

November 2024 CA Ballot Measures





Ten statewide measures qualified for the November 5 general election ballot. The Public Policy Committee has reviewed them all to help keep you informed!

Proposition 2



Public Education Facilities Bond Measure

- Would provide \$8.5 billion to K-12 schools and \$1.5 billion to community colleges
- To receive bond money, districts must raise a local bond of their own then apply to the State for a funding match on a sliding scale up to 65% for renovations and 55% for new construction. The exact state match is based on a formula that seeks to provide a higher match to low-wealth districts that cannot afford to generate much local funding, and those with a high percentage of disadvantaged districts.

Proposition 2 (cont.)



Proponents: California Federation of Teachers, California Labor Federation, Association of California School Administrators, California Builders Alliance, California Chamber of Commerce, California Retired Teachers Association, Community College League of California, etc.

Opponents: Some low-wealth districts and advocacy groups that say the proposal does not go far enough in addressing the equity gap that benefits affluent school districts.

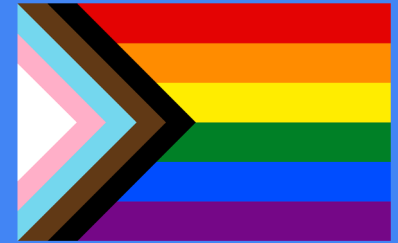
Proposition 2 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of public education facilities.

A "no" vote opposes issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of public education facilities.

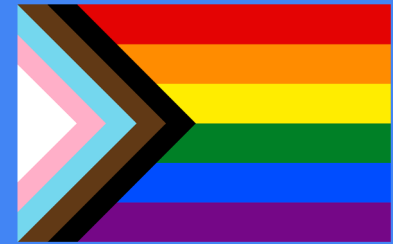
Proposition 3



Marriage Equality

This measure would amend the California Constitution to remove the CA ban on same-sex marriage and replace it with language saying that the “right to marry is a fundamental right.”

Proposition 3

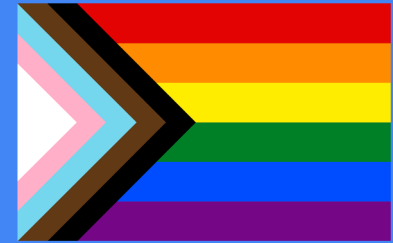


In particular, it would amend section 7.5 of Article I of the state constitution to remove the text added by Prop 8 in 2008. The following underlined text would be added, and ~~struck-through~~ text would be deleted:

~~Only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California.~~

- (a) The right to marry is a fundamental right. (b) This section is in furtherance of both of the following:
- (1) The inalienable rights to enjoy life and liberty and to pursue and obtain safety, happiness, and privacy guaranteed by Section 1.
 - (2) The rights to due process and equal protection guaranteed by Section 7.

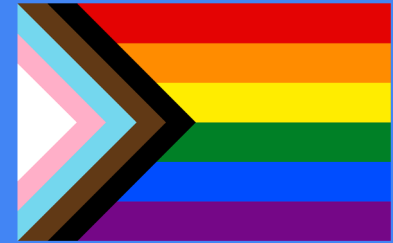
Proposition 3 (Cont.)



Proponents: CA Democratic Party, California Labor Federation, ACLU of Northern California, etc.

Opponents: California Capitol Connection (an alliance of independent Baptist ministers and churches)
and other conservative groups

Proposition 3



A "yes" vote supports this constitutional amendment to repeal Proposition 8 (2008), which defined marriage as a union between one man and one woman, and declare that a "right to marry is a fundamental right" in the California Constitution.

A "no" vote opposes this constitutional amendment, thus keeping Proposition 8 (2008), which defined marriage as a union between one man and one woman, in the California Constitution.

Proposition 4



Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure

- Would authorize the state to issue \$10 billion in bonds to fund various environmental, energy, and water projects.
- \$3.8 billion would be allocated to address drought, flood, and providing a safe water supply.
- \$1.2 billion would be allocated to address sea level rise
- 40% of the revenue must fund activities that benefit communities with lower incomes or that are affected by environmental changes or disasters.

Proposition 4



Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure

Proponents: Environmental groups, labor unions, social justice organizations, water agencies, renewable energy companies and the water recycling industry.

Opponents: The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

Proposition 4 (continued)



A "yes" vote supports issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund state and local parks, environmental protection projects, water infrastructure projects, energy projects, and flood protection projects.

A "no" vote opposes issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund state and local parks, environmental protection projects, water infrastructure projects, energy projects, and flood protection projects.

Proposition 5



Allows Local Bonds for Affordable Housing and Public Infrastructure with 55% Voter Approval.

- Would amend the CA Constitution to lower the supermajority vote requirement from two-thirds (66.67%) to 55% for local jurisdictions to issue bonds for affordable housing and public infrastructure projects.
- Would also require local governments to take specific steps to monitor the use of bond funds supporting housing assistance and public infrastructure.

Proposition 5 (cont.)



Proponents: California Democratic Party, State Building and Construction Trades Council of California, AIDS Healthcare Foundation, and California State Association of Counties

Opponents: California Association of Realtors, California Chamber of Commerce, California Taxpayer Association, Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, and National Federation of Independent Businesses.

Proposition 5 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports lowering the vote threshold from 66.67% to 55% for local bond measures to fund housing projects and public infrastructure.

A "no" vote opposes lowering the vote threshold from 66.67% to 55% for local bond measures to fund housing projects and public infrastructure.

Proposition 6



Prohibit Slavery and Involuntary Servitude

This ballot measure would amend Section 6 of Article I of the California Constitution to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude absolutely.

- The current state Constitution prohibits slavery, but allows Involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime.
- This measure would prohibit the Department of Corrections from punishing an inmate who refuses to work.
- Introduces volunteer work programs, allowing prisoners to work towards reducing their sentences
- Provides prisoners the opportunity to engage in rehabilitation programs.

Proposition 6 (Cont.)



Proponents: the ACLU, the Abolish Slavery National Network, and the Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Opponents: None known

Proposition 6 (Cont.)



A "yes" vote supports amending the state constitution to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime and authorize the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to award credits to incarcerated persons who voluntarily participate in work assignments.

A "no" vote opposes amending the state constitution to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime.

Proposition 32



Raise the Overall Minimum Wage to \$18

- Prop 32 would increase the state minimum wage to \$18 per hour over several years. It is currently \$16/hour.
- Certain municipalities have already set higher rates, e.g. San Francisco and San Diego.
- California has already passed laws establishing a minimum wage of \$20/hour for fast food workers and phasing in a \$25/hour minimum wage for medical workers.

Proposition 32 (cont.)



Proponents: Progressive financier Joe Sanberg

Opponents: National Federation of Independent Business

Proposition 32 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports increasing the state minimum wage to \$18 per hour by 2026 for all employers and thereafter adjusting the rate annually by increases to the cost of living.

A "no" vote opposes this ballot initiative, thereby maintaining the existing law which was designed to increase the minimum wage to \$15 per hour for all employers by January 2023 and increasing it annually according to inflation.

Proposition 33



Rent Cap for Homes Built after 1995

- Would repeal the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995, which prohibits cities and counties from enacting rent control on single-family homes and houses completed after February 1, 1995. The Act also prohibits rent control laws that limit what a landlord can charge a tenant when they first move in.
- By repealing the act, this Proposition would allow cities and counties to limit rent on any housing and limit the rent for a first-time tenant.

Proposition 33



Rent Cap for Homes Built after 1995

Arguments for:

- Tenant Protections: Aims to stabilize rent increases and protect tenants from significant rent hikes, which can lead to displacement and homelessness.
- Local Control: Gives cities and counties the flexibility to address housing affordability issues based on local needs and conditions.

Proposition 33



Rent Cap for Homes Built after 1995

Arguments Against:

- Discouragement of New Construction: Potentially reduces incentives for developers to build new rental housing, exacerbating the housing shortage.
- Impact on Property Maintenance: Limits revenue for landlords, possibly reducing funds available for property upkeep and improvements.
- Market Distortions: May lead to inefficiencies in the rental market, affecting the availability and quality of rental housing.
- Harm to Small Landlords: Financial strain from imposed rent controls could drive small landlords out of the market, reducing rental housing availability.

Proposition 33 (cont.)



Proponents: Justice for Renters (sponsored by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation) is leading the campaign in support of the ballot initiative. Others include U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders (I), Huntington Beach Councilmember Tony Strickland (R), **California Democratic Party**, California Nurses Association, Americans for Democratic Action - Southern California, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, Housing is a Human Right, Veterans' Voices, etc.

Opponents: State **Senator Toni Atkins (D)**, **Assembly Appropriations Chair Buffy Wicks (D)**, **Republican Party of California**, Norcal Carpenters Union, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, California Apartment Association, California Business Roundtable, etc.

Proposition 33 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports repealing the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act (1995), allowing cities and counties to cap rent on any housing and limit the rent for first-time tenants and adding language to state law to prohibit the state from limiting "the right of any city, county, or city and county to maintain, enact or expand residential rent control."

A "no" vote opposes repealing Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act, which prohibits rent control on single-family homes and houses completed after February 1, 1995.

Proposition 34



Require Certain Participants in Medi-Cal Rx Program to Spend 98% of Revenues on Patient Care (“Patient Protection Act”)

- In order to maintain their tax-exempt status and licensure, “prescription drug price manipulators” (certain health insurance plans, pharmacies, and clinics) would be required to spend at least 98% of revenues from federal discount prescription drug program on direct patient care.
- Written in such a way to target the AIDS Healthcare Foundation.
- Permanently authorizes state to negotiate Medi-Cal drug prices on statewide basis.

Proposition 34 (cont.)



Proponents: The PAC “Yes on 34, Protect Patients Now,” sponsored by the California Apartment Association, is leading the campaign in support of Proposition 34. The campaign reported over \$14.9 million through June 30. The campaign has been endorsed by State Asm. Evan Low (D), Republican Party of California, ALS Association, and San Francisco Women's Cancer Network. The campaign said, “The Protect Patients Now Act will force the worst abusers of the drug discount program, like Weinstein’s [AIDS Healthcare Foundation], back to the program’s original mission to provide healthcare to low-income patients.”

Opponents: The AIDS Healthcare Foundation, Housing is A Human Right.

Proposition 34 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports:

- requiring health care providers that spent over \$100 million in any 10-year period on anything other than direct patient care and operated multifamily housing with over 500 high-severity health and safety violations to spend 98% of revenues from the federal discount prescription drug program on direct patient care;
- penalizing noncompliance by revoking health care licenses and tax-exempt status.
- permanently authorizing Medi-Cal RX in state law.

A "no" vote opposes this initiative to penalize health care providers who spend revenues from the federal discount prescription drug program on purposes other than direct patient care.

Proposition 35



Protect Access to Healthcare Act of 2024

- Would provide permanent funding for Medi-Cal Health Care Services
- Would permanently establish the tax on managed care organizations (health insurance providers), subject to federal approval.
- Would mandate that these taxes on managed care medical groups, which provide medical services for Medi-Cal, will only go to increase reimbursement for Medicare-Cal providers, assuring that there will be enough providers for an ever increasing number of patients.

Proposition 35 (cont.)



Both parties support this proposition!

Proposition 35 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports permanently authorizing a tax on managed care organizations based on monthly enrollees, which is set to expire in 2026, and requiring revenues to be used for increased Medi-Cal programs.

A "no" vote opposes permanently authorizing a tax on managed care organizations based on monthly enrollees, thereby allowing it to expire in 2026.

Proposition 36



The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act

- Allows felony charges for a third offense of possessing certain drugs, including fentanyl—currently only a misdemeanor. Defendants who plead guilty to felony drug possession and complete treatment can have charges dismissed.
- Allows felony charges for theft of goods valued under \$950 – currently chargeable only as a misdemeanor – with two prior theft convictions.
- Would add fentanyl to the list of drugs (cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine) that warrant a felony charge if an individual possesses the drug and a loaded firearm. The punishment for this crime is up to four years in prison. (Currently, possessing fentanyl and a loaded firearm is punishable by up to one year in jail.)

Proposition 36 (cont.)



Proponents argue that this measure is needed to prevent retail crime and improve community safety.

Opponents argue that this measure will disproportionately result in more poor people, more Black and Brown people, and those with drug addictions being swept up into our system of mass incarceration, while not impacting criminals who hire large groups to steal for them. They also argue that this Proposition would reduce funding for much-needed services, including employment assistance for those coming out of jail, victims' services, and housing.

Proposition 36 (cont.)



Proponents: Mayors of San Francisco, San Diego, and San Jose, Republican Party of CA, the California District Attorneys Association, Calif Sheriff's Association, the League of California Cities, Walmart, Target, and Home Depot

Opponents: Governor Newsom, CA Democratic Party, ACLU of Northern California, Action for Safety and Justice , and Anti-Recidivism Coalition

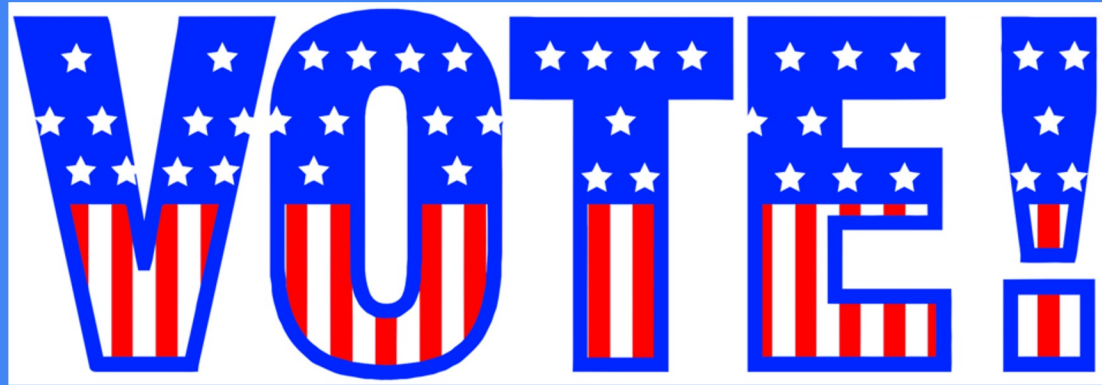
Proposition 36 (cont.)



A "yes" vote supports making changes to Proposition 47, approved in 2014, including:

- classifying certain drug offenses as treatment-mandated felonies;
- increasing penalties for certain drug crimes by increasing sentence lengths and level of crime;
- requiring courts to warn individuals convicted of distributing illegal drugs of their potential future criminal liability if they distribute deadly drugs like fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine;
- increasing sentences for theft based on the value of the property stolen.

A "no" vote opposes this initiative that makes changes to Proposition 47 (2014), thereby maintaining certain drug and theft crimes as misdemeanors.



Please note that significant portions of this presentation were taken directly from the CA Secretary of State's website, Ballotpedia, and CalMatters.