California State Ballot Measures

**Proposition 51**

**School Bonds**

**SUPPORT**

Authorizes $9 billion in bonds for new construction and modernization of K-12 public school facilities; charter schools; vocational education and community colleges ($2 billion for community colleges, with the rest for the other categories).

The last school bond measure was approved in 2006 and the funds have been spent. A broad, bi-partisan coalition crafted the measure and the funds will be broadly distributed. Too late in the game Governor Brown chose to oppose, saying the funds should be more narrowly targeted towards the neediest schools.

**Proposition 52**

**Hospital Fees**

**SUPPORT**

Extends indefinitely an existing statute that imposes fees on hospitals to fund Medi-Cal health care services, care for uninsured patients, and children’s health coverage.

Supporters and opponents agree the fees are necessary to provide the local match necessary to access the state’s federal Medicaid/Medi-Cal funds. This measure is about how excess funds can be spent. It requires a two thirds vote to divert excess funds for non-healthcare purposes, as the State did in the last recession.

**Proposition 53**

**Revenue Bonds**

**OPPOSE**

Requires statewide voter approval before any revenue bonds can be issued or sold by the state for certain projects if the bond amount exceeds $2 billion.

Every major infrastructure project, including local projects, should not be subject to a statewide vote. There are legitimate issues raised by the measure, but the solution is flawed and lacks flexibility for any emergencies.

**Proposition 54**

**Legislative Transparency**

**SUPPORT**

Prohibits Legislature from passing any bill unless published on Internet for 72 hours before vote. Requires Legislature to record its proceedings and post on Internet.

While the bill may allow lobbyists time to twist arms and run attack ads, the transparency is worth the more cumbersome process.

**Proposition 55**

**Tax Extension**

**SUPPORT**

Extends by twelve years the temporary personal income tax increases enacted in 2012 on earnings over $250,000, with revenues allocated to K-12 schools and Community Colleges. Fiscal Impact: Increased state revenues—$4 billion to $9 billion annually from 2019-2030—depending on the economy. Increased funding for schools, community colleges, health care for low-income people, budget reserves, and debt payment (the temporary sales tax increase of Prop. 30 expires in December of this year).

**Proposition 56**

**Cigarette Tax**

**SUPPORT**

Increases cigarette tax by $2.00 per pack, with equivalent increase on other tobacco products and electronic cigarettes containing nicotine. Fiscal Impact: Additional net state revenue of $1 billion to $1.4 billion in 2017-18, with potentially lower future revenues. Revenues would be used primarily to augment...
## California State Ballot Measures

This Voter Guide is available online at www.a3pcon.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposition</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposition 57</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Sentencing Reform**  
Allows parole consideration for nonviolent felons. Authorizes sentence credits for rehabilitation, good behavior, and education. Juvenile court judges will decide whether juvenile will be prosecuted as adults (currently decided by prosecutors). Prop. 57 focuses law enforcement on serious, violent crime, not non-violent offenders who can be rehabilitated, and directs savings for programs that reduce the cycle of crime. | SUPPORT | |
| Proposition 58 | 
**English in Public Schools**  
Preserves requirement that public schools ensure students obtain English language proficiency. Requires school districts to solicit parent/community input in developing language acquisition programs. Authorizes school districts to establish dual-language immersion programs for native and non-native English speakers. The initiative will repeal most of Proposition 227, the 1998 measure that restricted bilingual education programs in public schools. | SUPPORT | |
| Proposition 59 | 
**Overturn of Citizens United Act Advisory Question**  
This advisory measure calls on California’s elected officials to propose and ratify an amendment to the U.S. Constitution overturning the Supreme Court decision in Citizens United v. Federal Election Commission. Citizens United ruled that laws placing certain limits on political spending by corporations and unions are unconstitutional. This ruling opened the floodgates to unrestricted, unaccountable and frequently anonymous funding by political action committees. | SUPPORT | |
| Proposition 60 | 
**Condoms in Porn**  
Requires adult film performers to use condoms during filming of sexual intercourse. Requires producers to pay for performer vaccinations, testing, and medical examinations. Prop. 60 increases important health protections for porn actors. | SUPPORT | |
| Proposition 61 | 
**Prescription Drug Costs**  
Prohibits state from buying any prescription drug from a drug manufacturer at price over lowest price paid for the drug by United States Department of Veterans Affairs. Exempts managed care programs funded through Medi-Cal. Lacking other strategies or tools to restrain the numerous cases of drug price gouging, such as price increases of 5,000%, the premise of the measure is sound and merits support. Opponents see legal issues in its implementation and that the pharmaceutical firms will seek other ways to pass on the costs to consumers. | SUPPORT | |
| Proposition 62 | 
**Death Penalty Repeal**  
Repeals death penalty and replaces it with life imprisonment without possibility of parole. Applies retroactively to existing death sentences. Increases the portion of life inmates’ wages that may be applied to victim restitution. Prop. 62 is more humane, will end the racial disparities in the application of the death penalty, and save up to $150 million a year in criminal justice costs. | SUPPORT | |
| Proposition 63 | 
**Ammunition Sales**  
Prohibits possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines, and requires their disposal by sale to dealer, destruction, or removal from state. Requires most individuals to pass background checks and obtain DOJ authorization to purchase | |
California State Ballot Measures

**SUPPORT**

- **Proposition 64**
  - **Marijuana Legalization**
  - Legalizes marijuana under state law, for use by adults 21 or older. Imposes state taxes on sales and cultivation. Provides for industry licensing and establishes standards for marijuana products. Allows local regulation and taxation.

Prop. 64 is a complex issue. Scientific evidence is that marijuana is less dangerous than alcohol. Legalized medical marijuana has made it easier to obtain, including for youth. States who have legalized recreational marijuana have found that legalization generally works, although there have been increases in driving under the influence. The Colorado Dept. of Public Health reports that with legalization, marijuana use by youth did not increase. Legalization reduces the still high disparities in arrests between whites and African Americans, reduces the felony arrests that are used for deportations, brings the trade out of the shadows, makes standards for blood levels of THC for DUI, and raises funds for marijuana education programs and general revenue. Opponents legitimately have concerns about impaired driving, youth exposure and that marijuana, like alcohol and opioids, can be abused. Lawmakers will need to work on measures to reduce negative impacts, as is being done in the states that have legalized.

**Oppose**

- **Proposition 65**
  - **Bag Tax**
  - Redirects money collected by grocery and certain other retail stores through mandated sale of carryout bags. Requires stores to deposit bag sale proceeds into a special fund to support specified environmental projects.

  The plastic bag industry placed two measures on the ballot, Prop. 65 and Prop. 67, with the intent of confusing voters who tend to vote no when confused. Vote no on Proposition 65, which would require grocery stores to direct proceeds from bag sales to an environmental fund. Environmental groups, including A3PCON’s Environmental Justice Committee, want to maintain grocers’ support for the ban by continuing to have grocers compensated for the costs of multi-use bags.

- **Proposition 66**
  - **Death Penalty Fix**
  - Changes procedures governing state court challenges to death sentences. Designates superior court for initial petitions and limits successive petitions. Requires appointed attorneys who take noncapital appeals to accept death penalty appeals. Exempts prison officials from existing regulation process for developing execution methods.

  Do we need or want more executions? No.

**Support**

- **Proposition 67**
  - **Plastic Bag Referendum**
  - A “Yes” vote approves the state statute that prohibits grocery and other stores from providing customers free single-use plastic or paper carryout bags but permits sale of recycled paper bags and reusable bags.

  This measure upholds the statewide ban on the free, flimsy, single-use plastic bags, that was blocked by the courts pending the outcome of the voting on Props. 65 and 67.
## Los Angeles County Ballot Measures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure A</th>
<th>Measure A replaces expiring local funding for safe, clean, neighborhood, city and county parks and beaches. It places a 1.5 cent levy per square foot of improved property that will cost a 1,500 square foot home, $22.50 a year.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SUPPORT</strong> Safe, Clean</td>
<td>A higher fee and more revenue would have been desirable, but the County Supervisors were concerned about the number of fee-raising measures on this November ballot.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Parks and Beaches</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Measure M</td>
<td>Measure M would fund a wide variety of transit and highway projects, local street improvements, programs for seniors, students and the disabled, bike paths and improving bike and pedestrian access to transit stops, over the next four decades. Measure M increases the countywide sales tax by a half-cent, and continue the existing Measure R tax after it is set to expire in 2019 until voters decide to change it.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles County Traffic Improvement Plan</td>
<td>Measure M will reduce traffic congestion, and driving overall with a more viable and complete transit system, including improving ease of access to transit stations, keeping reasonable rates for students, seniors and the disabled. A3PCON will continue to oppose a new highway north of the San Gabriel Mountains.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Los Angeles City Ballot Measures

Proposition HHH
Homelessness Reduction and Prevention, Housing, and Facilities Bond
SUPPORT

The $1.2 billion in housing bonds will be issued over ten years, with 80% for housing and facilities for the homeless; and 20% towards affordable housing for low income residents. The cost to taxpayers would be about $4.50 to $17.50 per $100,000 of assessed property value per year.

Ordinance JJJ
Affordable Housing and Labor Standards Related to City Planning
SUPPORT

This ordinance 1) requires that certain residential development projects that seek zoning variances, provide for affordable housing and comply with local wage, local hiring and other labor standards; 2) requires the City to assess the impacts of community plan changes on affordable housing and local jobs; 3) and creates an affordable housing incentive for developments near major transit.

This measure will require the developers of market-rate housing developments to include lower and moderate income housing units is a good step. A3PCON is concerned that the affected developments can be as small as 10 units, but this and other provisions (except wages) can be ended by the City Council if it proves to be unworkable.

Amendment RRR
Department of Water and Power
ABSTAIN

Reforming the governance structures for the City’s DWP is greatly complex and A3PCON chooses not to weigh in.

Amendment SSS
Fire and Police Pensions: Airport Peace Officers
ABSTAIN

With little information available on the proposed merger of pension plans, A3PCON abstains.

Los Angeles Community College District Ballot Measures

Measure CC
Affordable Education/Job Training/Classroom Safety
SUPPORT

The measure for modernizing and renovating the nine colleges would cost taxpayers $15 per $100,000 of assessed valuation. Critics of the LACCD sought assurances that oversight measures would be installed since a 2011 audit by Controller John Chiang found $28.3 million of previous bond measures was spent on projects that were later canceled.

The LACCD Trustees have addressed these concerns, established the Office of Bond Program Monitor to conduct regular, independent audits and set up a whistleblower hotline.