

Ballot Measure Summary

PROPOSITION

32

VETERANS' BOND ACT OF 2000.

BOND ACT.

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature.

SUMMARY

This act provides for a bond issue of five hundred million dollars (\$500,000,000) to provide farm and home aid for California veterans. Fiscal Impact: Costs of about \$858 million over 25 years (average cost of about \$34 million per year); costs paid by participating veterans.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: The state would be able to issue \$500 million in general obligation bonds to provide loans for the veterans' farm and home purchase (Cal-Vet) program.

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: The state would not be able to issue these bonds for this purpose.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

The time-honored Cal-Vet Loan Program helps wartime veterans to purchase homes and farms in California at no expense to taxpayers. Voter-approved bonds finance the Program and are repaid, along with all program costs, by veteran loan holders. This measure would replenish such bonds. We urge your support.

CON

Proposition 32 is a half billion dollar bond measure that would cost taxpayers a fortune. The money would be used to buy homes for "veterans" defined to even include persons like Presidential candidate George W. Bush who joined his state's Air National Guard instead of going to fight in Vietnam!

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Glenn Gilbert
Assembly Committee on
Veterans Affairs
California State Assembly

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AGAINST

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PROPOSITION

33

LEGISLATURE. PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC
EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature.

SUMMARY

Allows legislative members to participate in the Public Employees' Retirement System plans in which a majority of state employees may participate. Fiscal Impact: Annual state costs under \$1 million to provide retirement benefits to legislators, with these costs replacing other spending from the fixed annual amount provided in support of the Legislature.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: State legislators could earn retirement benefits under a state retirement system for their years of service in the Legislature.

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: For retirement purposes, state legislators would continue to earn only Social Security benefits for their years of service in the Legislature.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Proposition 33 is about fairness and about allowing everyone to serve in the Legislature, not just the rich. Proposition 33 only allows members of the Legislature to participate in the same pension plan as every other state employee. No additional perks. Proposition 33 will require no additional state spending.

CON

Vote NO. Legislators' salaries are now \$99,000, plus some reimbursement for living expenses. They need no more perks. This measure, written by politicians, wipes out a key part of Proposition 140 enacted by voters in 1990 and will increase general fund costs. Vote NO on Proposition 33.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Yes on Prop. 33

c/o Western Group
P.O. Box 596
Yucaipa, CA 92399
(909) 795-9722

AGAINST

Lewis Uhler, President
The National
Tax-Limitation Committee

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Ballot Measure Summary

PROPOSITION

34

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND SPENDING.
LIMITS. DISCLOSURE.

LEGISLATIVE INITIATIVE AMENDMENT.

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature.

SUMMARY

Limits campaign contributions and loans to state candidates and political parties. Provides voluntary spending limits; expands public disclosure requirements and increases penalties. Fiscal Impact: Additional net costs to the state, potentially up to several million dollars annually, and unknown but probably not significant costs to local government.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: New contribution and voluntary spending limits will be established for state elective offices. Limits previously adopted by the voters for state and local offices, which have not been implemented because of a pending lawsuit, would be repealed. The new limits are higher than those that would be repealed.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Proposition 34 is real reform that puts voters—not special interests—back in charge of California's political process. Proposition 34 sets enforceable, constitutional limits on campaign financing where none exist today. It limits contributions and spending, speeds up disclosure, increases fines and closes loopholes for wealthy candidates without public financing.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Tom Knox
Committee for Constitutional
Campaign Reform

1215 K Street, Ste. 2100
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 443-3354
CAyeson34.org

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: Existing contribution and voluntary spending limits for state and local elective offices enacted by a voter-approved initiative would not be repealed.

CON

Incumbent politicians will be begging for money when they should be tending to the public's business. Challengers will be forced to seek campaign funds from any and all sources that want political favors from Sacramento. *Proposition 34 is a recipe for a government more beholden to special interests.* Vote No.

AGAINST

Lonni Granlund
Western Group

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PROPOSITION

35

PUBLIC WORKS PROJECTS. USE OF
PRIVATE CONTRACTORS FOR ENGINEERING
AND ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES.

INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

SUMMARY

Amends Constitution eliminating existing restrictions on state, local contracting with private entities for engineering, architectural services; contracts awarded by competitive selection; bidding permitted, not required. Fiscal Impact: Unknown impact on state spending for architectural and engineering services and construction project delivery. Actual impact will depend on how the state uses the contracting flexibility under the proposition.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: The state could contract with private individuals or firms for architectural and engineering services in all situations rather than only under certain conditions (such as when the work is of a temporary nature or of such a specialized nature that it cannot be provided by state employees).

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Prop. 35—Supported by hundreds of taxpayer groups, seniors, schools, local governments, business, labor, highway/earthquake safety engineers. *Restores government's ability to engage in public/private partnerships with qualified engineers to speed up thousands of backlogged highway and other public works projects.* Creates 40,000 jobs. Saves taxpayers \$2.5 billion annually.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Taxpayers for Fair Competition—
A coalition of taxpayers, engineers, seniors, schools, local government, business, labor, highway safety experts and frustrated commuters.
11300 W. Olympic Blvd., Ste. 840
Los Angeles, CA 90064
(310) 996-2671/Info@YesProp35.com
www.YesProp35.com

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: The state could contract with private individuals or firms for architectural and engineering services only under certain conditions.

CON

Proposition 35 changes the Constitution to benefit one special interest at taxpayer expense. Like other states, California currently awards engineering contracts based on cost, qualifications, and experience. Prop. 35 replaces that with an undefined contracting process which allows overpriced government contracts based on campaign contributions and political influence. *Vote No!*

AGAINST

Steve Hopcraft
No On Prop. 35

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noonprop35.org

Ballot Measure Summary

PROPOSITION

36

DRUGS. PROBATION
AND TREATMENT PROGRAM.

INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

SUMMARY

Requires probation and drug treatment, not incarceration, for possession, use, transportation of controlled substances and similar parole violations, except sale or manufacture. Authorizes dismissal of charges after completion of treatment. Fiscal Impact: Net annual savings of \$100 million to \$150 million to the state and about \$40 million to local governments. Potential avoidance of one-time capital outlay costs to the state of \$450 million to \$550 million.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: Adult offenders convicted of being under the influence of illegal drugs or using, transporting, or possessing illegal drugs for personal use would generally be sentenced to probation and drug treatment.

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: Adult offenders convicted of being under the influence of illegal drugs or using, transporting, or possessing illegal drugs would generally continue to be sentenced to prison, jail, or probation. There would be no requirement that they be sentenced to drug treatment.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

The war on drugs has failed. Nonviolent drug users are overcrowding our jails. Violent criminals are being released early. Drug treatment programs are rarely available. We pay \$25,000 annually for prisoners when treatment costs only \$4,000. Expanded treatment programs will reduce crime, save lives, and save taxpayers hundreds of millions.

CON

Proposition 36 prohibits jail for persons convicted of using heroin, crack, PCP and other illegal drugs, or for possessing "date rape" drugs—even those with prior convictions for rape, child molesting and other violent crimes. Proposition 36 has no regulatory safeguards, cripples legitimate treatment, invites fraud and endangers public safety.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

California Campaign for New Drug Policies

(310) 394-2952
www.drugreform.org

AGAINST

Californians United Against Drug Abuse/Sponsored by Law Enforcement, Drug Treatment Professionals, Healthcare, Crime Victims and Taxpayers—No on 36.
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 801
Sacramento, CA 95814

1-800-995-3221
www.noonprop36.com

PROPOSITION

37

FEEES. VOTE REQUIREMENTS. TAXES.

INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

SUMMARY

Requires two-thirds vote of State Legislature, majority or two-thirds of local electorate to impose future state, local fees on activity to study or mitigate its environmental, societal or economic effects. Defines such fees as taxes except property, development, certain other fees. Fiscal Impact: Unknown, potentially significant, reduction in future state and local government revenues from making it more difficult to approve certain regulatory charges.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: Government actions to establish certain regulatory charges would require approval by a greater number of legislators or local voters.

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: Current laws and constitutional requirements regarding regulatory charges would not be changed.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

The California Taxpayers Association urges you to vote Yes on Proposition 37 to stop hidden taxes on food, gasoline, utilities and other necessities. Proposition 37 makes politicians accountable to taxpayers by requiring a vote of the people or a 2/3 vote of the Legislature to enact these hidden taxes.

CON

Proposition 37 *protects polluters and shifts their costs to taxpayers*. The oil and tobacco lobbies who paid for Prop. 37 want you to pay for the pollution and sickness they cause. *American Cancer Society, League of Women Voters, Sierra Club and California Tax Reform Association say: No on 37!*

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Californians Against Hidden Taxes

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www.yesonprop37.org

AGAINST

Doug Linney
Taxpayers Against Polluter Protection

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Ballot Measure Summary

PROPOSITION

38

SCHOOL VOUCHERS. STATE-FUNDED PRIVATE AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION. PUBLIC SCHOOL FUNDING.

INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.
Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

SUMMARY

Authorizes annual state payments of at least \$4000 per pupil for private/religious schools. Permits replacement of current constitutional public school funding formula. Fiscal Impact: Near-term state costs from zero to \$1.1 billion annually. Long-term state impact from \$2 billion in annual costs to \$3 billion in annual savings, depending on how many public school students shift to private schools.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: In addition to funding a public school system, the state would make available to all school-age children (kindergarten through 12th grade) scholarships (vouchers) of at least \$4,000 each year to pay tuition and fees at private schools.

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: The state would not fund scholarships (vouchers) to pay tuition and fees at private schools. The current approach of funding public education for kindergarten through 12th grade through a system of public schools would continue.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Prop. 38 gives a \$4,000 school voucher to all parents to choose the best education for their children and provides a stronger public education funding guarantee. Prop. 38 holds schools accountable to parents and students, is only fair, and leads to smaller, safer classrooms.

CON

Proposition 38 would create voucher schools with no standards for students, no credentials for teachers, and no accountability to taxpayers. Not one penny of the billions spent on Prop 38 will be used to make our children's public schools better. Prop 38 is an expensive experiment our children can't afford.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Pat Rosenstiel
Prop38Yes,
School Vouchers 2000

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Redwood City, CA 94063
(650) 306-1111
Campaign@vouchers2000.com
www.38Yes.com

AGAINST

No on Prop 38 Committee

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Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 442-4406
info@NoVouchers2000.com
www.NoOnProp38.com

PROPOSITION

39

SCHOOL FACILITIES. 55% LOCAL VOTE. BONDS, TAXES. ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS.

INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AND STATUTE.
Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures.

SUMMARY

Authorizes bonds for repair, construction or replacement of school facilities, classrooms, if approved by 55% local vote. Fiscal Impact: Increased bond debt for many school districts. Long-term costs statewide could total in the hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Potential longer-term state savings to the extent school districts assume greater responsibility for funding school facilities.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES

A YES vote on this measure means: Local school bonds could be approved by a 55 percent vote rather than a two-thirds vote of the local electorate.

NO

A NO vote on this measure means: Local school bonds would continue to require approval by a two-thirds vote of the local electorate.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Parents, business, teachers and taxpayers say "Yes on 39" to fix our classrooms and fix the way schools spend money. The California State PTA says 39 helps reduce class size and protects taxpayers and homeowners. It requires a tough 55% vote for bonds and prohibits spending on administration or bureaucracy.

CON

Proposition 39 destroys 121 year Constitutional Protection requiring two-thirds vote to approve local bonds. 39 has No property tax limits. 39 could lead to further actions which double property taxes, returning to pre-1978 levels. Bonds create homeowner liens. "Special Provisions" can be changed anytime without voter approval. Vote No.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR

Taxpayers for Accountability & Better Schools

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AGAINST

Jon Coupal
Save Our Homes Committee,
Vote No on Proposition 39

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