

Voting Guide 2024

THE SAN DIEGO VOICE & VIEWPOINT

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GENERAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 5, 2024

The following is a list of propositions and measures that will be on the November 5, 2024 General Election ballot. Propositions and measures without a listed recommendation were not decided upon at press time. You, as the readers, are encouraged to make up your own minds. The important thing is that you vote and that you understand the importance of your vote.

This list will appear on our website as well.

PROPOSITIONS & BALLOT MEASURES

STATEWIDE PROPOSITIONS

BONDS

PROPOSITION 2:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

ISSUE \$10 BILLION IN BONDS TO FUND CONSTRUCTION AND MODERNIZATION OF PUBLIC EDUCATION FACILITIES

PRO: MANY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY COLLEGES ARE OUTDATED AND NEED BASIC HEALTH AND SAFETY REPAIRS TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR COLLEGE AND CAREERS AND TO RETAIN AND ATTRACT QUALITY TEACHERS.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 BOND OBLIGATIONS BY \$10 BILLION, WHICH WILL COST TAXPAYERS \$18 BILLION (ESTIMATED) WHEN REPAYED WITH INTEREST.

PROPOSITION 4:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

ISSUE \$10 BILLION IN BONDS TO FUND STATE AND LOCAL PARKS, ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION PROJECTS, WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, ENERGY PROJECTS, AND FLOOD PROTECTION PROJECTS

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.

HEALTHCARE

PROPOSITION 35:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

PERMANENTLY AUTHORIZES A TAX ON MANAGED CARE ORGANIZATIONS TO FUND MEDICAL PROGRAMS

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, FAMILY PLANNING, AND MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDERS. PROP. 35 PREVENTS THE STATE FROM REDIRECTING FUNDS FOR NON-HEALTHCARE PURPOSES.

CON: NO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 35 WAS SUBMITTED.

PROPOSITION 34:

RESTRICTS SPENDING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG REVENUES BY CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

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.

CON: THE REVENGE INITIATIVE. THE 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.

RECOMMENDATION: TBD

VOTING

PROPOSITION 5:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

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

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. PROP. 5 EMPOWERS LOCAL VOTERS TO SOLVE LOCAL PROBLEMS.

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.

CIVIL RIGHTS

PROPOSITION 3:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

REPEAL PROPOSITION 8 AND ESTABLISH A RIGHT TO MARRY

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.

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.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

PROPOSITION 6:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

REMOVE INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE AS PUNISHMENT FOR A CRIME FROM THE STATE CONSTITUTION

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.

PROPOSITION 36:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

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

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.

EMPLOYMENT

PROPOSITION 32:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

RAISES MINIMUM WAGE TO \$18 AN HOUR

PRO: YES ON PROPOSITION 32 RAISES THE MINIMUM WAGE TO \$18 SO MORE FAMILIES, ESSENTIAL AND SERVICE WORKERS CAN AFFORD THE STATE'S COST OF LIVING.

CON: PROP. 32 WAS WRITTEN BY ONE MULTI-MILLIONAIRE 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.

HOUSING

PROPOSITION 33:

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

EXPANDS LOCAL GOVS. AUTHORITY TO ENACT RENT CONTROL ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. INITIATIVE STATUE

PRO: 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.

CITY OF SAN DIEGO BALLOT MEASURES

MEASURE C

AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO CHARTER RELATING TO BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS

THIS MEASURE WOULD AMEND SAN DIEGO CHARTER SECTION 66 TO CHANGE, IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT. IF TWO OR FEWER CANDIDATES, INCLUDING WRITE-IN CANDIDATES WHO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS SET OUT IN THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE, QUALIFY TO RUN FOR A PARTICULAR SCHOOL BOARD SEAT IN A MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION (PRIMARY), VOTERS WILL VOTE ON THAT SEAT AT THE MUNICIPAL GENERAL ELECTION AND NOT THE PRIMARY.

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

MEASURE D

AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO CHARTER RELATING TO THE ETHICS COMMISSION

THIS MEASURE WOULD AMEND THE SAN DIEGO CHARTER BY REMOVING THE ETHICS COMMISSION FROM CHARTER SECTION 41 AND PLACING THOSE PROVISIONS IN A NEW CHARTER SECTION DEDICATED SOLELY TO THE COMMISSION. THE CITY COUNCIL WOULD BE REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE COMMISSION WITH SUFFICIENT RESOURCES TO PERFORM ITS RESPONSIBILITIES.

RECOMMENDATION:  YES

MEASURE E

AMENDING THE SAN DIEGO MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO A GENERAL TRANSACTIONS AND USE TAX

THIS MEASURE WOULD AMEND THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF A NEW ONE-CENT TRANSACTION AND USE TAX (I.E., A SALES TAX). THE NEW TAX IS PROJECTED TO GENERATE APPROXIMATELY \$400 MILLION OF UNRESTRICTED ANNUAL REVENUE TO THE CITY'S GENERAL FUND WHICH CAN BE USED FOR INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS, CORE SERVICES, AND GENERAL CITY NEEDS.

RECOMMENDATION:  NO