

Important Information About This Primary Election and Decline-to-State Voters

A **decline-to-state** voter is any registered voter who chose to not affiliate with a political party when he or she registered to vote (also sometimes referred to as a nonpartisan or DTS voter).

Primary elections are held to determine which nominee in each political party will represent the party in each **general election** contest. The winning candidate from each party in the June 8, 2010, Statewide Direct Primary Election will move on to the November 2, 2010, General Election.

- If you are registered to vote with a political party, you may only vote in the statewide direct primary election for ballot measures and the candidates running for office from the party with which you are registered.
- If you did not select a political party when you registered to vote, you can request a ballot of any political party that has notified the Secretary of State that it will permit decline-to-state registered voters to help nominate their candidates. You may NOT request more than one party's ballot.

The following political parties are allowing decline-to-state voters to request and vote their party's ballot (with the exception of county central committee candidates) in the June 8, 2010, Statewide Direct Primary Election:

- Democratic Party
- Republican Party

If you do not request a specific ballot, you will be given a nonpartisan ballot containing only ballot measures and the names of candidates for nonpartisan offices.

If You Vote by Mail . . . Each county elections office is required to mail all decline-to-state voters who are registered as permanent vote-by-mail voters a notice and application regarding voting in the primary election. The notice shall inform the voter that he or she may request a vote-by-mail ballot for a particular political party for the primary election if that party authorized decline-to-state voters to vote in its primary. If you have already been issued a nonpartisan ballot but would like to request a ballot from one of the participating parties, you must contact your county elections office. For a list of county elections offices, see page 60 of this guide.

Voter Registration

Registering to vote is simple and free. Registration forms are available online at www.sos.ca.gov and at most post offices, libraries, city and county government offices, and the California Secretary of State's Office. You also may have a registration form mailed to you by calling your county elections office or the Secretary of State's toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

To register to vote you must be a U.S. citizen, a California resident, at least 18 years of age on Election Day, not in prison or on parole for the conviction of a felony, and not judged by a court to be mentally incompetent.

You are responsible for updating your voter registration information. You should update your voter registration if you change your home address, change your mailing address, change your name, or want to change or select a political party.

Note: If you moved to your new address after May 24, 2010, you may vote at your old polling place.

State Legislative and U.S. House of Representatives

Candidate Statements

This Voter Information Guide covers statewide ballot measures and some statewide officials. Each State Senate and Assembly office relates to voters in only one or a few counties, so some candidate statements may be available in your county sample ballot booklet.

Proposition 34, approved by voters in November 2000, established voluntary spending limits for candidates running for state legislative office. Legislative candidates who choose to keep their campaign expenses under specified dollar amounts may purchase space in county sample ballot booklets for a 250-word candidate statement. To view a list of legislative candidates who have accepted the campaign spending limits, go to www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_cand_stat.htm.

State Senate candidates who have volunteered to limit their campaign spending may spend no more than \$777,000 in a primary election. Assembly candidates who have volunteered to limit their campaign spending may spend no more than \$518,000 in a primary election.

Candidates running for the United States House of Representatives may buy space for a 250-word candidate statement in county sample ballot booklets, and are not subject to voluntary spending limits.

About Ballot Arguments

The Secretary of State's Office does not write ballot arguments. Arguments in favor of and against ballot measures are provided by the proponents and opponents of the ballot measures. If multiple arguments are submitted for or against a measure, the law requires that first priority be given to arguments written by legislators in the case of legislative measures, and arguments written by the proponents of an initiative or referendum in the case of an initiative or referendum measure. Subsequent priority for all measures goes to bona fide associations of citizens and then to individual voters. According to law, the submitted argument language cannot be verified for accuracy or changed in any way unless a court orders it to be changed.

About Ballot Measures

There are several types of statewide ballot measures. The June 8, 2010, Statewide Direct Primary Election ballot includes the following three types of ballot measures.

Legislative Constitutional Amendment

When the State Legislature proposes to amend the California Constitution, the amendment must be approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the Legislature and then presented to voters on a statewide ballot. A legislative constitutional amendment does not require the Governor's signature. To be enacted, a legislative constitutional amendment requires a simple majority of the total votes cast.

Legislative Initiative Amendment

When the State Legislature proposes to amend a law that was previously enacted through the initiative process, the amendment must be approved by a majority vote of each house of the Legislature and then presented to voters on a statewide ballot (unless the original measure specifically permits legislative amendment or repeal without voter approval). To be enacted, a legislative initiative amendment requires a simple majority of the total votes cast.

Initiative

Often referred to as "direct democracy," the initiative process is the power of the people to place measures on a statewide ballot. These measures can either create or change laws and amend the constitution. If the initiative proposes to create or change California laws, proponents must gather petition signatures of registered voters equal in number to five percent of the votes cast for all candidates for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election. If the initiative proposes to amend the California Constitution, proponents must gather petition signatures of registered voters equal in number to eight percent of the votes cast for all candidates for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election. To be enacted, an initiative requires a simple majority of the total votes cast.

Large Print and Audio Voter Information Guides

The Secretary of State provides the Official Voter Information Guide in large-print and audio formats for people who are visually impaired in English, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.

To order the large-print or audio-cassette version of the Official Voter Information Guide, go to www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_vig_altformats.htm or call the Secretary of State's toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

For a downloadable audio MP3 version of the Official Voter Information Guide, go to www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov/audio/.

Earn Money and Make a Difference . . . Serve as a Poll Worker on Election Day!

In addition to gaining first-hand experience with the tools of our democracy, poll workers can earn extra money for their valuable service on Election Day.

You can serve as a poll worker if you are:

- A registered voter, or
- A high school student who:
 - is a United States citizen;
 - is at least 16 years old at the time of service;
 - has a grade point average of at least 2.5; and
 - is in good standing at a public or private school.

Contact your county elections office, or call (800) 345-VOTE (8683), for more information on becoming a poll worker.

If you are a state government employee, you can take time off work, without losing pay, to serve as a poll worker if you provide adequate notice to your department and your supervisor approves the request.

Statewide Elective Office Descriptions

U.S. Senator

- One of two Senators who represent California's interests in the United States Senate.
- Proposes and votes on new national laws.
- Votes on confirming federal judges, U.S. Supreme Court Justices, and many high-level presidential appointments to civilian and military positions.

Governor

- As the state's chief executive officer, oversees most state departments and agencies and appoints judges.
- Proposes new laws and approves or vetoes legislation.
- Prepares and submits the annual state budget.
- Mobilizes and directs state resources during emergencies.

Lieutenant Governor

- Assumes the office and duties of Governor in the case of impeachment, death, resignation, removal from office, or absence from the state.
- Serves as president of the State Senate and has a tie-breaking vote.
- Chairs the Economic Development Commission, is a member of the State Lands Commission, and sits on the boards of the California university systems.

Secretary of State

- As the state's chief elections officer, oversees statewide elections and provides public access to campaign and lobbying financial information.
- Supports California business by registering and authenticating certain types of businesses and trademarks, regulating notaries public, and enabling secured creditors to protect their financial interests.
- Preserves California's history by acquiring, safeguarding, and sharing the state's historical treasures.
- Registers domestic partnerships and advance health care directives, and protects the identities of domestic violence victims and certain others entitled to confidential addresses.

Controller

- As the state's chief fiscal officer, serves as the state's accountant and bookkeeper of all public funds.
- Administers the state payroll system and unclaimed property laws.
- Serves on numerous boards and commissions including the Board of Equalization and the Board of Control.
- Conducts audits and reviews of state operations.

Treasurer

- As the state's banker, manages the state's investments.
- Administers the sale of state bonds and notes, and is the investment officer for most state funds.
- Chairs or serves on several commissions, most of which are related to the marketing of bonds.
- Pays out state funds when spent by the Controller and other state agencies.

Attorney General

- As the state's chief law officer, ensures that the laws of the state are uniformly and adequately enforced.
- Heads the Department of Justice, which is responsible for providing state legal services and support for local law enforcement.
- Acts as the chief legal counsel in state litigation.
- Oversees law enforcement agencies, including county district attorneys and sheriffs.

Insurance Commissioner

- Oversees and directs all functions of the Department of Insurance.
- Licenses, regulates, and examines insurance companies.
- Answers public questions and complaints regarding the insurance industry.
- Enforces California insurance laws and adopts regulations to implement the laws.

Superintendent of Public Instruction

- As the state's chief public schools official, provides education policy and direction to local school districts.
- Directs all functions of the Department of Education and executes policies set by the State Board of Education.
- Serves as an ex-officio member of governing boards of the state's higher education system.
- Works with the educational community to improve academic performance.

Member of the Board of Equalization

Serves on the Board of Equalization, the state's elected tax commission, which:

- Oversees the administration of over two dozen tax and fee programs including those for sales and use, cigarette and tobacco, alcohol and fuels.
- Serves as the appellate body for California income and franchise tax cases.
- Oversees the administration of property tax statewide.

California Board of Equalization Districts

Counties in Each Board of Equalization District



COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICES

ALAMEDA COUNTY

1225 Fallon Street, Room G-1
Oakland, CA 94612
(510) 272-6973
www.acgov.org/rov

ALPINE COUNTY

99 Water Street
P.O. Box 158
Markleeville, CA 96120
(530) 694-2281
www.alpinecountyca.gov

AMADOR COUNTY

810 Court Street
Jackson, CA 95642
(209) 223-6465
www.co.amador.ca.us

BUTTE COUNTY

25 County Center Drive, Suite 110
Oroville, CA 95965-3361
(530) 538-7761 or (800) 894-7761
<http://clerk-recorder.buttecounty.net>

CALAVERAS COUNTY

891 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249
(209) 754-6376
www.co.calaveras.ca.us

COLUSA COUNTY

546 Jay Street, Suite 200
Colusa, CA 95932
(530) 458-0500
www.colusacountyclerk.com

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

555 Escobar Street
P.O. Box 271
Martinez, CA 94553
(925) 335-7800
www.cocovote.us

DEL NORTE COUNTY

981 H Street, Suite 160
Crescent City, CA 95531
(707) 465-0383
www.dnco.org

EL DORADO COUNTY

2850 Fairlane Court
P.O. Box 678001
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-7480
www.co.el-dorado.ca.us/elections

FRESNO COUNTY

2221 Kern Street
Fresno, CA 93721
(559) 488-3246
www.co.fresno.ca.us/elections

GLENN COUNTY

516 W. Sycamore Street, 2nd Floor
Willows, CA 95988
(530) 934-6414
www.countyofglenn.net/elections/home_page.asp

HUMBOLDT COUNTY

3033 H Street, Room 20
Eureka, CA 95501
(707) 445-7678 or (707) 445-7481
www.co.humboldt.ca.us/election

IMPERIAL COUNTY

940 West Main Street, Suite 202
El Centro, CA 92243
(760) 482-4226
www.imperialcounty.net/elections

INYO COUNTY

168 N. Edwards Street
P.O. Box F
Independence, CA 93526
(760) 878-0224
www.inyocounty.us

KERN COUNTY

1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 868-3590
<http://elections.co.kern.ca.us/elections/>

KINGS COUNTY

1400 W. Lacey Blvd.
Hanford, CA 93230
(559) 582-3211 ext. 4401
www.countyofkings.com/acr/elections/index.html

LAKE COUNTY

255 N. Forbes Street, Room 209
Lakeport, CA 95453-4748
(707) 263-2372
www.co.lake.ca.us

LASSEN COUNTY

220 S. Lassen Street, Suite 5
Susanville, CA 96130
(530) 251-8217
http://lassencounty.org/govt/dept/country_clerk/default.asp

LOS ANGELES COUNTY

12400 Imperial Highway
Norwalk, CA 90650-8350
(800) 481-8683 or (562) 466-1310
www.lavote.net

MADERA COUNTY

200 West 4th Street, 1st Floor
Madera, CA 93637
(559) 675-7720
www.madera-county.com/elections

MARIN COUNTY

3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 121
San Rafael, CA 94903
P.O. Box E
San Rafael, CA 94913
(415) 499-6456
www.marinvotes.org

MARIPOSA COUNTY

4982 10th Street
P.O. Box 247
Mariposa, CA 95338
(209) 966-2007
www.mariposacounty.org

MENDOCINO COUNTY

501 Low Gap Road, Room 1020
Ukiah, CA 95482
(707) 463-4371
www.co.mendocino.ca.us/acr

MERCED COUNTY

2222 M Street, Room 14
Merced, CA 95340
(209) 385-7541
www.mercedelections.org

MODOC COUNTY

204 S. Court Street
Alturas, CA 96101-0131
(530) 233-6200

MONO COUNTY

74 School Street, Annex I
P.O. Box 237
Bridgeport, CA 93517
(760) 932-5537
www.monocounty.ca.gov

MONTEREY COUNTY

1370-B South Main Street
P.O. Box 4400
Salinas, CA 93912
(831) 796-1499
www.montereycountyelections.us

NAPA COUNTY

900 Coombs Street, Suite 256
Napa, CA 94559
(707) 253-4321
www.countyofnapa.org

NEVADA COUNTY

950 Maidu Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959
(530) 265-1298
www.mynevadacounty.com/elections

ORANGE COUNTY

P.O. Box 11298
Santa Ana, CA 92711
(714) 567-7600
www.ocvote.com

PLACER COUNTY

2956 Richardson Drive
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 886-5650
www.placerelections.com

PLUMAS COUNTY

520 Main Street, Room 102
Quincy, CA 95971
(530) 283-6256
www.countyofplumas.com

RIVERSIDE COUNTY

2724 Gateway Drive
Riverside, CA 92507-0918
(951) 486-7200
www.voteinfo.net

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

7000 65th Street, Suite A
Sacramento, CA 95823-2315
(916) 875-6451
www.elections.sacounty.net

SAN BENITO COUNTY

440 Fifth Street, Room 206
Hollister, CA 95023-3843
(831) 636-4016
www.sbcvote.us

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY

777 E. Rialto Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415
(909) 387-8300
www.sbcrov.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY

5201 Ruffin Road, Suite I
San Diego, CA 92123
(858) 565-5800
www.sdvote.com

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place #48
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 554-4375
www.sfelections.org

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

44 N. San Joaquin Street, Suite 350
Stockton, CA 95202
(209) 468-2885
www.sjcrov.org

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY

1055 Monterey Street, D-120
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408
(805) 781-5228
www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk

SAN MATEO COUNTY

40 Tower Road
San Mateo, CA 94402
(650) 312-5222
www.shapethefuture.org

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

130 E. Victoria Street, Suite 200
P.O. Box 159
Santa Barbara, CA 93102
(800) SBC-VOTE
(805) 568-2200
www.sbcvote.com

SANTA CLARA COUNTY

1555 Berger Drive, Bldg. 2
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 299-VOTE or (866) 430-VOTE
www.sccvote.org

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

701 Ocean Street, Room 210
Santa Cruz, CA 95060-4076
(831) 454-2060
www.votescount.com

SHASTA COUNTY

1643 Market Street
Redding, CA 96001
(530) 225-5730
www.elections.co.shasta.ca.us

SIERRA COUNTY

P.O. Drawer D
Downieville, CA 95936
(530) 289-3295
www.sierracounty.ws

SISKIYOU COUNTY

510 N. Main Street
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 842-8084 or
(888) 854-2000 ext. 8084
www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/clerk/index.htm

SOLANO COUNTY

675 Texas Street, Suite 2600
Fairfield, CA 94533
(707) 784-6675
www.solanocounty.com/elections

SONOMA COUNTY

435 Fiscal Drive
P.O. Box 11485
Santa Rosa, CA 95406-1485
(707) 565-6800 or (800) 750-VOTE
www.sonoma-county.org/regvoter

STANISLAUS COUNTY

1021 I Street, Suite 101
Modesto, CA 95354-2331
(209) 525-5200
www.stanvote.com

SUTTER COUNTY

1435 Veterans Memorial Circle
Yuba City, CA 95993
(530) 822-7122
www.suttercounty.org

TEHAMA COUNTY

444 Oak Street, Room C
P.O. Box 250
Red Bluff, CA 96080
(530) 527-8190 or (866) 289-5307
www.co.tehama.ca.us

TRINITY COUNTY

11 Court Street
P.O. Box 1215
Weaverville, CA 96093
(530) 623-1220
www.trinitycounty.org

TULARE COUNTY

5951 S. Mooney Blvd.
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 624-7300
www.tularecoelections.org

TUOLUMNE COUNTY

2 S. Green Street
Sonora, CA 95370-4696
(209) 533-5570
www.tuolumnecounty.ca.gov

VENTURA COUNTY

800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009-1200
(805) 654-2664 or (805) 654-2781
<http://recorder.countyofventura.org/elections.htm>

YOLO COUNTY

625 Court Street, Room B05
Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 666-8133
www.yoloelections.org

YUBA COUNTY

915 8th Street, Suite 107
Marysville, CA 95901-5273
(530) 749-7855
<http://elections.co.yuba.ca.us>