

QUICK-REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 13 LIMITS ON PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT. SEISMIC RETROFITTING OF EXISTING BUILDINGS. LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Provides that construction to seismically retrofit buildings will not trigger reassessment of property tax value. Sets statewide standard for seismic retrofit improvements that qualify. Fiscal Impact:

Minor reduction in local property tax revenues related to the assessment of earthquake upgrades.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Earthquake safety improvements made to unreinforced masonry (such as brick) buildings would not result in higher property taxes until the building is sold.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Earthquake safety improvements made to unreinforced masonry buildings would continue to be excluded from property taxes but for only up to 15 years.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Proposition 13 makes a necessary change to our state's constitution in order to eliminate a dangerous disincentive for property owners to upgrade un-reinforced masonry structures in order to improve earthquake safety. This proposition promotes fairness by eliminating the unequal treatment of different types of property which undergo seismic safety improvements.

CON No argument against Proposition 13 was submitted.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
Senator Roy Ashburn's Support
Proposition 13 Committee
P.O. Box 11444
Bakersfield, CA 93389
(661) 861-8100

AGAINST
No contact information was provided.

PROP 14 ELECTIONS. INCREASES RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN PRIMARY ELECTIONS.

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Changes the primary election process for congressional, statewide, and legislative races. Allows all voters to choose any candidate regardless of the candidate's or voter's political party preference. Ensures that the two candidates receiving the greatest number of votes will appear on the general election ballot regardless of party preference. Fiscal Impact: No significant net change in state and local government costs to administer elections.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: All voters would receive the same primary election ballot for most state and federal offices. Only the two candidates with the most votes—regardless of political party identification—would advance to the general election ballot.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Voters would continue to receive primary election ballots based on their political party. The candidate with the most votes from each political party would continue to advance to the general election ballot.

ARGUMENTS

PRO A YES vote means YOU will be able to vote for any candidate you wish for state and congressional offices, regardless of political party preference. Experts say non-partisan measures like Proposition 14 will result in elected representatives in Sacramento and Washington who are LESS PARTISAN and MORE PRACTICAL.

CON The politicians behind Proposition 14 included a deceptive provision, that won't make primaries "Open" at all. Candidates will no longer be required to list their party affiliation on the ballot. They want to look like "independents" while they actually remain in their political party. Business as usual disguised as "reform."

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
YES ON 14-Californians For
An Open Primary
info@YESON14OPENPRIMARY.COM
www.YESON14OPENPRIMARY.COM

AGAINST
California School Employees'
Association
2045 Lundy Ave.
San Jose, CA 95131
(408) 473-1000

QUICK-REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP CALIFORNIA FAIR ELECTIONS ACT.

15

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Repeals ban on public funding of political campaigns. Creates a voluntary system for candidates for Secretary of State to qualify for a public campaign grant if they agree to limitations on spending and private contributions. Each candidate demonstrating enough public support would receive same amount. Participating candidates would be prohibited from raising or spending money beyond the grant. There would be strict enforcement and accountability. Funded by voluntary contributions and a biennial fee on lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers. Fiscal Impact: **Increased revenues (mostly from charges related to lobbyists) totaling over \$6 million** every four years. These funds would be spent on public financing for campaigns of Secretary of State candidates for the 2014 and 2018 elections.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: The state ban on public funding for political campaigns for elected offices would be lifted. For the 2014 and 2018 elections, candidates for the office of Secretary of State could choose to receive public funds to pay for the costs of campaigns if they met certain requirements. Charges related to lobbyists would be increased to pay for these costs.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: The state ban on public funding for political campaigns for elected offices would continue. Candidates for the office of Secretary of State would continue to pay for their campaigns with private funds subject to current rules. Existing charges related to lobbyists would not change.

ARGUMENTS

PRO YES on 15: The amount of money in politics is outrageous and corrupts the system. The League of Women Voters of California says Prop. 15 will get politicians out of the fundraising game so they will focus on California's priorities. Elections should be won, not bought by special interests. www.YesOnProp15.org

CON Proposition 15 is a trick. It raises taxes with no accountability to provide millions in taxpayer money to politicians to fund their negative campaigns AND ALSO ALLOWS politicians to continue to raise money from special interest groups. Prop. 15 is not real campaign reform. Please vote NO on Prop. 15.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
Derek Cressman
Californians for Fair Elections
3916 S. Sepulveda, Suite 109
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(800) 566-3780
Prop15@CommonCause.org
www.YesOnProp15.org

AGAINST
STOP PROP 15
455 Capitol Mall, Suite 801
Sacramento, CA 95814
info@stopprop15.com
STOPPROP15.com

PROP IMPOSES NEW TWO-THIRDS VOTER APPROVAL REQUIREMENT FOR LOCAL PUBLIC ELECTRICITY PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Requires two-thirds voter approval before local governments provide electricity service to new customers or establish a community choice electricity program using public funds or bonds. Fiscal Impact: **Unknown net impact on state and local government costs and revenues—unlikely to be significant in the short run—due to the measure's uncertain effects on public electricity providers and on electricity rates.**

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Local governments would generally be required to receive two-thirds voter approval before they could start up electricity services or expand electricity service into a new territory.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Local governments generally could continue to implement proposals involving the start-up or expansion of electricity service either through approval by a majority of voters or actions by governing boards.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Proposition 16 is the Taxpayers Right to Vote Act. It requires two thirds voter approval before local governments can spend or borrow public money to enter the retail electricity business. In tough economic time like these, taxpayers should have the final say in how government spends our money.

CON Proposition 16 does two things: First, it drastically limits your choices on who provides you with electricity. Second, it lets the for-profit utilities in California raise your electricity rates again and again, by protecting their monopoly and eliminating competition. For more choice and lower electric bills, NO on Proposition 16.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
YES On 16/Californians to
Protect Our Right to Vote
2350 Kerner Blvd., Suite 250
San Rafael, CA 94901
info@taxpayersrighttovote.com
www.taxpayersrighttovote.com

AGAINST
Taxpayers Against the PG&E
Powergrab, Sponsored by
Local Power, Inc. and The
Utility Reform Network
Mindy Spatt
5429 Madison Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95841
(415) 929-8876 x306
www.powergrab.info

QUICK-REFERENCE GUIDE

PROP 17 **ALLOWS AUTO INSURANCE COMPANIES TO BASE THEIR PRICES IN PART ON A DRIVER'S HISTORY OF INSURANCE COVERAGE. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Permits companies to reduce or increase cost of insurance depending on whether driver has a history of continuous insurance coverage. Fiscal Impact: **Probably no significant fiscal effect on state insurance premium tax revenues.**

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES A YES vote on this measure means: Insurance companies could offer new customers a discount on their automobile insurance premiums based on the length of time the customer had maintained bodily injury liability coverage with another insurer.

NO A NO vote on this measure means: Insurers could provide discounts to their long-term automobile insurance customers, but would continue to be prohibited from providing such discounts to new customers switching from other insurers.

ARGUMENTS

PRO Yes on 17 can save insured drivers up to \$250 by eliminating a surcharge for changing insurance companies. 17 allows insured drivers to take continuous coverage discounts with them if they change insurers, just like good driver discounts. A flaw in California law prevents this. 17 saves consumers money. www.YesProp17.org

CON Mercury Insurance is spending millions on Proposition 17 so auto insurance companies can RAISE PREMIUMS AS MUCH AS \$1,000 on good drivers. It reverses a voter-approved law and allows new insurance surcharges that will harm middle-class families and lead to more uninsured motorists. Consumer advocates OPPOSE Prop. 17.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FOR
Yes on 17-Californians for Fair Auto Insurance Rates
(916) 325-0056
info@YesProp17.org
www.YesProp17.org

AGAINST
Campaign for Consumer Rights
(310) 392-0522
VoteNo@StopProp17.org
www.StopProp17.org

Find Your Polling Place

Polling place locations are coordinated by county elections offices. Your polling place will be listed on the back cover of your county sample ballot booklet.

Many county elections offices offer polling place look-up assistance via websites or toll-free phone numbers.

For more information, visit the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ca.gov/elections/elections_d.htm or call the toll-free Voter Hotline at (800) 345-VOTE (8683).

If your name does not appear on the voter list at your polling place, you have the right to cast a provisional ballot at any polling place in the county in which you are registered to vote.

Provisional ballots are ballots cast by voters who:

- Believe they are registered to vote even though their names do not appear on the official voter registration list;
- Believe the official voter registration list incorrectly lists their political party affiliation; or
- Vote by mail but cannot locate their vote-by-mail ballot and want to vote at a polling place.

Your provisional ballot will be counted after elections officials have confirmed that you are registered to vote and you did not vote elsewhere in that election.

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