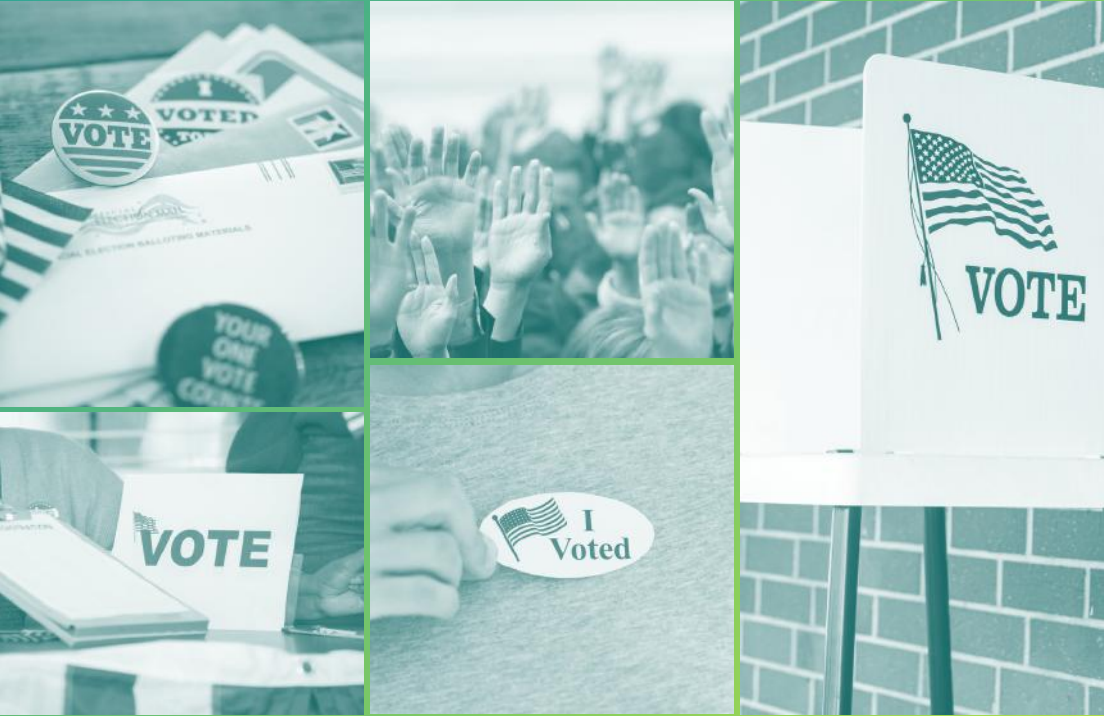


CALIFORNIA KNOW YOUR VOTE

VOTER RESOURCE



The **14 Ballot Measures** on the California ballot this November 3, 2026 *explained*



Who We Are

Courage California Institute's mission is to defend and extend economic justice, human rights, and corporate and political accountability through public education, strategic research, and innovative leadership-development training.

CCI empowers Californians by providing the resources needed to courageously participate in the democratic process and create change for the betterment of their families and communities.



Voter Tools

To access our voter tools, visit

couragecaliforniainstitute.org/voter-tools

- Register to vote
- Check your Voter Registration
- Request an Absentee Ballot
- Get election reminders

Sign up for the State of California's **BallotTrax** to get notifications of when your ballot is mailed to you, received, and counted.



2026 California General Election

Key General Election Dates

The last day to register to vote online:
October 19, 2026

For eligible citizens who miss the voter registration deadline, **Same Day Voter Registration** is available at county elections offices, polling places, or vote centers.

All California registered voters will receive a vote-by-mail ballot from their county elections offices starting **October 5, 2026**.

Returning your ballot

Return vote-by-mail ballots by postal service, at a drop-off location, or at a county elections office.

- Ballot drop-off locations open on October 6.
- Vote centers open for early in-person voting in Voter's Choice Act counties on October 28.
- Mail-in ballots must be postmarked on or before Election Day and received by November 10 to be counted.



Courage California Institute recommends mailing your ballot by October 27 to ensure it is postmarked by November 3, 2026. From October 21 through November 3, drop off your ballot in person at a polling place, official drop box, or vote center.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 1

Vote Yes or No to supporting \$11.25 billion in bonds to fund **affordable and veteran housing**.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 1 will create an opportunity for large-scale affordable housing investment and significant economic benefits across the state, including over 50,000 new construction jobs and \$1.3 billion in state and local tax revenue.
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 1 will delay development of affordable housing and deepen the statewide housing crisis. It will also save the state from repaying the bond at \$310 million per year over 30 years.



PROPOSITION 2

Vote Yes or No to saving more in the state's **rainy day fund** in order to protect public services through financial emergencies.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 2 will increase the cap on annual savings in the state's Budget Stabilization Account (BSA) to 20%, build up the BSA reserves, and protect California against the financial impact of unexpected crises or federal budget cuts in the future.
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 2 will keep the BSA cap at 10%, ensure more funding is dedicated to current programs and services, and make state-funded services more vulnerable to cuts in times of budget emergencies and deficits.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 3

Vote Yes or No to **extending an income tax** on high earners to permanently fund TK-14 public education.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 3 will allow the state to continue collecting \$5 billion to \$15 billion in tax revenue each year, and direct 89% of the funds to K-12 schools and 11% to community colleges.
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 3 would provide a tax cut exclusive to wealthy Californians, eliminate a critical source of revenue for education starting in 2031, and likely lead to significant budget deficits and cuts to state-funded programs and services.



PROPOSITION 4

Vote Yes or No to allowing **public funding** of political campaigns.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 4 will help voters fight the growing influence of wealthy interests – who have spent \$1 billion on California state candidate races since 2020 – in elections, and support grassroots candidates to run competitive campaigns.
 - *FUN FACT! New York Mayor Zohran Mamdani used public funds to defeat over \$40M spent by 20 billionaires and other wealthy interests in opposition to his campaign.*
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 4 will allow corporations and the wealthy to “buy” candidates who will champion their interests over the priorities of working families.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 5

Vote Yes or No to protecting voter choice by reforming the recall election process for statewide officers.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 5 will limit the ways in which recall elections can be abused and potentially save taxpayer dollars from being spent on special elections.
 - *FUN FACT! The failed 2021 recall election of Governor Newsom cost taxpayers over \$200 million – nearly \$175 million from counties and \$26 million from the state.*
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 5 will allow for the removal of a democratically elected official and the overuse of a tool that was originally intended to give voters the ability to recall elected leaders only in severe circumstances, like corruption.



PROPOSITION 37

Vote Yes or No to creating a homebuyer assistance loan program through revenue bonds.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 37 would create a pathway to homeownership by allowing qualified homebuyers who can make a down payment of at least 3% to access a \$25 billion bond fund for a second mortgage to secure the remainder of a total 20% down payment on newly constructed housing.
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 37 would delay homeownership for some middle-class families and first-time buyers.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 38

Vote Yes or No to allow the state to take on \$8.4 billion for **immunology research**.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 38 will stop two billionaires from steering \$4.2 billion to their own research institute, and save the state from diverting \$500 million to \$600 million each year from critical health services to bond repayment.
- **VOTING YES** on Prop 38 will increase investment in research on treating common conditions that are often progressive and incurable, and provide a reliable source of funding while health and science research funding is under threat by the Trump administration.



PROPOSITION 39

Vote Yes or No to stopping eligible Californians from voting without **government-issued identification**.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 39 will protect voting access for all eligible residents, especially young and Latino Californians who are expected to be most impacted by Prop 39. It will also ensure that California does not waste millions of dollars to solve a problem that does not exist and divert funds from critical services.
- **VOTING YES** on Prop 39 will lead to the rejection of ballots of eligible voters, contribute to election outcomes that do not reflect the diversity of California voters, cost taxpayers, and align California's voting laws with the national MAGA agenda.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 40

Vote Yes or No to **taxing billionaires** in order to backfill federal cuts to health care, education, and food assistance for five years.

- **VOTING YES** on Prop 40 will prevent 1.3 million Californians from losing Medi-Cal coverage under the federal H.R. 1 cuts, and stop the closures of more essential hospitals and clinics. It will also allow the state to recoup funds from California's wealthiest residents, who are benefiting from the federal tax cuts they were given in H.R. 1, paid for by the cuts to healthcare and other essential services.
 - *FUN FACT! The Prop 40 wealth tax would only affect 250 Californians who have over \$1 billion in wealth, and who have a total of \$2 trillion in total wealth among them.*
- **VOTING NO** on Prop 40 will allow wealthy Californians to enjoy federal tax cuts while millions of Californians lose healthcare and struggle with higher costs of living. It could also block voters from being able to pass future wealth taxes.



PROPOSITION 41

Vote Yes or No to **requiring state audits** on any new state special taxes.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 41 will ensure that Californians can continue to pass taxation measures that direct funds to programs most in need of support.
- **VOTING YES** on Prop 41 will force the state to divert funding from critical services to pay for the audits and make any future attempt at passing special taxes more difficult.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 42

Vote Yes or No to barring the **taxation of certain wealth assets** and blocking voters from passing future wealth taxes.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 42 will ensure that Californians can continue to pass targeted and strategic wealth taxation measures that direct funds to the programs most in need of support.
- **VOTING YES** on Prop 42 will give billionaires another loophole to avoid paying what they owe on their total wealth, further shifting the tax burden to working families who are already facing higher costs from tax breaks for the wealthy.



PROPOSITION 43

Vote Yes or No to **raising the voting threshold** for passing special and property taxes to fund local services.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 43 will ensure that citizens retain majority power to pass local taxes that fund local services and infrastructure, like schools, emergency response, healthcare, and affordable housing.
- **VOTING YES** would give a minority of voters the power to reject local taxes that fund critical services.

Ballot Propositions *Explained*



PROPOSITION 44

Vote Yes or No to **barring community health clinics** from investing more than 10% in essential staffing, services, and technologies.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 44 will ensure that the community-based clinics that serve the most vulnerable populations retain the flexibility to adequately serve their patients and allocate their budgets to keep clinics running smoothly. It will prevent clinics from making cuts or facing closures.
 - *FUN FACT! Community clinics in California care for more than 11 million patients each year, and would face \$1.7 billion in cuts in just the first year under Prop 44.*
- **VOTING YES** on Prop 44 will allow political overreach to dictate Californians' healthcare instead of the needs of vulnerable communities.



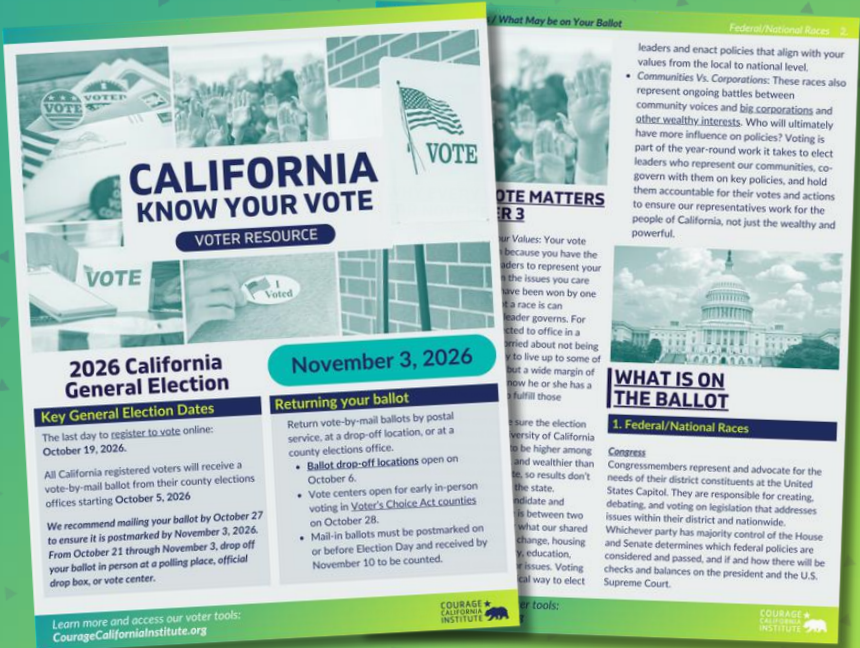
PROPOSITION 45

Vote Yes or No to fast-tracking development of projects that may have negative environmental and health impacts and limiting public oversight of the projects.

- **VOTING NO** on Prop 45 will allow California communities to limit the pollution from projects, such as data centers, warehouses, pipelines, and power plants.
- **VOTING YES** on Prop 45 will make it easier for developers to overcome local opposition to polluting projects, boost their profits at the expense of local residents, and leave California communities to shoulder the long-term impacts and costs of pollution.

California November 3, 2026 General Election

VOTER RESOURCE



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Download the full, nonpartisan California
Know Your Vote Voter Resource PDF for more
information and analysis on these 14
statewide ballot measures:

bit.ly/cc-2026camidterm

This zine was created by Courage California Institute

Check out Courage California Institute's **Vote With Courage! nonpartisan voter resource** for more information and analysis on these 14 statewide ballot measures.

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