

Summary Information & Voting Recommendations on California's Ballot Propositions

Propositions on November Ballot	Comments from reliable news & political sources (e.g. ABC7 Analysts, Mercury News/East Bay Times)	Dem Party	LWV League of Women Voters	Mercury News	Club Pres	Supporters & Opponents
14: Funding for stem cell research	<p>For: Universities, nonprofits and other research groups need more funding to continue this vital medical research. The \$3 billion in funding provided by Prop 71 in 2004 has been depleted. Silicon Valley real estate investor Robert Klein, who also championed Proposition 71, says it would keep badly needed research alive.</p> <p>Against: There isn't enough oversight on how the money will be spent. It would produce more under-regulated stem-cell clinics that offer overhyped treatments.</p>	Yes	Neutral	No	Yes	<p>For: California Democratic Party, UC Board of Regents, several medical institutions, BLM advocates, Senators Diane Feinstein, Kamala Harris, among others.</p> <p>Against: The nonprofit Center for Genetics & Society.</p>
15: Increase commercial property taxes for educational funding	<p>For: California companies like Chevron & Disneyland sit on extremely valuable property, make lots of money & don't pay taxes on their land's market value. Plus, schools desperately need the funding. Depending on the real estate market, the measure could bring in another \$12 billion in property tax revenue each year.</p> <p>Against: The massive tax increase will prompt companies to flee California at a time when businesses are already struggling.</p>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	<p>One of the most expensive ballot fights.</p> <p>For: Dozens of Democratic lawmakers, several CA school districts, California Teachers Association. Supporters, including a nonprofit established by Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg and his wife, Priscilla Chan, have already dumped roughly \$30 million into the campaign.</p> <p>Against: Several local chambers of commerce, Ted Gaines (Republican on the CA Board of Equalization), and several local branches of the NAACP. Homeowner groups and Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, have spent more than \$10 million against it.</p>

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16: Affirmative Action - Repeal Prop 209	<p>For: Repealing the constitutional amendment would allow California's public institutions to work toward greater diversity. Plus, federal law preventing discrimination still stands. It would be a step toward undoing some of the systemic racism that has prevented Black and Latinx young people from accessing higher education opportunities.</p> <p>Against: Discrimination is bad whether it benefits historically underprivileged groups or not. Some Asian American groups, worry it could make it harder to gain admission for Asian Americans, who are overrepresented in proportion to their share of the state's population at many of the state's top public universities.</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>For: Dozens of California Democrats, including Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris, CTA and the UC Board of Regents. Gov. Gavin Newsom and the leaders of all three California public higher-education systems and would do away with Proposition 209, a controversial 1996 measure that sent the number of Black and Latino students at top schools plummeting.</p> <p>Against: Pres. Equal Rights Law officer; two Republican state senators and a handful of former Republican U.S. representatives, including Darrell Issa.</p>
17: Allows parolees the right to vote	<p>For: The change would restore voting rights to a disenfranchised group of people that have fully completed their prison sentences & are reintegrating into society.</p> <p>Against: People on parole are still being closely monitored & haven't had their full rights to freedom restored; voting should fall under that category.</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>For: Several prominent California Democrats, the ACLU and League of Women Voters.</p> <p>Against: California State Sen. Jim Nielson (R-Red Bluff).</p>
18: Grant some 17 yr olds right to vote in primaries	<p>For: Young people who are legally allowed to participate in general elections should be able to participate in that full electoral cycle.</p> <p>Against: Seventeen year olds are legally children and therefore too young to vote.</p>	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	<p>For: California Secretary of State Alex Padilla, plus it had majority Democrat support when it started as an amendment in the Assembly.</p> <p>Against: When it was being considered in the Assembly, the opposition was largely Republican.</p>

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19: Changes certain property tax rules	<p>For: Empty nesters aren't putting homes on the market to downsize because they fear paying higher taxes on a new house. It also closes a loophole that allows wealthy people to pass on homes to children who use them as rental properties. It is backed by the real estate industry, and would create a tax break for victims of wildfires and natural disasters by letting them take advantage of and expanding a policy that already allows older homeowners and disabled people to transfer their lower property tax burden to a replacement home.</p> <p>Against: The proposition, largely backed by real estate special interests, eliminates one loophole, but it creates a bigger problem by allowing wealthy homeowners to continue reaping the benefits of Prop 13 from 1978, writes the Mercury News/East Bay Times editorial board. Plus, revenue from property taxes shouldn't be automatically earmarked for fire suppression.</p>	Yes	No	No	Yes	<p>For: California Association of Realtors</p> <p>Against: Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, newspaper editorial boards including San Jose Mercury News, East Bay Times and Orange County Register.</p>
20: Reclassifies certain crimes & expands DNA collection	<p>For: The proposition gives prosecutors the discretion to pursue harsher sentences in retail crimes. It's an effort backed by law enforcement agencies to roll back reforms championed by former Gov. Jerry Brown. Would let prosecutors charge some current misdemeanors as felonies, restrict parole opportunities, and require probation officers to go after tougher penalties for people who violate their parole three times.</p> <p>Against: The change in crime classification would lead to over-sentencing of nonviolent crimes and contribute to overcrowding in prisons.</p>	No	No	No	No	<p>For: Two assembly members, a Democrat and a Republican, a few law enforcement unions and the Albertsons Safeway grocery chain.</p> <p>Against: Former Gov. Jerry Brown and the ACLU of Northern California.</p>

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21: Rent control overhaul	<p>For: Renters need more protections in California's expensive housing market and the proposition would allow local governments the ability to expand more of those protections. It could reduce homelessness. Similar to an unsuccessful 2018 rent control measure from AIDS activist Michael Weinstein who is also behind this new proposition</p> <p>Against: More rent control could worsen the housing crisis by reducing private builders' profit incentive to build more housing.</p>	Yes	Neutral	No	Yes	<p>For: The California Democratic Party, Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont and Michael Weinstein, president of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation who has funded rent control campaigns in the past. Weinstein's allies have spent more than \$16 million.</p> <p>Against: Several trade unions, real estate groups, veterans groups and more. California Apartment Association and others kicking in roughly \$30 million.</p>
22: Classifies rideshare & delivery drivers as contract workers	<p>For: Classifying drivers as employees, as is law under AB5, would make these services more expensive and companies wouldn't be able to offer as many positions, meaning fewer gig jobs and less flexibility for drivers.</p> <p>Against: The companies are trying to use the ballot proposition to avoid paying drivers hourly wages and offering them benefits they are entitled to under current California law.</p>	No	Neutral - - no position	Yes	No	<p>For: Uber, Lyft, DoorDash, Postmates and Instacart, several chambers of commerce, NAACP of Alameda & LA Counties and Independent Drivers Alliance of Calif. Uber and Lyft say their futures depend on it. Campaign has already spent more than \$111 million.</p> <p>Against: Prominent Democrats like Joe Biden, Sen. Kamala Harris and Sen. Elizabeth Warren; Speaker of the State Assembly Anthony Rendon; several labor organizations. Opponents have spent roughly \$3.5 million.</p>
23: Dialysis clinic requirements	<p>For: The increased regulations will make clinics safer for patients and make sure patients with any insurance will be treated equally. It would impose new regulations, including requiring clinics to have at least one physician on site during treatment.</p> <p>Against: The increased regulations would make care more costly for and less available to patients.</p>	Yes	Neutral	No	Yes	<p>For: SEIU healthcare workers union.</p> <p>Against: For-profit dialysis clinics like DaVita and Fresenius and the California Medical Association. The dialysis industry has dumped nearly \$63 million into defeating the effort.</p>

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24: Consumer data privacy protections	<p>For: The law would give people with privacy concerns more control over where and how their data is used. Strengthens consumer privacy law and would create a new enforcement agency. The measure would let residents prevent businesses from sharing their personal information.</p> <p>Against: The long ballot initiative contains several loopholes and provisions that actually weaken consumer protections (in some cases) compared to existing California law. It also gives large corporations an advantage over individuals with fewer financial and legal assets.</p>	Neutral	No	No	No	<p>For: Alastair Mactaggart, a SF real estate developer, put forward the ballot initiative & former pres candidate Andrew Yang.</p> <p>Against: The ACLU of California and Consumer Federation of California.</p>
25: Eliminate cash bail system	<p>For: SB 10 creates a system that is fairer to everyone accused of crimes and the bail bonds businesses is only putting the issue on the ballot to try and continue profiting off the cash bail system. It's a referendum to overturn a 2018 law that got rid of a cash bail system and replaced it with one that instead looks at public safety and flight risk to decide whether to release someone before their trial. The tougher-on-crime measures are in sharp contrast to growing calls for police reforms after the death of George Floyd and Black Lives Matter protests throughout the country.</p> <p>Against: The new risk assessment system is also flawed as it still leaves room for racial bias, so it is not a good replacement for California's longstanding cash bail system.</p>	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	<p>For: Dozens of California Democratic lawmakers, the California Democratic Party and the League of Women Voters.</p> <p>Against: The American Bail Coalition and, several chambers of commerce and Human Rights Watch.</p>