

# Easy Reading Voter Guide



## YOUR VOTE MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

In the Tuesday November 5 election, California voters will pick a new Governor and many other important elected officials. Voters will also decide on seven statewide ballot measures.

This nonpartisan guide gives a short summary about the California election. It has statements submitted by the political parties and candidates for statewide offices and short descriptions of the ballot measures. Use the guide to choose which candidates and ballot measures you want to learn more about. For more information, visit [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org).



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**Have you signed up to vote? You can get voter registration forms at libraries, post offices, or DMV offices. You can also have a form mailed to you by calling 1-800-345-VOTE.**

**THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER FOR THIS ELECTION IS OCTOBER 21.**



The League of Women Voters of California Education Fund produces the *Easy Reading Voter Guide*, in partnership with the California State Library and the California Secretary of State's office. We hope this nonpartisan guide helps you make informed voting decisions.




# Political Parties



When you sign up to vote, you can join a political party. A political party is a group of people who share the same ideas about how the government should be run and what it should do. There is no cost to join a party.

There are seven political parties in California. We asked each one what they stand for and what is important to them. You can use what the parties say to help you decide which one to join. You can also mark “decline to state” on your voter registration card if you do not want to join a party. If you want to change your party, fill out a new voter registration card.

*The number of members given for each party is from 2/19/2002 and has been rounded to the nearest thousand.*

Party	What They Stand For	Top Priorities
<b>American Independent</b> 	<p>The American Independent Party stands for traditional moral values and the God-given rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.</p> <p>This party believes government should uphold the United States Constitution, including protection of life and property, and provide a strong national defense, free of waste.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pro-Life; pro-Constitution Parental control of education.</li><li>• Pro-jobs; repeal NAFTA, WTO Stop illegal immigration.</li><li>• No income tax; abolish IRS.</li></ul> <p>309,000 members in California 619-460-4484 <a href="http://www.aipca.org">www.aipca.org</a></p>
<b>Democratic</b> 	<p>The Democratic Party stands for working families. Democrats want better schools, affordable health care, a woman’s right to choose, safer streets, a cleaner environment, targeted tax cuts, and a strong economy.</p> <p>This party believes the role of government should be to educate its citizens, while protecting their rights and ensuring a stable and prosperous nation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Education: Improve the quality of our schools.</li><li>• Economic stability: Help workers succeed in the high-tech era.</li><li>• Safety: Get assault weapons off the streets.</li></ul> <p>6,873,000 members in California 916-442-5707 <a href="http://www.ca-dem.org">www.ca-dem.org</a></p>
<b>Green</b> 	<p>The Green Party stands for these values: social and economic justice, nonviolence, grassroots democracy, respect for diversity, women’s rights, personal and global responsibility, and protection of the environment.</p> <p>This party believes government should provide support to those in need, especially our children and elderly, affordable housing, quality education, and a clean, safe environment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A living wage, rights of workers to organize, and healthcare for all.</li><li>• Energy conservation and renewable energy.</li><li>• Election reform so all are represented.</li></ul> <p>146,000 members in California 916-448-3437 <a href="http://www.cagreens.org">www.cagreens.org</a></p>



Party	What They Stand For	Top Priorities
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## Libertarian



The Libertarian Party stands for individual liberty, personal responsibility, and limited government. We believe you, not the government, have the right to decide what's best for you and your family.

This party believes the role of government should be limited to protecting life, liberty, and property from violence and fraud, as the Founding Fathers envisioned.

- Improve education by reducing the role of government and encouraging competition.
- Make neighborhoods safe by ending the War on Drugs.
- Slash California's \$100 billion budget.

92,000 members in California  
877-844-1776  
[www.ca.lp.org](http://www.ca.lp.org)

## Natural Law



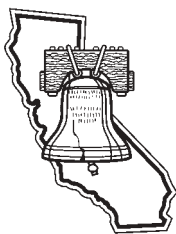
The Natural Law Party stands for government that prevents problems before they start and proven solutions to raise the quality of life for every citizen.

This party believes government should apply scientific knowledge of natural law to public policy. Government should be more efficient, and citizens should be more self-governing.

- Proven education programs to develop students' full potential.
- Proven, preventive health care to improve health and cut costs.
- Campaign finance reform to take back our stolen democracy.

50,000 members in California  
831-425-2201  
[www.natural-law.org](http://www.natural-law.org)

## Reform



The Reform Party stands for promoting greater citizen participation in and control over the process of government. We want to restore a government of, by, and for the people.

This party believes in reducing the role of government in our lives. Government should protect our borders and follow the Constitution.

- Obtain reliable sources of energy for the long term.
- Change immigration law in the best interests of California and the nation.
- Fair trade—not just free trade.

67,000 members in California  
925-676-1687  
[www.ReformPartyofCalifornia.org](http://www.ReformPartyofCalifornia.org)

## Republican



The Republican Party stands for helping working families help themselves by reducing taxes and improving education. Republicans want all Americans to have the opportunity to achieve the American Dream.

This party believes we must keep America safe and strong by supporting our brave men and women who serve in the military and law enforcement.

- Supporting our men and women in America's military and law enforcement service.
- Better, safer schools for our children.
- Ensure economic growth by reducing the state deficit.

5,354,000 members in California  
818-841-5210  
[www.cagop.org](http://www.cagop.org)

- Oversees most state departments and agencies
- Appoints judges
- Approves or rejects new state laws
- Presents an annual state budget to the Legislature
- Manages state resources during emergencies

Elected for 4 years

*Candidates are listed in the order of their party's size in California.*

### CANDIDATE

### STATEMENT

### PRIORITIES

#### Democratic



#### Gray Davis

**Occupation:**  
Governor of California  
**Residence:**  
Los Angeles, CA

As Governor, I have worked hard to make a difference. I have fought to improve education, ensure public safety, preserve the environment, and protect equal opportunity. I would be honored to continue serving you.

- Reduce class sizes and give incentives to schools for better student performance.
- Provide police and fire fighters the resources to keep our communities safe.
- Expand the Healthy Families Program to more children without health insurance.

#### Republican



#### Bill Simon

**Occupation:**  
Businessman/  
Charity Director  
**Residence:**  
Pacific Palisades, CA

I am a leader with experience as a federal prosecutor with Rudy Giuliani, as a successful family businessman who has saved and created jobs, and as a charity leader who devotes his time and energy to helping others.

- Jump start our economy by creating jobs, cutting taxes, and getting rid of government waste.
- Improve schools by directing funds to the classroom.
- Rebuild California with new schools, roads, water storage, and power plants.

#### American Independent



#### Reinhold Gulke

**Occupation:**  
Electrical Contractor/  
Farmer  
**Residence:**  
Clovis, CA

I am pro-life! A society that protects the unborn and elderly benefits from the respect citizens show one another. Our nation's recent tragedy has brought out our deepest desire to unify as one community.

- The return of low cost energy to California.
- Expand water storage.
- Cut taxes and balance the budget.

#### Green



#### Peter Miguel Camejo

**Occupation:**  
Financial Investment  
Advisor  
**Residence:**  
Walnut Creek, CA

I have fought for social and environmental justice all my life. I founded a company which promotes socially responsible investments. I have helped to build the Green Party for the last ten years.

- Pass a living wage law that raises the minimum wage to a much higher level.
- Create more affordable housing to lower rents.
- More use of solar power and less dependence on polluting oil and gasoline.

### CANDIDATE

### STATEMENT

### PRIORITIES

#### Libertarian



**Gary David Copeland**

**Occupation:**  
Chief Executive Officer  
**Residence:**  
Trabuco Canyon, CA

I am a business owner and father. Capitalism is turning dreams and ideas into reality. My economic vision is to encourage communities to reach their goals by giving more power to the people.

- Decrease the role of government in schools and increase parental choice.
- Make the postal system a private company to improve service and product safety.
- Promote Libertarian ideals of free market capitalism and personal responsibility: [www.lp.org](http://www.lp.org).

#### Natural Law



**Iris Adam**

**Occupation:**  
Business Analyst  
**Residence:**  
Irvine, CA

I am a business analyst and educator. As Governor, my agenda is to strengthen our economy by introducing proven, cost-effective solutions to prevent the urgent social, environmental, and economic problems facing California.

- Promote basic research on different energy sources so we are not dependent on foreign oil.
- Promote excellence in all our schools.
- Promote proven health care programs that prevent disease and cut costs by 50%.

# Superintendent of Public Instruction

Schools Chief

- Acts as spokesperson for public education
- Runs the state Department of Education
- Works to improve public education

Elected for 4 years

*This is a nonpartisan office, so candidates' parties are not shown.*

### CANDIDATE

### STATEMENT

### PRIORITIES



**Jack O'Connell**

**Occupation:**  
State Senator/Teacher  
**Residence:**  
San Luis Obispo, CA

As a California teacher and lawmaker for the past 20 years, improving public education has been my top priority. I wrote laws to reduce class size, to increase teacher salaries, and to modernize and fix public schools. More information at [www.oconnell2002.org](http://www.oconnell2002.org).

- Reduce class sizes in as many grades as possible.
- Increase recruitment of qualified teachers.
- Provide safe school buildings and classrooms for our students.



**Katherine H. Smith**

**Occupation:**  
School Board Member  
**Residence:**  
Anaheim, CA

I am president of California's second largest high school district, the Anaheim Union High School District. I have caused positive changes that brought students back to public schools from private schools. More information at [www.superkathy.com](http://www.superkathy.com).

- The 3-R's are still job one.
- Return trade and technology classes to our schools.
- Create better citizens by teaching respect, the Golden Rule, and a daily moment of silence.

# Lieutenant Governor

Next in Line for Governor

- Becomes Governor if the elected Governor cannot serve
- Has a tie-breaking vote in the State Senate
- Chairs the Economic Development Commission
- Sits on the boards of California universities

Elected for 4 years

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## CANDIDATE

## PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC



### Cruz M. Bustamante

**Occupation:**  
Lieutenant Governor  
**Residence:**  
Elk Grove, CA

- Make college more affordable and accessible.
- Protect our environment, especially our coast and waterways.
- Increase job opportunities for all Californians.

REPUBLICAN



### Bruce McPherson

**Occupation:**  
California State Senator  
**Residence:**  
Santa Cruz, CA

- Use my office to help schools, improve public safety, protect the environment, create jobs, and support efficient government.
- Provide critical checks and balances on the Governor and Legislature.
- Support policies to restore California's economic health.

AM. IND.



### Jim King

**Occupation:**  
Real Estate Broker  
**Residence:**  
San Bernardino, CA

- The State of California must stop supporting abortion with pro-abortion laws and tax dollars.
- Immigration laws must be enforced or changed.
- We are "one nation under God" and "in God we trust."

GREEN



### Donna J. Warren

**Occupation:**  
Certified Financial Manager  
**Residence:**  
Hawthorne, CA

- Change the "Three Strikes" law to violent acts only. 50 years in prison for stealing \$153 worth of videotapes is "cruel and unusual punishment."
- A quality education must be guaranteed to everyone.
- Corporate reform and campaign finance reform go hand in hand.

LIBERTARIAN



### Pat Wright

**Occupation:**  
Ferret Legalization Coordinator  
**Residence:**  
San Diego, CA

- Return government to public service. It has been a tool of special interest.
- Trust people to run their own lives. We don't need a government that tells us not to smoke, not to get pregnant, not to do drugs.
- Government is spending too much money and mismanaging the economy.

REFORM



### Paul Jerry Hannosh

**Occupation:**  
Educator/Businessman  
**Residence:**  
Tujunga, CA

- Shut down the border to keep out illegal aliens, drug smugglers, and terrorists.
- Protect unborn Americans from the horror of abortion.
- Provide school choice to all parents through tax credits.

NATURAL LAW



### Kalee Przybylak

**Occupation:**  
Public Relations Director  
**Residence:**  
Studio City, CA

- Eliminate government waste and make sure taxpayer money is used wisely.
- Improve California schools through new ways of teaching to stimulate creativity, critical thinking, and intelligence.
- Research renewable sources of natural energy.



- Enforces election laws throughout the state
- Publishes the Voter Information Guide for statewide elections
- Keeps records about campaigns and lobbyists
- Distributes official documents about corporations and trademarks

Elected for 4 years

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### CANDIDATE

### PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC



#### Kevin Shelley

**Occupation:**  
State Lawmaker  
**Residence:**  
San Francisco, CA

- Protect the integrity of California's elections.
- Increase voter registration and participation.
- Require more information in corporate reports and make companies responsible when they commit fraud.

REPUBLICAN



#### Keith Olberg

**Occupation:**  
Businessman  
**Residence:**  
Victorville, CA

- Work for 100% voter participation, with 0% tolerance of fraud.
- Get TV network news programs to stop saying who the "winners" are before the voting has finished in California.
- Improve voting technology – so every vote is correctly counted.

AM. IND.



#### Edward C. Noonan

**Occupation:**  
Businessman  
**Residence:**  
Marysville, CA

- Investigate corruption in arrests of citizens for registering people to vote in places like shopping malls and supermarkets.
- Support the Right to Life.
- Support the constitutional right to "bear arms" (carry guns).

GREEN



#### Larry Shoup

**Occupation:**  
Author/Historian  
**Residence:**  
Oakland, CA

- Stop political corruption by giving some public money to candidates who agree to run clean campaigns.
- Improve the election process so everyone is fairly and equally represented.
- Control corporate cheating by changing laws for companies.

LIBERTARIAN



#### Gail K. Lightfoot

**Occupation:**  
Retired RN  
**Residence:**  
Arroyo Grande, CA

- Easy to understand election information booklets.
- Add 'None of the Above' to the ballot in all elections.
- Improve local libraries through the State Library.

REFORM



#### Valli Sharpe-Geisler

**Occupation:**  
Educator/Technology Coordinator  
**Residence:**  
San Jose, CA

- Support ballot statements for all elected offices, including U.S. Congress.
- Distribute all campaign finance information: from, to, how much.
- Promote public oversight of the entire election process and make sure interested parties are informed in time to respond to ballot measures.

NATURAL LAW



#### Louise Marie Allison

**Occupation:**  
Teacher/Administrator  
**Residence:**  
Claremont, CA

- Give every candidate a chance to make their voice heard and make sure that every vote is counted.
- Support education that develops creativity and intelligence.
- Create a task force to prevent violence and promote harmony.

- Keeps track of how the state's money is spent
- Manages collection of money due to the state
- Reports on finances of state and local governments
- Audits or reviews state operations

Elected for 4 years

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### CANDIDATE

### PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC



#### Steve Westly

**Occupation:**  
Businessman/Educator

**Residence:**  
Atherton, CA

- Use my experience in government, business, and education to stop government waste and create good, new jobs.
- Work with our teachers to improve education at all levels.
- Fight corporate criminals and protect our retirement money.

REPUBLICAN



#### Tom McClintock

**Occupation:**  
California State Senator

**Residence:**  
Newbury Park, CA

- Take on wasteful government bureaucracies, corrupt politicians, and big-dollar contributions.
- Fight waste and fraud in Republican or Democratic administrations.
- Control the State's wasteful spending through regular performance audits.

AM. IND



#### Ernest F. Vance

**Occupation:**  
Retired Administrator

**Residence:**  
Sacramento, CA

- Make sure bills paid by California are legal and constitutional.
- See that California's money is spent where it should be.
- Support creating a State Grand Jury to prosecute wrong-doers.

GREEN



#### Laura Wells

**Occupation:**  
Financial Systems Consultant

**Residence:**  
Oakland, CA

- In 25 years California built 21 prisons and 2 universities. That's wrong.
- Rich people pay less on taxes than poorer people. That's backwards.
- Politicians have accepted money from corporations. That affects their decisions. Green Party does not take corporate donations.

NATURAL LAW



#### J. Carlos Aguirre

**Occupation:**  
Entrepreneur/Businessman

**Residence:**  
Laguna Niguel, CA

*This candidate did not respond.*

### VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR:

 [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org)

- ✓ Easy to follow information and pictures about how to register and how to vote, in English and Spanish.
- ✓ This Easy Reading Voter Guide in English, with links to get more information about candidates and ballot measure campaigns.
- ✓ This 16-page guide in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese or Russian – as PDF files to download.



- Keeps track of the state's money
- Releases the money to pay the state's bills
- Manages the state's investments
- Manages the sale of state bonds

Elected for 4 years

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## CANDIDATE

## PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC



### Philip Angelides

**Occupation:**  
California Treasurer

**Residence:**  
Sacramento, CA

- Keep taxpayer and pension funds safe with responsible investments.
- Maintain California's quality of life by investing in schools, housing, and transportation.
- Create jobs and housing by investing the state's money here in California.

REPUBLICAN



### Greg Conlon

**Occupation:**  
Businessman/CPA

**Residence:**  
Atherton, CA

- Improve the state's credit rating by cutting government waste.
- Get the state government out of the energy business.
- Create a long-range plan to finance California's growing needs for infrastructure – roads, schools, and public works – without tax increases.

AM. IND.



### Nathan E. Johnson

**Occupation:**  
Transit Operator

**Residence:**  
San Diego, CA

*This candidate did not respond.*

GREEN



### Jeanne-Marie Rosenmeier

**Occupation:**  
Certified Public Accountant

**Residence:**  
Walnut Creek, CA

- Keep California's economy strong.
- Invest the state's money in socially responsible companies, which will also increase earnings.
- Target investments to help areas of the state with depressed economies.

LIBERTARIAN



### Marian Smithson

**Occupation:**  
West Covina City  
Treasurer

**Residence:**  
West Covina, CA

- Cut spending on unnecessary programs and lower taxes.
- Avoid issuing bonds to finance expenditures. Paying with borrowed money costs more and makes our children responsible for our debts.
- Invest money for maximum returns consistent with safety.

NATURAL LAW



### Sylvia Valentine

**Occupation:**  
Corporation Office Administrator

**Residence:**  
Santa Cruz, CA

- Finance schools well at every level of education, including community colleges. Maintain and improve roads, bridges, and public transportation.
- Enhance public safety through crime prevention and good salaries.
- Invest state money in Californians and our community.

- Makes sure laws are enforced the same way across the state
- Runs the California Department of Justice
- Serves as legal advisor to state officials and state agencies
- Oversees sheriffs, district attorneys, and other law enforcement agencies

Elected for 4 years

*Candidates are listed in the order of their party's size in California.*

### CANDIDATE

### PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC



#### Bill Lockyer

**Occupation:**  
California Attorney General

**Residence:**  
Hayward, CA

- Continue to investigate illegal overcharging by Enron and other energy companies and get California's money back.
- Expand use of DNA to find criminals and set the innocent free.
- Prosecute nursing homes that abuse and neglect the elderly.

REPUBLICAN



#### Dick Ackerman

**Occupation:**  
State Senator/Attorney

**Residence:**  
Irvine, CA

- Reverse the disturbing trends of rising crime rates and gang violence.
- Defend our laws, like The Pledge of Allegiance and "Three Strikes," in court.
- Support laws making possession of child pornography a felony and a strike.

AM. IND.



#### Diane Beall Templin

**Occupation:**  
Attorney/Businesswoman

**Residence:**  
Escondido, CA

- Work with the district attorneys, judges, and legislators to restore Biblical and Constitutional principles to law enforcement.
- Tighten borders and subsidies to illegal aliens and drugs.
- Crack down on fraud and corruption in government and business.

GREEN



#### Glen Freeman Mowrer

**Occupation:**  
Public Defense Attorney

**Residence:**  
Santa Barbara, CA

- Suspend the death penalty in California so we can study its fairness.
- End the "Three Strikes" law as "cruel and unusual punishment."
- Have a statewide law enforcement conference to set the same rules for prosecution throughout California.

LIBERTARIAN



#### Ed Kuwatch

**Occupation:**  
Criminal Defense Attorney

**Residence:**  
Willits, CA

- My campaign is based on one idea: "Don't let them micromanage your life."
- Take the War on Drugs out of the criminal justice system and put it in the health care system where it belongs.
- A statewide system of police officer discipline run by the Attorney General.



**You do not have to vote on every office.**

**If you cannot decide on a candidate, you can skip that office when you vote.**

**Your votes on other offices and ballot measures will still be counted.**

- Runs the State Department of Insurance
- Enforces the laws insurance companies must follow
- Helps the public with complaints about insurance

Elected for 4 years

*Candidates are listed in the order of their party's size in California.*

### CANDIDATE

### PRIORITIES

DEMOCRATIC



#### John Garamendi

**Occupation:**  
Rancher  
**Residence:**  
Walnut Grove, CA

- Restore integrity to the Department of Insurance. I do not accept campaign donations from insurance companies.
- Fight for lower home and auto insurance rates and healthcare for all.
- Fighting for you, the consumer!

REPUBLICAN



#### Gary Mendoza

**Occupation:**  
Businessman  
**Residence:**  
Sierra Madre, CA

- Work to make the Department of Insurance an advocate and watchdog for California consumers.
- Increase accessibility to all types of insurance.
- Protect California businesses by fighting insurance fraud.

AM. IND.



#### Steve Klein

**Occupation:**  
Businessman  
**Residence:**  
El Cajon, CA

*This candidate did not respond.*

GREEN



#### David I. Sheidlower

**Occupation:**  
Financial Services Executive  
**Residence:**  
Oakland, CA

- I will work to guarantee affordable auto insurance.
- I will work to make sure everyone has health insurance.
- I will work to make sure consumer complaints are responded to quickly.

LIBERTARIAN



#### Dale F. Ogden

**Occupation:**  
Insurance Consultant/Actuary  
**Residence:**  
San Pedro, CA

- Bring back honesty, integrity, and competence to this office.
- Reduce the Insurance Department budget by \$100 million.
- Focus on making sure that insurance companies are willing and financially able to keep promises to their policyholders.

NATURAL LAW



#### Raul Calderon, Jr.

**Occupation:**  
Health Researcher/Educator  
**Residence:**  
Stanford, CA

- Work for the best interests of the people, not corporations.
- Evaluate current insurance policies and practices.
- Develop insurance policies to ensure that underserved and minority populations have access to affordable insurance.

 For information about anything on your ballot, visit [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org).

# Ballot Measures



Ballot measures are proposed laws presented to the public to vote on. They are also called propositions. This guide covers seven measures that would change state laws. Propositions 46 through 48 were placed on the ballot by the State Legislature. Propositions 49 through 52 are “initiatives” that were placed on the ballot by people who collected enough signatures. For more information on ballot measures, see the official *Voter Information Guide* you get in the mail, read a newspaper, or visit [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org).

 **You do not have to vote on every ballot measure. You can vote on only those that are important to you.**

## PROPOSITION 46: Housing Bonds

**Official Title:** Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2002.

**The way it is now:** Money from federal, state, and local governments help pay for low-income and emergency housing programs. The State Legislature decides how much money to spend on these programs each year. Sometimes additional money comes from bonds. The last housing bonds approved by voters were for a total of \$600 million in 1988 and 1990. Those funds have been spent.

### What Proposition 46 would do:

Allow the State to sell \$2.1 billion in bonds and use the money on housing programs for low-income households, farmworkers, emergency housing, and more. The Legislature could make changes to the programs in the future.

### How much it would cost:

New spending of up to \$4.7 billion to pay off the bonds and interest over 30 years. This would cost about \$157 million per year.



### Argument for:

This provides affordable housing for working people, farmworkers, and the homeless.



### Argument against:

This would add to the State's debts at a time when California is almost bankrupt.

## PROPOSITION 47: Bonds for Schools and Colleges

**Official Title:** Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2002.

**The way it is now:** K-12 schools and community colleges are built with money from state bonds and local government bonds. State bonds are also used for university construction. In November 1998, voters approved \$9.2 billion in state bonds for schools and college buildings. This bond money will all be spent in 2002. The current list of needed projects to build and update K-12 schools would cost about \$20 billion.

### What Proposition 47 would do:

Allow the State to sell \$13.05 billion in bonds and use the money for building and updating the buildings of K-12 schools, community colleges, and universities.

### How much it would cost:

New spending of up to \$26.2 billion to pay off the bonds and interest over 30 years. This would cost about \$873 million per year.



### Argument for:

More than 13,000 new classrooms are needed now. Many schools are old and need to be updated.



### Argument against:

California has too much debt already. We must be very careful about taking on more debt.

## WHAT ARE BONDS?

Bonds are a way for the government to borrow money. When the government sells a bond to someone, the government is promising to pay back the money and to pay interest. The state government can only sell bonds that have been approved by the voters.



## PROPOSITION 48: Removing Municipal Courts

**Official Title:** Court Consolidation. Legislative Constitutional Amendment.

**The way it is now:** The California Constitution includes laws relating to municipal courts, but there are no municipal courts in California anymore. They are now part of the superior court system.

**What Proposition 48 would do:**

The California Constitution would be changed to remove the laws that relate to municipal courts.

**How much it would cost:**

No new cost.



**Argument for:**

The laws in the California Constitution about municipal courts are out-of-date and need to be removed.



**Argument against:**

Some of the counties in California may want to bring back municipal courts in the future.

## PROPOSITION 49: Money for After School Programs

**Official Title:** Before and After School Programs. State Grants. Initiative Statute.

**The way it is now:** The State pays for many before and after school programs through schools and community organizations. This proposition deals with one such program. In that program, the State gives money to schools to help pay for educational enrichment, like tutoring or homework assistance. Schools must raise local money to get the state money. Currently, the State Legislature decides each year how much money to spend on this before and after school program. About \$95 million was spent last year.

**What Proposition 49 would do:**

Increase how much is spent on one of the state's before and after school programs. Add computer classes, fine arts, and physical fitness activities. Only voters could make changes in the funding, through future propositions.

**How much it would cost:**

The State would be required to spend up to \$550 million each year on this program. This money could no longer be spent on other programs funded by the state budget.



**Argument for:**

It would reduce youth crime and improve grades by giving youth more after school classes.



**Argument against:**

Our legislators would have fewer choices to balance the budget if money is reserved for this program.

## PROPOSITION 50: Water Bonds

**Official Title:** Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects. Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection. Bonds. Initiative Statute.

**The way it is now:** The State has many programs to buy, protect, and improve water and coastal land resources. These programs are paid for with state and federal money, including state bonds. Since 1990, voters have approved about \$3 billion of water-related bonds. In June 2002, the State still had about \$1.1 billion for future projects.

**What Proposition 50 would do:**

Allow the State to sell \$3.44 billion in bonds to be used for protecting coastal wetlands, for the CALFED Bay-Delta Program, safe drinking water, and other water projects.

**How much it would cost:**

New spending of up to \$6.9 billion to pay off the bonds and interest over 30 years. This would cost about \$230 million per year.



**Argument for:**

This measure would help make sure California has safe, clean drinking water, new water supplies to keep up with population growth, and protected wetlands.



**Argument against:**

This measure does not build any new water storage, such as reservoirs, or a canal to direct water from the Sacramento River to the California Aqueduct.





## PROPOSITION 51: Transportation Funding

**Official Title:** Transportation. Distribution of Existing Motor Vehicles Sales and Use Tax. Initiative Statute.

**The way it is now:** The sales tax on motor vehicles can be spent on various programs including education, health, social services, corrections, and transportation.

### What Proposition 51 would do:

Thirty percent of the sales tax on motor vehicles would go into a new special fund. That money could be used only on transportation purposes listed in the proposition, including many specific projects. Most of the money would be spent on rail and bus transit systems and on highway and street improvements. Only voters could make changes in the fund, through future propositions.

### How much it would cost:

New required spending on transportation of about \$910 million next year and increasing amounts after that. This money could no longer be spent on other programs funded by the state budget.



### Argument for:

This measure would use current sales taxes to fix serious highway safety problems, reduce severe traffic congestion, and replace thousands of school buses.



### Argument against:

This measure would reserve nearly \$1 billion in tax money each year for specific purposes, which could not be changed by the Legislature even in a budget crisis.

## PROPOSITION 52: Election Day Voter Registration

**Official Title:** Election Day Voter Registration. Voter Fraud Penalties. Initiative Statute.

**The way it is now:** To vote in an election, California citizens must register 15 or more days before the election.

### What Proposition 52 would do:

On the day of the election, California citizens who qualify to vote and have proof of residence could sign up and vote at their polling place. It would add new protections against voter cheating.

### How much it would cost:

New spending of about \$6 million per year to help counties pay for election day registration.



### Argument for:

All eligible citizens could vote on election day, and penalties would increase for voter cheating.



### Argument against:

The dangers of cheating in election day registration are too big in a state the size of California.

## WHO CAN VOTE?



You can sign up to vote in the next election, if the following are true:

- ✓ You are a citizen of the United States.
- ✓ You are a California resident.
- ✓ You will be 18 years old or older on election day.
- ✓ You are NOT in prison or on parole for a felony conviction.

You will be able to vote on November 5, if you have signed up by October 21.

## More About This Election:

Besides Governor and the statewide offices covered in this guide, you will also be asked to vote on your representatives for the U.S. Congress, the State Legislature, and local government. You may also be asked to vote on judges and local ballot measures. Everything you can vote on will be listed in the Sample Ballot that will be mailed to you in October.

For information about anything on your ballot, visit [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org).

## About This Guide

The *Easy Reading Voter Guide* provides a user-friendly nonpartisan overview to California statewide candidates and measures. It has been published in every statewide election since 1994. The November 2002 guide is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Russian. The guide is available throughout California from public libraries, election officials, and the League of Women Voters.

An order form for printed guides is on the website [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org). You can read the guide in English on the website. Or, you can download it in any of the five languages. Newspapers or other organizations may reprint the guide free of charge. A reprint application can be printed from the website.

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The statements in this guide about political parties and candidates came from them. All candidates were invited to participate by submitting their text and picture. The ballot measure explanations were drafted by the League of Women Voters of California Education Fund's Pros and Cons writing team and were reviewed by the Legislative Analyst's Office and the Senate Office of Research. The arguments for and against each ballot measure were taken from statements by the proponents and opponents.

A literacy team of teachers and learners from Sunnyvale-Cupertino Adult Community Education reviewed this guide to help make it easier to read. Literacy team learners: Rocio E. Hastings, Jorge Alberto Armendariz Rodriguez, Shangyi Sha, Yu-Chiao Tai, and Jorge Alberto Wences. Teachers: Pat Boyle, Linda Brummer, Mary Klein, and Usha Narayanan.

Many people helped with this guide, including the following: Lina Avidan, Jacquie Canfield, Susan S. Clark, Cindy Costales, Mony Flores-Bauer, Kirsten Holmquist, Fran Krezek, Carla Lehn, Natalia Lukomski, Joanna Southard, Daniel Triano, Sharon Wallace, and Wenge Wu.

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Despite our best efforts, this guide may have translation or typographical errors. We make corrections whenever possible and post the revised guide on the [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org) website. Any comments about the *Easy Reading Voter Guide* can be sent to the project manager: [easyvoter@aol.com](mailto:easyvoter@aol.com).



# Easy Reading Voter Guide

November 5, 2002 Election



[www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org)

## Voting is as Easy as 1-2-3!

### 1 **Register to Vote** — Get your name on the list of voters.

- To vote in the November 5 election, you must sign up to vote by October 21. Pick up a voter registration form at a library, post office, or DMV. You can also have a form mailed to you by calling **1-800-345-VOTE**.
- When you sign up to vote, you can choose a political party. See pages 2–3 for more on parties.
- You must fill out a new voter registration form if you move to a new address, change your name, or want to change your party.

### 2 **Get Ready to Vote** — Learn about what you are voting on.

- Registered voters get two booklets in the mail before the election:
  - ★ The *Sample Ballot* lists all the candidates and measures that will be on your ballot. It also has information on local ballot measures and candidates for local offices.
  - ★ The *Voter Information Guide* covers statewide ballot measures and candidates for statewide offices.
- You don't have to vote on everything on your ballot.

### 3 **Vote!** — There are two ways to vote.

- **Vote in person on election day:** Look at the mailing label of your Sample Ballot for where to go. Voting locations are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mark your choices on the Sample Ballot and take it with you. If you make a mistake while voting, you can ask for another ballot.
- **Vote by mail before election day:** The form to request an “absentee ballot” comes in your Sample Ballot. Fill it out and mail it at least one week before the election. When your ballot comes in the mail, fill it out and mail it back before election day.

For more information on how to vote, go to [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org).

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