three times with incentives to complete drug treatment.

PROP. 36: SAVINGS FOR CONSUMERS AND TAXPAYERS

California small businesses and stores lost nearly \$9 billion in 2022 from theft. Targeting the small group of criminals who repeatedly steal will result in huge savings for consumers. Treating addiction is a smart way to address illegal drug use and overdoses that cost California \$60 billion annually for opioids alone, according to the CDC.

PROP. 36: TOUGHER PENALTIES AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We shouldn't let the politicians tell us California's crime problem doesn't exist. Prop. 36 is a smart, balanced, and responsible approach of tougher penalties for targeted crimes and real accountability for public safety.

READ WHY PROP. 36 IS SUPPORTED BY DEMOCRATS AND REPUBLICANS, SMALL BUSINESSES, MAYORS, SOCIAL JUSTICE AND VICTIMS' GROUPS, AND LAW ENFORCEMENT

VoteYesProp36.com

Robert Rivinius, Executive Director
Family Business Association of California

Jay King, President
California Black Chamber of Commerce

Greg Van Dyke, President
California Consumer Advocates for Affordability and Safety

OVERVIEW OF STATE BOND DEBT

PREPARED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

This section describes the state's bond debt. It also discusses how the bond measures on the ballot, if approved by voters, would affect state costs to repay bonds.

State Bonds and Their Costs

What Are Bonds? Bonds are a way that governments borrow money. The state government uses bonds primarily to pay for infrastructure projects that have a long useful life, such as bridges, dams, prisons, parks, schools, and office buildings. The state sells bonds to investors to receive up-front funding for these projects and then must repay the investors over a period of time, typically a couple of decades. This is very similar to the way a family pays off a mortgage on their home.

What Are the Costs of Bond Financing?

The state's total cost for a project is more if it pays with bonds than if it pays up front with money it already has. This is because it has to pay interest on the bonds. The amount of additional cost depends on the interest rate and how long it takes to repay the bonds. For example, if the state uses a 30-year bond with a 4 percent interest rate to pay for a project, the total cost is about 15 percent more (after adjusting for inflation) than if the state paid up front with money it already has.

Most Bonds Must Be Approved by Voters. The California Constitution requires that most new bonds be approved by voters. These bonds usually are repaid from the state General Fund. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public

services, including education, health care, and prisons.)

Bonds and State Spending

Current Amount of Bond Debt. The state currently is repaying about \$80 billion of bonds. In addition, the voters and the Legislature previously have approved about \$35 billion of bonds that have not yet been sold. Most of these bonds are expected to be sold in the next several years. The state currently is paying about \$6 billion each year from the General Fund to repay bonds. The state will continue to pay a similar amount over the next few years. This is about 3 percent of the state's annual General Fund revenue, which is lower than the historical average of about 4 percent.

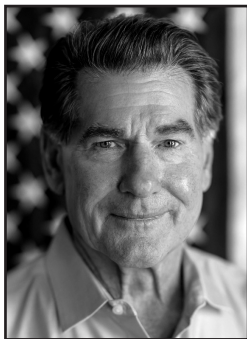
This Election's Impact on Debt Payments.

There are two bond measures on this ballot: Proposition 2 and Proposition 4. Proposition 2 would allow the state to borrow \$10 billion to build new facilities and renovate existing facilities at school districts and community colleges. The cost to repay this bond would be about \$500 million each year for 35 years. Proposition 4 would allow the state to borrow \$10 billion to pay for various natural resources and climate activities. The cost to repay this bond would be about \$400 million each year for 40 years. The cost to repay both bonds would total about \$900 million each year, which is about one-half of 1 percent of the state's annual General Fund revenue.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

UNITED STATES SENATE—FULL TERM

- Serves as one of the two Senators who represent California’s interests in the United States Congress.
 - Proposes and votes on new national laws.
 - Votes on confirming federal judges, U.S. Supreme Court Justices, and many high-level presidential appointments to civilian and military positions.
 - Will serve the 6-year term of office beginning on January 3, 2025.
-



Steve Garvey | REPUBLICAN

From the moment I came to California 50 years ago, it was home. For 20 years, I played for the Los Angeles Dodgers and San Diego Padres. When I took the field, I played for all the fans. Everyone was equal. Politics, race, sexual orientation, gender, and background didn’t divide us—they brought us together. California used to be the heartbeat of America, now it’s just a murmur. Career politicians put special interests ahead of you and your family’s well-being. Instead of housing, we have out-of-control homelessness. Instead of an immigration system that rewards hard work, we have chaos on the Southern Border. Instead of safe neighborhoods, there’s violent crime. Instead of affordability, Californians struggle to pay for rent, groceries, and gas. That’s not the California we love. You deserve better, your family deserves better. I am getting back in the game to fight for you and our state. I will be your voice in Washington, D.C.,

choosing common sense over tired old politics. We will reduce homelessness by addressing mental health and drug addiction. We will secure the border and work with law enforcement to make our neighborhoods safe and hold criminals responsible. We will lower inflation so every dollar goes towards supporting your family. We will provide our children with the best education. Politicians have failed us. I won’t. When Californians join together, anything is possible. I lived my dream, and you deserve to live yours. As your Senator, I will fight for your and California’s future.

74923 US Hwy. 111, Indian Wells, CA 92210 | E-mail: Team@SteveGarvey.com | www.SteveGarvey.com
Facebook: [Facebook.com/SteveGarvey6](https://www.facebook.com/SteveGarvey6) | X: [X.com/SteveGarvey6](https://www.x.com/SteveGarvey6) | Instagram: [Instagram.com/SteveGarvey6](https://www.instagram.com/SteveGarvey6)



Adam B. Schiff | DEMOCRATIC

Adam Schiff has always taken on the toughest fights to get things done. He’s running for the U.S. Senate to deliver results for Californians: making housing more affordable, lowering costs, fighting climate change, protecting abortion access, and building an economy that works for everyone. From the courtroom to Congress, Adam took on the biggest bullies—drug companies, polluters, and drug cartels—and won. He’s passed dozens of laws to lower prescription drug costs, expand public transit, create jobs, get people off the street, bring up-to-date textbooks to our schools, build the earthquake early warning system, and establish California’s Patients Bill of Rights. And when our democracy was under assault by a dangerous president, Adam investigated, impeached and held him accountable for inciting an insurrection. Adam will work with Democrats, Republicans, and Independents to make it affordable to raise a family in

California again. His Affordability Agenda calls for universal health care and childcare, and increased investments in Social Security. He’ll take on big developers and foreign investors driving up housing costs, and large corporations that are gouging consumers while raking in billions. Adam grew up in the Bay Area, working summers in his dad’s lumber yard and as a seasonal firefighter. After law school, he settled in Southern California, and met the love of his life, Eve—yes, they are Adam and Eve! They have been married for 29 years and have two wonderful kids. Visit www.AdamSchiff.com to learn more.

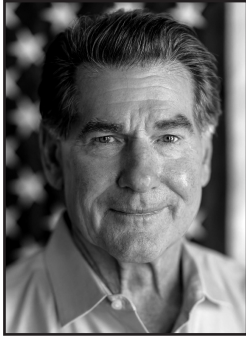
135 E. Olive Ave., Box 750, Burbank, CA 91502 | Tel: (818) 841-2828 | E-mail: contact@adamschiff.com
www.adamschiff.com | Facebook: www.facebook.com/AdamSchiffCA | X: www.twitter.com/adamschiffca
Instagram: www.instagram.com/adamschiffca/ | www.threads.net/@adamschiffca

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CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

UNITED STATES SENATE—PARTIAL/UNEXPIRED TERM

- Serves as one of the two Senators who represent California’s interests in the United States Congress.
 - Proposes and votes on new national laws.
 - Votes on confirming federal judges, U.S. Supreme Court Justices, and many high-level presidential appointments to civilian and military positions.
 - Will serve the remainder of the current term ending on January 3, 2025.
-



Steve Garvey | REPUBLICAN

Over 50 years ago, I came to California for the first time. For the next 20 years, I played for the Los Angeles Dodgers and the San Diego Padres in front of millions of fans watching on TV and cheering in the stands. At that time, California was the heartbeat of America, now it’s just a murmur. Years of bad policies have led to the highest cost of living in the country, chaos on the Southern Border, rising violent crime, out-of-control homelessness, and failing schools. Politicians have let all Californians down. When I’m your Senator, we will tackle homelessness by getting serious about mental health, drug addiction treatment, and the cost of housing. We will secure the border, fight crime, enforce our laws, and punish criminals. We will once again have the best schools in the country and provide our children with a first-class education. We will create good jobs, support small businessowners, and bring down the cost of living so every dollar goes

farther for your family. By working together, we will solve our problems with common-sense solutions, and not the same old tired politics. It’s time for political courage and we deserve leaders who will represent your interests, not their own. California allowed me to live my dream of playing in the Major Leagues, and you deserve to live yours. I hope to earn your support, so we can work together and restore the quality of life and opportunities we all deserve.

74923 US Hwy. 111, Indian Wells, CA 92210 | E-mail: Team@SteveGarvey.com | www.SteveGarvey.com
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California again. His Affordability Agenda calls for universal health care and childcare, and increased investments in Social Security. He’ll take on big developers and foreign investors driving up housing costs, and large corporations that are gouging consumers while raking in billions. Adam grew up in the Bay Area, working summers in his dad’s lumber yard and as a seasonal firefighter. After law school, he settled in Southern California, and met the love of his life, Eve—yes, they are Adam and Eve! They have been married for 29 years and have two wonderful kids. Visit www.AdamSchiff.com to learn more.

135 E. Olive Ave., Box 750, Burbank, CA 91502 | Tel: (818) 841-2828 | E-mail: contact@adamschiff.com
www.adamschiff.com | Facebook: www.facebook.com/AdamSchiffCA | X: www.twitter.com/adamschiffca
Instagram: www.instagram.com/adamschiffca/ | www.threads.net/@adamschiffca

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LEARN WHILE YOU EARN

ARE YOU IN HIGH SCHOOL? BE A POLL WORKER!

YOU GET TO

- Help carry out the most important event in our democracy—an election
- Earn \$65–\$180 for your day of service while you learn about elections
- Contribute to your community

YOU HAVE TO

- Be a United States Citizen or legal permanent resident
- Be at least 16 years old on Election Day
- Attend a public or private high school
- Have at least a 2.5 grade point average
- Get permission from your parents and school

DID YOU KNOW?

High school students are allowed to have one excused absence per year to attend a civic or political event, such as serving as a poll worker.

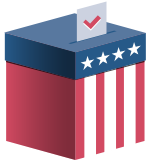


FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT YOUR
COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE, OR VISIT:

[https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/
poll-worker-information](https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/poll-worker-information)



DATES TO REMEMBER!



Don't Delay, Vote Today!

Early vote-by-mail ballot voting period is from **October 7 through November 5, 2024**.
Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on **November 5, 2024, Election Day!**

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

October 7

County elections officials will begin mailing vote-by-mail ballots on or before this date.

October 7–November 5

Voting period to return vote-by-mail ballot.

October 8

Vote-by-mail secure drop boxes open.

October 21

Last day to register to vote. Same day voter registration is available at your county elections office or voting location after the voter registration deadline, up to and including Election Day.

October 26

First day vote centers open in Voter's Choice Act counties for early in-person voting.

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Tuesday, November 5, 2024

Last day to vote in-person or return a vote-by-mail ballot by 8:00 p.m.

Polls are open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Vote-by-mail ballots must be postmarked no later than November 5.

Look for Trusted Sources of Election Information

The Secretary of State is committed to ensuring elections are free, fair, safe, secure, accurate, and accessible. Misinformation, intentional or otherwise, continues to confuse voters and create distrust in the electoral process. California has one of the most extensive voting system testing and certification programs in the nation.

Our best defense against rumors and misinformation is you! False election information is more common than you think. If a claim seems outrageous or designed to upset you, it may not be true.

The best sources for trusted election information are your local and state elections officials. To find out more about election facts or common rumors being spread, visit catrustedinformation.sos.ca.gov.

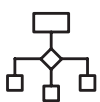
Report misinformation to votasure@sos.ca.gov.

California Election Security Safeguards



Secure Technology

- County voting systems are not connected to the internet
- Strong security techniques are practiced regularly
- Routine threat monitoring and vulnerability scanning in collaboration with our state and federal partners
- Rigorous voting system testing and certification performed by the California Secretary of State
- Only authorized elections staff have access to systems relevant to their role



Secure Processes

- VoteCal is a centralized statewide voter registration database. VoteCal checks against official records and is regularly updated
- Ballots and election technology must adhere to strict chain-of-custody procedures
- Paper ballots for all registered voters are available
- Post-election audits are performed by elections officials
- Signatures are verified on all vote-by-mail ballot envelopes
- Emergency planning for fire, flood, cyber incidents, and more



Secure Facilities and People

- Physical access control and security of locations
- Election processes open to observation during specific hours of operation
- Security and accessibility assessments completed for all locations
- Phishing and cybersecurity training provided for all staff
- Ballot drop boxes are secured and monitored





www.sos.ca.gov/elections/studentmockelection



Intended for Student Mock Election Purposes Only