

VIDEO VOTER: A GUIDE TO CALIFORNIA BALLOT MEASURES

VIDEO VOTER SERIES 2020



ROSE INSTITUTE
OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
CLAREMONT MCKENNA COLLEGE

California voters will be confronted with twelve ballot propositions this November. The Rose Institute of State and Local Government's *Video Voter: A Guide to California Ballot Measures* is designed to help voters make informed decisions on each of these measures. The non-partisan project explains each ballot measure with an educational video and a brief written analysis. Both make clear what a yes or no vote means, present major arguments from both proponents and opponents, and identify main supporters and opponents. *Video Voter: A Guide to California Ballot Measures* is available at www.RoseInstitute.org.

Eight of the measures Californians will consider in this election cycle were put on the ballot by petition signatures. For ballot measures classified as initiative statutes, organizers must obtain signatures equivalent to either 5% of the votes cast in the most recent gubernatorial election for initiatives and referenda, or 8% for constitutional amendments. The number of signatures required is 997,139 for a constitutional amendment and 623,212 for a statute. Of the eight measures qualifying by petition signatures, six are classified as initiative statutes, including measures increasing penalties for some crimes, allowing local

governments to expand rent control, and designating drivers for app-based companies as independent contractors rather than employees. One measure is classified as an initiative constitutional amendment. It would repeal some of the Prop 13 property tax limits for commercial and industrial properties. One measure is a referendum asking voters to adopt or reject a 2018 law eliminating California's cash bail system.

The second way to place a measure on the ballot is by legislative referral. Four of the 2020 ballot measures are amendments to the California Constitution placed on the ballot by the legislature. The most high-profile of these would repeal a 1996 measure that banned affirmative action by governments, public universities and other public entities. Another closely followed measure would change the commercial and industrial property tax system to be based on current market value rather than original purchase price.

Ken Miller, Associate Director of the Rose Institute and a member of the Government Department at Claremont McKenna College, was in charge of the

project. CMC junior Maya Ghosh led a team of eight undergraduate students to research and produce the twelve videos. They also wrote short background pa-

pers analyzing each video. Read the backgrounders and watch the videos at www.RoseInstitute.org

TAXES AND BORROWING

Prop	Description	Supporting	Opposing
14	Authorizes \$5.5 billion in new general obligation bonds for the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of California Board of Regents • Medical research center • ALS Association • American Diabetes Association • Parkinson’s Foundation • National Medical Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marcy Darnovsky, Center for Genetics an Society • No on Proposition 14 • <i>Orange County Register</i> • <i>Mercury News</i>
15	Requires that owners of commercial and industrial properties worth more than \$3 million be taxed based on the properties’ current market value rather than based on the property’s purchase price.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor Gavin Newsom (D) • Other statewide elected officials • Many school districts and other local governments • California Democratic Party • Organized labor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Business Roundtable • California Chamber of Commerce • California Taxpayers Association • Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association • California Republican Party
19	Changes special property tax assessment rules for eligible homeowners and inherited property. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands an existing benefit for seniors, the severely disabled, and victims of wild-fires and natural disasters, by letting them transfer the taxable value on their primary residence to a new property when they move anywhere in California. • Narrows the existing benefit for inherited properties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Association of Realtor • California Professional Firefighters • Various local governments, business and real estate groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association • Assemblyman Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova) • Senator Patricia Bates (R-Laguna Niguel)



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REGULATIONS ON BUSINESS AND THE ECONOMY

PROP	DESCRIPTION	SUPPORTING	OPPOSING
21	Expands local governments' authority to impose rent control measures on residential properties.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) • SEIU of California • Housing Is A Human Right (HHR) • Yes on 21 – Renters and Homeowners United to Keep Families in Their Homes • California Democratic Party • Senator Bernie Sanders (D-Vermont) • Our Revolution • Rep. Maxine Waters (D-CA) • Dolores Huerta Foundation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governor Gavin Newsom (D) • California Building Industry Association • Building Trades Unions • Veterans Groups • California Chamber of Commerce • Congress of California Seniors • California Rental Housing Association • CA Republican Party
22	Designates app-based rideshare and delivery drivers as independent contractors, rather than employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • California Chamber of Commerce • California Small Business Association • California Black Chamber of Commerce • California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce • CalAsian Chamber of Commerce • California Taxpayer Protection Committee • California-Hawaii State Conference of the NAACP and nine local NAACP chapters • California Police Chiefs Association • California State Sheriffs' Association • Crime Victims United of California • California Peace Officers Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Brotherhood of Teamsters • California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO • Gig Workers Rising • SEIU California State Council • State Building and Construction Trades Council of California • Transport Workers Union of America • United Food and Commercial Workers Western States Council • UNITE HERE • California Teachers Association • Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon • U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris (D) • Former Vice President Joe Biden • U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D)



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CRIMINAL JUSTICE

PROP	DESCRIPTION	SUPPORTING	OPPOSING
20	<p>Revises four criminal justice statutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases penalties for some crimes. Revises process for early release of certain inmates. Changes how people released from prison are supervised in the community Changes the process considering the release of inmates from prison. Expands DNA collection from adults for certain misdemeanors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crime Survivors, Inc. Crime Victims United of California Crime Victims Alliance Keep California Safe Orange County Board of Supervisors Albertsons Safeway Peace Officers Research Association of California Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs Los Angeles Police Protective League 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Former governor Jerry Brown (D) SEIU California State Council California Labor Federation Chief Probation Officers of California ACLU of Northern California Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
25	<p>Abolishes cash bail in California.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governor Gavin Newsom (D) State Senator Robert Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys) (author of SB 10) Other Democratic elected officials California Democratic Party California Public Defenders Association Western Center on Law and Poverty Violence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The bail industry California Peace Officers Association District attorneys and sheriffs from a majority of counties Crime Victims United NAACP Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association



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HEALTHCARE

PROP	DESCRIPTION	SUPPORTING	OPPOSING
23	Establishes new regulations for chronic dialysis clinics in California.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEIU United Health Care Workers West • California Labor Federation • California Democratic Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DaVita Inc. • Fresenius Medical Care • U.S. Renal Care, Inc. • California Medical Association • Chronic Disease Coalition • Minority Health Institute • California Senior Advocates League • AMVETS Department of California • American Legion Department of California • California NAACP State Conference • Women Voters Alliance



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OTHER MEASURES

PROP	DESCRIPTION	SUPPORTING	OPPOSING
16	<p>Repeals a 1996 state constitutional amendment requiring that “the state shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting.”</p> <p>Allows governments, public universities, and other public entities to develop and implement affirmative action programs on the basis of the above characteristics.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Senator Kamala Harris (D) • Governor Gavin Newsom (D) • Most statewide elected officials • U.C. Board of Regents • Labor organizations • California Democratic Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Ling Ling Chang (R-Diamond Bar) • Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehama) • Ward Connerly, Californians for Equal Rights • Former Congressman Darrell Issa (R-San Diego) • Chinese American Civic Action Alliance • California Republican Party • Students for Fair Admissions
17	<p>Amends the California Constitution to restore the right of persons convicted of a felony to vote after they are released from state prison and while they are still on parole.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • U.S. Senator Kamala Harris (D) • Secretary of State Alex Padilla (D) • California Democratic Party • The ACLU of California • The League of Women Voters of California 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senator Jim Nielsen (R-Tehana) • California Republican Party
18	<p>Allows 17-year-olds to vote in primary and special elections if they will turn 18 years old by the time of the general election.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secretary of State Alex Padilla (D) • California Association of Student Councils • League of Women Voters of California • California Democratic Party 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election Integrity Project, California • Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association • California Republican Party
24	<p>Amends existing consumer data privacy laws, creates new consumer privacy rights, and establishes the California Privacy Protection Agency to implement and enforce these rights.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consumer Watchdog • Consumer Action • NAACP • Common Sense • State Senator Robert Hertzberg (D-Van Nuys) • Former presidential candidate Andrew Yang (D) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACLU of California • Consumer Federation of California • Public Citizen • Media Alliance • California Republican Party