A low-angle, upward-looking photograph of the California State Capitol building's dome, showing its intricate architectural details and the surrounding classical columns and sculptures. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

THE
CA
PROPOSITIONS
VOTER'S
GUIDE

The CA Propositions Voter's Guide 2010

Proposition YES/NO & PRO/CON Decisions

Proposition 19

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: Individuals age 21 or older could, under state law, possess and cultivate limited amounts of marijuana for personal use. In addition, the state and local governments could authorize, regulate, and tax commercial marijuana-related activities under certain conditions. These activities would remain illegal under federal law.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: The possession and cultivation of marijuana for personal use and commercial marijuana-related activities would remain illegal under state law, unless allowed under the state's existing medical marijuana law.
- **PRO:** Common sense control of marijuana. Stops wasting taxpayer dollars on failed marijuana prohibition. Controls and taxes marijuana like alcohol. Makes marijuana available only to adults. Adds criminal penalties for giving it to anyone under 21. Weakens drug cartels. Enforces road and workplace safety. Generates billions in revenue. Saves taxpayers money.
- **CON:** Opposed by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) because it allows drivers to smoke marijuana until the moment they climb behind the wheel. Endangers public safety. Jeopardizes \$9,400,000,000.00 in school funding, billions in federal contracts, thousands of jobs. Opposed by California's Sheriffs, Police Chiefs, Firefighters and District Attorneys.

Proposition 20

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: The responsibility to determine the boundaries of California's districts in the U.S. House of Representatives would be moved to the Citizens Redistricting Commission, a commission established by Proposition 11 in 2008. (Proposition 27 on this ballot also concerns redistricting issues. If both Proposition 20 and Proposition 27 are approved by voters, the proposition receiving the greater number of "yes" votes would be the only one to go into effect.)
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: The responsibility to determine the boundaries of California's districts in the U.S. House of Representatives would remain with the Legislature.
- **PRO:** Taxpayer, good government groups support 20 so the voter-approved Citizens Redistricting Commission will draw fair districts for the Legislature and Congress. Politicians oppose 20 so they can keep power to draw "safe" Congressional districts. YES on 20 helps us vote politicians out of office for not doing their jobs.
- **CON:** Accountability to the people is the fundamental principle of our form of government. But 20 gives a non-accountable fourteen-person bureaucracy even more power. And this bureaucracy will cost you money! Our state is in crisis! Unemployment, crime, massive debt. Stop the nonsense.

Proposition 21

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: An \$18 annual surcharge would be added to the amount paid when a person registers a motor vehicle. The surcharge revenues would be used to provide funding for state park and wildlife conservation programs. Vehicles subject to the surcharge would have free admission and parking at all state parks.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: State park and wildlife conservation programs would continue to be funded through existing state and local funding sources. Admission and parking fees could continue to be charged for vehicles entering state parks.
- **PRO:** California's state parks and beaches are in peril and face irreparable damage. Prop. 21 establishes a vitally-needed Trust Fund to keep parks open, maintained, and safe. Protects economic benefits to California from parks-related tourism. Prohibits politicians' raids, and mandates Annual Audits and Citizens' Oversight.
- **CON:** Prop. 21 is a cynical plan to bring back the car tax. Politicians in Sacramento are already scheming to divert existing park funds to other wasteful programs so overall park funding doesn't increase but car taxes do. Say No to car taxes and wrong priorities.

Proposition 22

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: The state's authority to use or redirect state fuel tax and local property tax revenues would be significantly restricted.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: The state's current authority over state fuel tax and local property tax revenues would not be affected.
- **PRO:** Yes on 22 stops state politicians from taking local government funds. 22 stops the State from taking gas taxes voters have dedicated to transportation. 22 protects local services: 9-1-1 emergency response, police, fire, libraries, transit, road repairs. Supported by California Fire Chiefs Association, California Police Chiefs Association, California Library Association.
- **CON:** California's teachers, firefighters, nurses, and taxpayer advocates say No on 22. If 22 passes, public schools stand to lose billions of dollars. 22 takes money firefighters use to fight fires and natural disasters while protecting redevelopment agencies and their developer friends. Another proposition that sounds good, but makes things worse.

Proposition 23

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: Certain existing and proposed regulations authorized under state law ("Assembly Bill 32") to address global warming would be suspended. These regulations would remain suspended until the state unemployment rate drops to 5.5 percent or lower for one year.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: The state could continue to implement the measures authorized under Assembly Bill 32 to address global warming.

- **PRO:** Yes on 23 saves jobs, prevents energy tax increases, and helps families, while preserving California's clean air and water laws. California can't afford self-imposed energy costs that don't reduce global warming. 2.3 million Californians are unemployed; Proposition 23 will save over a million jobs that would be otherwise be destroyed. www.yeson23.com
- **CON:** Texas oil companies designed 23 to kill clean energy and air pollution standards in California. 23 threatens public health with more air pollution, increases dependence on costly oil, and kills competition from job-creating California wind and solar companies. American Lung Association in California, California Professional Firefighters: No on 23.

Proposition 24

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: Three business tax provisions will return to what they were before 2008 and 2009 law changes. As a result: (1) a business will be less able to deduct losses in one year against income in other years, (2) a multi-state business will have its California income determined by a calculation using three factors, and (3) a business will not be able to share tax credits with related businesses.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: Three business tax provisions that were recently changed will not be affected. As a result of maintaining current law: (1) a business will be able to deduct losses in one year against income in more situations, (2) most multi-state businesses could choose to have their California income determined based only on a single sales factor, and (3) a business will be able to share its tax credits with related businesses.
- **PRO:** Prop. 24 (The Tax Fairness Act) stops \$1.7 billion in new special tax breaks for wealthy, multi-state corporations. They get unfair tax loopholes without creating one new job while small businesses get virtually no benefit. Public schools, health care and public safety should come before tax loopholes.
- **CON:** California needs jobs, not a jobs tax! Prop. 24 doesn't guarantee \$1 for our classrooms and REDUCES long-term revenues for schools and vital services. It would hurt small businesses, tax job creation, send jobs out of California—costing us 144,000 jobs. Families can't afford 24's new taxes.

Proposition 25

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: The Legislature's vote requirement to send the annual budget bill to the Governor would be lowered from two-thirds to a majority of each house of the Legislature.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: The Legislature's vote requirement to send an annual budget bill to the Governor would remain unchanged at two-thirds of each house of the Legislature.
- **PRO:** Prop. 25 reforms California's broken state budget process. Holds legislators accountable for late budgets by stopping their pay and benefits every day

the budget is late. Ends budget gridlock by allowing a majority of legislators to pass the budget, but does not lower the 2/3 vote required to raise taxes.

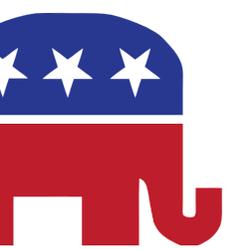
- **CON:** Politicians and special interests are promoting Prop. 25 to make it easier for politicians to raise taxes and restrict our constitutional right to reject bad laws. 25 doesn't punish politicians. They'll just increase their lavish expense accounts. Protect constitutional safeguards against higher taxes and wasteful spending.

Proposition 26

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: The definition of taxes would be broadened to include many payments currently considered to be fees or charges. As a result, more state and local proposals to increase revenues would require approval by two-thirds of each house of the Legislature or by local voters.
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: Current constitutional requirements regarding fees and taxes would not be changed.
- **PRO:** Yes on 26 stops state and local politicians from raising Hidden Taxes on goods like food and gas, by disguising taxes as "fees" and circumventing constitutional requirements for passing higher taxes. Don't be misled. 26 preserves California's strong environmental and consumer laws and protects taxpayers and consumers from Hidden Taxes.
- **CON:** Big oil, tobacco, and alcohol corporations want you to pay for the damages they cause. Prop. 26 was written behind closed doors and without public input. Don't protect polluters. League of Women Voters of California, Firefighters, Police Officers, Nurses, and Sierra Club all say No on 26.

Proposition 27

- A **YES** vote on this measure means: The responsibility to determine the boundaries of State Legislature and Board of Equalization districts would be returned to the Legislature. The Citizens Redistricting Commission, established by Proposition 11 in 2008 to perform this function, would be eliminated. (Proposition 20 on this ballot also concerns redistricting issues. If both Proposition 27 and Proposition 20 are approved by voters, the proposition receiving the greater number of "yes" votes would be the only one to go into effect.)
- A **NO** vote on this measure means: The responsibility to determine the boundaries of Legislature and Board of Equalization districts would remain with the Citizens Redistricting Commission.
- **PRO:** Vote yes on 27 to save taxpayer dollars and end nonsense reapportionment games. California is in crisis. We are broke, deeply in debt, unemployment is far too high. Proposition 27 is the only chance for voters to say "Enough is enough! Stop wasting taxpayer dollars on nonsense."
- **CON:** Politicians behind 27 want to repeal the voter-approved Citizens Redistricting Commission. They want the power to draw safe districts for themselves and will spend or say anything to get it back. Don't buy it. Taxpayer groups, good government groups, seniors, say stop the power grab.



USC College Republicans on the Propositions:

PROPOSITION 19

LEGALIZES MARIJUANA UNDER CALIFORNIA BUT NOT FEDERAL LAW. PERMITS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REGULATE AND TAX COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND SALE OF MARIJUANA. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

No position

PROPOSITION 20

REDISTRICTING OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

YES support – Elected representatives cannot be trusted/expected to be able to be impartial in redistricting. It is a politically driven activity.

PROPOSITION 21

ESTABLISHES \$18 ANNUAL VEHICLE LICENSE SURCHARGE TO HELP FUND STATE PARKS AND WILDLIFE PROGRAMS. GRANTS SURCHARGED VEHICLES FREE ADMISSION TO ALL STATE PARKS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

NO do not support – Waste of money.

PROPOSITION 22

PROHIBITS THE STATE FROM BORROWING OR TAKING FUNDS USED FOR TRANSPORTATION, REDEVELOPMENT, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS AND SERVICES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

YES support – CA does not have the funds to borrow any more money than we have. We need to reduce reduce rather than increase the debt.

PROPOSITION 23

SUSPENDS IMPLEMENTATION OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL LAW (AB 32) REQUIRING MAJOR SOURCES OF EMISSIONS TO REPORT AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THAT CAUSE GLOBAL WARMING, UNTIL UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS TO 5.5 PERCENT OR LESS FOR FULL YEAR. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

YES support – AB 32 will make it more financially difficult for businesses to stay in the state and the public to stay financially sound. Waiting to implement the bill until the state is more stable would be wise.

PROPOSITION 24

REPEALS RECENT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ALLOW BUSINESSES TO LOWER THEIR TAX LIABILITY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

NO do not support – One of the primary reasons California is in this financial crisis is because CA is so hard on business, particularly small private businesses. This piece of legislation makes it easier for them to stay afloat, start a new business, and stay in California. While it may have good immediate results for the CA budget, it will lead to more businesses traveling to other states or countries to conduct business.

PROPOSITION 25

CHANGES LEGISLATIVE VOTE REQUIREMENT TO PASS BUDGET AND BUDGET-RELATED LEGISLATION FROM TWO-THIRDS TO A SIMPLE MAJORITY. RETAINS TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR TAXES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

NO do not support – For reasons stated in Prop 26. In financially difficult times, maintaining a concise budget is more important than ever. It makes sense that there should be more people needed to approve a budget that affects every Californian and business.

PROPOSITION 26

REQUIRES THAT CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL FEES BE APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS VOTE.

FEES INCLUDE THOSE THAT ADDRESS ADVERSE IMPACTS ON SOCIETY OR THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY THE FEE-PAYER'S BUSINESS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

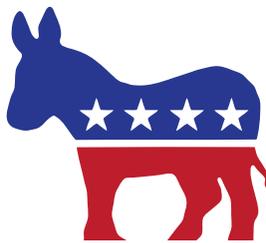
YES support – Particularly in a financially difficult time for Californians, fee increases, even on the local level should be few and far between. Increases should only occur when absolutely necessary and, in such a case, they should be voted in by a two thirds majority. This also pertains to taxes on the state level.

PROPOSITION 27

ELIMINATES STATE COMMISSION ON REDISTRICTING. CONSOLIDATES AUTHORITY FOR REDISTRICTING WITH ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

NO do not support – Power needs to stay in the local because they are the best ones to decide where redistricting should occur.

USC College Democrats on the Propositions:



PROPOSITION 19

LEGALIZES MARIJUANA UNDER CALIFORNIA BUT NOT FEDERAL LAW. PERMITS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO REGULATE AND TAX COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND SALE OF MARIJUANA. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

YES support – We have long needed a more sensible approach to marijuana policy. This measure gives us that, decriminalizing the possession of small amounts of marijuana under California law, but providing safeguards to ensure this change is made responsibly. This measure is not radical or dangerous, and it can provide clear benefits to our state.

PROPOSITION 20

REDISTRICTING OF CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

NO do not support – We should not expand the power of an unelected, unaccountable commission that does not represent California's diversity and will cost its taxpayers millions.

PROPOSITION 21

ESTABLISHES \$18 ANNUAL VEHICLE LICENSE SURCHARGE TO HELP FUND STATE PARKS AND WILDLIFE PROGRAMS. GRANTS SURCHARGED VEHICLES FREE ADMISSION TO ALL STATE PARKS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

YES – Our state parks are a precious resource and deserve our full support, and anyone who visits the parks will more than get their money's worth. We recommend you vote Yes.

PROPOSITION 22

PROHIBITS THE STATE FROM BORROWING OR TAKING FUNDS USED FOR TRANSPORTATION, REDEVELOPMENT, OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROJECTS AND SERVICES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

NO – Passage of this measure would take critical funding away from schools and public safety and give it to developers. We urge a No vote.

PROPOSITION 23

SUSPENDS IMPLEMENTATION OF AIR POLLUTION CONTROL LAW (AB 32) REQUIRING MAJOR SOURCES OF EMISSIONS TO REPORT AND REDUCE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS THAT CAUSE GLOBAL WARMING, UNTIL UNEMPLOYMENT DROPS TO 5.5 PERCENT OR LESS FOR FULL YEAR. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

NO – California is the nation's leader in protecting the environment and stimulating the growing market for green jobs. This measure is a cynical attempt by Texas oil companies to halt our progress and make Californians more dependent on their product. Please oppose it.

PROPOSITION 24

REPEALS RECENT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ALLOW BUSINESSES TO LOWER THEIR TAX LIABILITY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

YES – This measure will repeal corporate tax giveaways that were passed in a backroom deal and don't guarantee a single job will be created or saved. We urge you to vote Yes and to restore desperately needed funding for education and human services.

PROPOSITION 25

CHANGES LEGISLATIVE VOTE REQUIREMENT TO PASS BUDGET AND BUDGET-RELATED LEGISLATION FROM TWO-THIRDS TO A SIMPLE MAJORITY. RETAINS TWO-THIRDS VOTE REQUIREMENT FOR TAXES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

YES – We strongly favor ending budget gridlock in California by establishing a majority vote to pass the budget, and by holding accountable legislators who don't do their jobs. California is one of only three states that does not allow majority rule; it is no coincidence our budget process is the nation's most dysfunctional. Help change that with a Yes vote.

PROPOSITION 26

EQUIRES THAT CERTAIN STATE AND LOCAL FEES BE APPROVED BY TWO-THIRDS VOTE. FEES INCLUDE THOSE THAT ADDRESS ADVERSE IMPACTS ON SOCIETY OR THE ENVIRONMENT CAUSED BY THE FEE-PAYER'S BUSINESS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

NO – This measure is a sham attempt by tobacco and oil companies to make you pay for the harm they cause, rather than paying their fair share. The consequences for California taxpayers would be devastating.

PROPOSITION 27

ELIMINATES STATE COMMISSION ON REDISTRICTING. CONSOLIDATES AUTHORITY FOR REDISTRICTING WITH ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

YES – Decisions on redistricting should be made by those accountable to the public, not an unrepresentative elite panel that costs Californians millions of dollars to maintain.

POLLING PLACES

1. Tuscany Vote by mail only. All registered voters will be mailed ballots automatically.

2. Pardee Tower, Marks Tower, Marks Hall, Trojan Hall, New/North, Birnkrant and the Radisson will vote at Marks Tower.

3. All Parkside buildings, Webb Tower, Fluor Tower and Cardinal Gardens will vote at the Los Angeles Fire Station at 915 W. Jefferson Blvd.

4. Troy and Troy East, along with University Gateway and the buildings surrounding the Shrine will vote at the Hillel Center at 3300 South Hoover Street. (Near 32nd St).

5. The Row, Pacific, Sierra and Founders Apartments will vote at Ward Villas Senior Housing at 1177 W. Adams - on the corner of Adams and Hoover.

6. Century Apartments, La Sorbonne and large numbers of students living on 30th St., Ellendale and Menlo will vote at John W. Mack Elementary School at 3020 Catalina Ave.

7. The area between Hoover and Vermont and between 29th and Adams will vote at the Roger Williams Baptist Church at 1342 West Adams.

8. The area immediately west of campus, 36th and 37th Sts and Pls, will vote at Weemes Elementary School at 1260 W. 36th Place.

SAMPLE BALLOT

19 Legalize and tax marijuana

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

20 Congressional district lines to be re-drawn by a committee

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

21 Increase vehicle license fees by \$18 a year to fund state parks

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

22 State government prohibited from taking designated types of local funds

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

23 Suspend AB 32, the "Global Warming Solutions Act" until unemployment falls below 5.5%

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

24 Eliminates three business tax breaks

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

25 State budget and budget-related legislation can be passed with a simple majority vote, rather than current 2/3rds requirement

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

26 Voters must give permission before any new taxes can be imposed

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

27 Return task of redistricting to the California State Legislature (repealing Prop 11)

YES →	<input type="checkbox"/>
NO →	<input type="checkbox"/>

TAKE ME WITH YOU TO VOTE!

CalPIRG's New Voters Project Blitz!

CalPIRG believes that as students we have a real chance to make the politicians pay attention to us and the issues we care about, but the ONLY way we can make sure this happens is by voting in HUGE numbers this November, to show that the youth vote is here to stay. So CalPIRG is trying to get EVERYONE on this campus registered to vote and out to the polls! Look for us as we launch our New Voters Project Blitz from October 11th- 15th! We will be holding events all day everyday ranging from Dorm Canvassing, Tabling, and a Get Out the Vote finale event!

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Official California Propositions Voter Guide- Quick Reference

<http://voterguide.sos.ca.gov/>

NOTES

ABOUT UNRUH

The mission of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics is to motivate students to become active in the world of politics and encourage public officials to participate in the daily life of USC. The Institute operates a number of activities in four broad program areas: Unruh Adjunct Lecturers / Student Internships, Scholarships & Awards / Lectures, Conferences & Political Practitioners / and Unruh Undergraduate Scholars.

UPCOMING "STUDENTS TALK BACK" LUNCH EVENTS

October 12, 2010

*Every Child Left Behind?
Education Races to the Top
of the Agenda*

October 19, 2010

*Boxer vs. Fiorina:
Who Will California Send
to Washington?*

October 26, 2010

*Governor's Race:
The Home Stretch*

Join us on Election Night - November 2nd

6:00 - 8:30 pm in the Annenberg East Lobby

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Jesse M. Unruh
Institute of Politics



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