

# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## GOVERNOR

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



### **Katie Porter** | DEMOCRATIC

I’ve spent my entire career holding those in power accountable when they lie or break the rules. As Governor, I will go toe-to-toe with Donald Trump and anyone who tries to harm California families. As a Member of Congress, I took on billionaire CEOs and incompetent Trump officials, using a whiteboard to show the facts and expose corruption and cheating. I recovered billions for California homeowners when big banks ripped them off, forced drug companies to stop overcharging taxpayers, and made the Trump Administration deliver free COVID tests for everyone. Unlike most other Democrats, I refuse donations from corporations and lobbyists. Those special interests and PACs have too much power in Sacramento and are making California unaffordable for the rest of us. I cannot be bought, so you can count on me to bring down your costs, guarantee quality healthcare, and protect the environment. As the single mom of three kids, I personally push the grocery cart, fill the minivan gas tank, and pay the monthly bills. I have watched expenses like utilities and insurance go up and dollars not stretch as far, just like so many Californians. As your Governor, I will bring down costs for families and increase wages for workers. Here’s how: I will eliminate income taxes for Californians earning less than \$100,000, build housing that workers can afford, stop charging tuition at our public universities, and make childcare free for all Californians. Learn more at [KatiePorter.com](http://KatiePorter.com).

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### **Betty T. Yee** | DEMOCRATIC

We can’t fix the affordability crisis without a Governor who can fix the state budget. The ongoing budget problem is hurting investments in our schools, health care, housing, child care, seniors, and the environment. I am the only candidate who served as a state budget director, an elected member of the State Board of Equalization, and State Controller. I ruled against corporations and the wealthy, making sure they paid their fair share of taxes. I uncovered \$7.3 billion in misspending. I never borrowed externally to pay the state’s bills. I protected the retirement funds for school employees. This is what hardworking Californians expect and deserve, an experienced leader who works for them. Every day, families make tough economic choices about what bills to pay and what to go without. I see this as I help families navigate elder care and child care needs. We can’t allow families to fall further behind. And we must not saddle the next generation with costs that will curtail their ability to succeed and thrive. We can, however, invest in our people, growing our economy by creating good-paying jobs in every corner of the state. Join the Progressive Democrats of America, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders Victory Fund, National Women’s Political Caucus of California, California Women’s List, Democratic Activists for Women Now, and local elected officials in supporting experienced, accountable leadership to make California add up for everyone. I respectfully ask for your vote.

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**Anne Komarovsk** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Hello Voter: *Please-Help-Make-California-Great-Again-Thank-You-NPP26.com*  
*HowTheWestWasOne.org*

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### **Gary Howard Kidgell** | DEMOCRATIC

Legacy builder delivering affordable solutions for everyday Californians'

Santa Clara, CA | Tel: (415) 471-6699

E-mail: [ghkcalifornia@gmail.com](mailto:ghkcalifornia@gmail.com) | [@Kidgell4CA2026](https://www.instagram.com/Kidgell4CA2026) | [KidgellforCalifornia.com](http://KidgellforCalifornia.com)

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### **Tony K. Thurmond** | DEMOCRATIC

Born to an immigrant mother from Panama, Tony Thurmond and his brother were raised by a cousin they had never met after their mother died when Tony was just six years old. Growing up in poverty, Tony's family relied on public assistance and great public schools to rise out of hardship, experiences that inspired his lifelong dedication to equity and opportunity for all Californians. He ultimately became a social worker, City Councilmember, School Board Member, Assemblymember, and eventually Superintendent of California's \$150 billion public school system. As State Superintendent, Tony sponsored a law to keep ICE out of California Schools. He helped create universal preschool for 4-year-olds, and universal meals for hungry kids.

Thurmond helped pass billions in funds to make schools safer by removing asbestos and other toxins. Tony understands that our political system is broken. From skyrocketing costs of food and groceries to a federal government assaulting our civil liberties, our state is in a crisis. Meanwhile, the billionaires just get richer and richer. That's why he's fighting for a tax on billionaires, healthcare for all, abolishing ICE, 2 million new units of housing, finally fully funding our public schools, abortion care that is legal and accessible, getting weapons of war off of our streets, and protecting democracy. We need a leader who will stand up to the billionaires, to the federal government, and fight for everyday working-class Californians. We need Tony Thurmond. On June 2nd, vote Tony Thurmond for Governor. Visit [tonythurmond.com](http://tonythurmond.com).

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X: [x.com/TonyThurmond](https://x.com/TonyThurmond) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/tonythurmond](https://www.facebook.com/tonythurmond)

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### **Margaret Trowe** | NO QUALIFIED PARTY PREFERENCE

Margaret Trowe, five-decade member of Socialist Workers Party, is a hotel housekeeper, member of UNITE-HERE union. Organized solidarity, joined strikes of hotel, school, hospital workers. Calls for union-backed fight for amnesty for undocumented workers to build working-class unity. Longtime fighter against racism, for women's rights and against Washington's wars, from Vietnam to Venezuela. Defends Israel's right to exist and defend itself. Stands against rising Jew-hatred. A supporter of the Cuban Revolution that brought working people to power. Says "U.S. Hands off Cuba! End U.S. Economic Blockade of Cuba!" Defends free speech, due process, other Constitutional protections. Campaigns for need for workers to take political power—the only solution to world capitalist economic, political, and moral crisis and the only way to stop the capitalist rulers' march to World War III.

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E-mail: SocialistWorkers2026campaign@gmail.com | www.themilitant.com

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### **Erin "Zez" Zezulak** | DEMOCRATIC

Hello Californians, I'm Erin Zez Zezulak, RN, IBCLC, MPH, a nurse, educator, small-business owner, consultant, and mom. I was born, raised, and educated in California. My school-teacher Democrat mother and my wildlife biologist, Republican, avid hunter father gave my sisters and me a multidimensional outlook of California. Following the animals my father studied, I have lived in many beautiful State and National Parks in California, as well as with my grandparents in the Los Angeles and San Francisco Bay areas. *I know California.* Working with patients and families in the California medical system for nearly 30 years has helped me plan for a unified, equitable healthcare system for all people living in California. Equity for all Californians extends to education, safety, and protection. We all must be protected from discrimination and unconstitutional practices. ICE will not be permitted in California using its present tactics. Working with my grandfather, a building contractor, helped me see how to maximize our cities, enabling affordable housing for all. Living in agricultural communities has inspired my water management plans to eliminate the drought/flood cycle that impacts California's farming, economy, and communities. As a pilot in training, I planned strategies for fighting wildfires from the air and for early fire detection to mitigate wildfire destruction. *I know California. I will work to build a better California for all as your next Governor. Thank you for your vote.*

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### **Duane Terrence Loynes Jr.** | NO QUALIFIED PARTY PREFERENCE

The American Solidarity Party platform emphasizes the need to uphold the dignity of the human person from conception to natural death, which includes the unborn, the mother in the crisis pregnancy, the immigrant, documented or undocumented, children at risk of being deprived of their mother or father, the elderly or sick who are at risk of being pressured to end their own lives, the worker struggling to support the family or to buy a home, the homeless person who does not have shelter and is estranged from family. If you agree with the need to uphold this dignity with policies for the common good, make the decision today to register with the American Solidarity Party by following the instructions here

[https://ca.solidarity-party.org/learn\\_more/register-to-vote/](https://ca.solidarity-party.org/learn_more/register-to-vote/)



### **Matthew Chase Levy** | DEMOCRATIC

Matthew Chase Levy is a California-based entrepreneur, internationally recognized scientist and running for Governor as a political outsider. He is the founder of NobleAI, a Science-Based AI platform that accelerates discovery and innovation in chemistry, materials, and energy sectors, and AE Blue Capital, a venture firm that backs fusion and other advanced clean-energy technologies critical to addressing California's rising energy costs, grid reliability issues, and long-term decarbonization goals. His experience with these endeavors will drive practical solutions of societal problems, expand employment and maintain California's preeminent role as a world leader in harnessing science for the benefit of all Californians. Levy holds a B.A. from UCLA and Master's and Ph.D. degrees in physics from Rice University. While completing his doctorate, he conducted research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory on U.S. strategic security. This led to him becoming the first American physicist awarded the Isaac Newton International Fellowship by the Royal Society at Oxford University. Early international experience in Tokyo—before and during his UCLA years—combined with his work in the UK, gives him a unique perspective on global innovation and the challenges facing California families. Levy is a Fellow at Wolfson College, Oxford; a Trustee of The Washington Institute; and serves on the Finance Committee for the Mayor of Oakland and former Congresswoman Barbara Lee. Levy resides in Oakland with his wife Debbie Senesky, a Stanford professor, and her 12-year-old daughter. [www.Matthewchaselevy.com](http://www.Matthewchaselevy.com)

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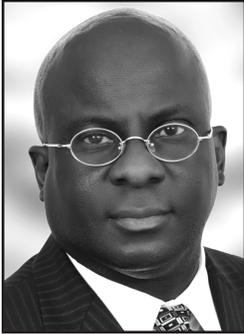
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**Akinyemi Agbede** | DEMOCRATIC

Empowering California's future visit my website at  
[www.thenextgovernorofcalifornia2026.net](http://www.thenextgovernorofcalifornia2026.net).

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E-mail: [yemibode@hotmail.com](mailto:yemibode@hotmail.com) | [www.thenextgovernorofcalifornia2026.net](http://www.thenextgovernorofcalifornia2026.net)

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### Joseph Cabrera | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

California was built on a promise: that through hard work and innovation, any citizen could build a prosperous life. Today, that promise is fading under partisan gridlock and a \$31 billion transportation budget that leaves our roads crumbling. I am running for Governor to provide the “Independent Fix” our state desperately needs. Sacramento politicians are asking for new taxes, but their own budget—Schedule 11—shows they are sitting on \$30.1 billion in unspent, voter-approved bond money. We have nearly \$500 million for traffic reduction sitting idle since 2006. As a business owner, I know you don’t ask for a new credit card when you haven’t used the one in your pocket. We must also confront our humanitarian crises. Homelessness, plummeting school performance, and our mental health crisis are all symptoms of the same failed bureaucracy. For too long, we have used our jails as warehouses for the mentally ill

while allowing our streets to become encampments. I will shift resources away from bloat and into community treatment, focusing on recovery instead of a revolving prison door. Finally, we must restore and revamp the Donahoe Higher Education Act. I will return our public universities to the merit-based, accessible model that once made California the envy of the world. By auditing “ghost projects” and redirecting interest savings, we can fund our schools and clinics without raising your taxes. I am an independent uniter from the Inland Empire, not a career politician. I respectfully ask for your vote to fix California.

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### Elaine Culotti | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Californians are tired of politics. They want solutions. I am running for Governor to unite California around practical results and restore the California dream. I believe in a simple promise: if you want a job in California, you should be able to find one here. Our state was built by entrepreneurs, small businesses, farmers, innovators, and workers willing to take risks and work hard. Government’s role is to create the conditions for opportunity, not stand in the way. Since 1991, I have built businesses and created jobs in California. I have traveled across our state meeting with mayors and local leaders from both parties. They all want the same fundamentals: safe streets, strong schools, thriving local economies, and accountability for taxpayer dollars. California should be the state of the future, not a state where families and employers feel forced to leave.

Tax revenue is not a business model. Growth, innovation, and job creation are. My priorities are clear. Economic Development that streamlines regulation, supports small businesses, strengthens workforce training, and expands opportunity across every region. Health and Safety that funds proven mental health treatment, practical housing solutions, and accountable public safety. Power Back to the People by restoring local control, ending unfunded mandates, uncovering fraud, and ensuring full transparency in how tax dollars are spent. Together, we can rebuild opportunity and move forward as One California.

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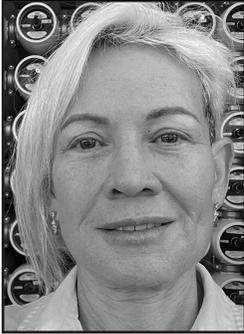
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### Gretha Solórzano | REPUBLICAN

My name is Gretha Solórzano. I am a UC Berkeley-trained scientist, a retired nuclear engineer, and a candidate for Governor of California. As a pragmatic moderate, I am committed to bridging political divides and uniting Californians—conservatives, liberals, and independents alike—around practical solutions that work. My mission is simple: *make California affordable and sustainable again*. I will strengthen our economy through strategic investments in advanced energy and water infrastructure, including redirecting the *\$32.7 billion* we currently spend on foreign oil toward domestic production to improve energy security and keep jobs here at home. I will also tackle California's housing shortage, and I will reverse the decline in our education system. With my technical expertise, fiscal discipline, and results-oriented leadership, I will create jobs, lower utility costs, and deliver long-term growth for all Californians.

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### Christine R. Sarmiento | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

I am running for Governor of California to deliver *competent, accountable* leadership focused on results. As a nurse and operations manager, I've worked in *high-pressure* environments where errors have *real consequences* and *accountability matters*. I'm also a mother who worked full time while attending college—so I understand stress, sacrifice, and responsibility *firsthand*. California's challenges are *practical, not abstract*. *Affordability, public safety, access to healthcare, education, and infrastructure reliability* affect families *every day*. The system isn't broken, *it's ill*. With proper steps we can make it a little better every day, and we will be well. I ask for your consideration and your trust to help move California forward.

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### **Frederic C. Schultz** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Please elect me governor, to save our rights/lives. We're in an Emergency: I'll declare a State of Emergency, to save us! Murderous government thugs kill us daily, for the "crimes" of seeking asylum, documenting attacks, protesting. California arrests 800,000 annually, most for unconstitutional victimless/consensual "crimes", enslaving 200,000 daily, without telling jurors we can *always* vote "not guilty". "Drug" prohibition/regulation causes trillions in medical costs, murders, poverty worldwide, making millions refugees, torturing sick people to death. Millions Americans homeless, half destitute. We'll tax 5% wealth over \$10,000,000 and income over \$1,000,000, yielding \$1,100,000,000,000 annually, retroactively even. Rent freeze! No lockdowns or forced vaccinations: optional and real food instead! I support school choice and oppose reverse discrimination: equal opportunity instead. We'll increase California State Guard from 900 to 2,000,000, one per classroom, stopping most murders, including by ICE nationwide, preventing martial law, closing slavery/death camps, pardoning innocent slaves! We'll enforce bodily autonomy rights, to abortion, assisted suicides and guns. Human rights to housing (\$10,000 homes), living wages, jobs, income, higher/trade education, healthcare (nationwide), food (worldwide), childcare, public transport without deadly high speed trains. Free utilities/gasoline, but save environment. We'll ban pesticides, factory farms, "autonomous" vehicles. No sales taxes or income taxes under \$100,000! We'll enforce our rights to democracy: Equal vote and chance to serve (publicly financed elections). Privacy rights: No mass surveillance, "Flock" spying cameras. Carina Sanchez Lieutenant Governor, Dan Kapelovitz Attorney General. Free the People! #Fred4CA.com!

Tel: (858) 888-0461 | E-mail: Fred4CA.com@gmail.com | Instagram: Instagram.com/Fred4CA | X: X.com/FredericEsq

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### **Scott P Shields** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Visit [ShieldsForGovernor.com](http://ShieldsForGovernor.com)

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### **Jon Henderson** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

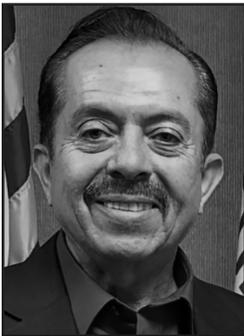
United we stand, divided we fall. California has never been more divided in our politics, and it is costing us time, money, and trust. I am Jon Henderson, and I am running for Governor as an Independent because California needs balance, not blame. Our state is too diverse, by region, race, income, age, and ideology, to be governed for only one side. I will govern for everyone who works hard, raises a family, runs a business, serves a community, or simply wants a fair shot. I believe in the Golden Rule for the Golden State. A proud product of California public schools, I have built multiple companies from nothing. I know how to set goals, measure results, and deliver. Government should operate under a fiduciary standard, putting the public interest first. I will place my own assets in a blind trust, and I will push to require blind trusts for California lawmakers.

Corruption and conflicts of interest have gotten out of hand. If we remove the incentive to profit from public office, we can rebuild trust across party lines. My book, *California 2.0: An Independent Vision for California's Abundant Future*, provides a blueprint with solutions to our biggest challenges, from housing and wildfires, using innovative technology that already exists. I am running for the majority of Californians in the middle who are sick of the extremes. If you believe our state deserves independent thinking, balance, and accountability over partisan loyalty, I would be honored to earn your vote.

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### **Rafael M. Hernandez** | REPUBLICAN

To Me: The people of California Come First. My goals are: 1. Lower the high cost of living. 2. Create more good pay jobs. 3. Fix the homelessness crisis. 4. Build affordable homes.

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Instagram: [Rafael4CAGovernor6-2-26](https://www.instagram.com/Rafael4CAGovernor6-2-26) | TikTok: [rafaelcagov2026](https://www.tiktok.com/@rafaelcagov2026)

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### **Lewis Herms** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Becoming Governor should be hard work because Californians deserve leaders who serve, not rule. As the “*We The People Guy*” I believe accountability and liberty must replace politics as usual. Career politicians have had their chance; it’s time to restore common sense and leadership that works for the people of California.

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E-mail: [info@hermsforcali.com](mailto:info@hermsforcali.com) | X: @wowlewi | Facebook: @ScrewBigGovernment

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### **Max Fomin** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Will veto mileage tax, suffocate homelessness, assassinate unemployment, nuke crime, house the unhoused, prosecute corruption, generate \$, like my coffee iced out.

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E-mail: [max4mkt@gmail.com](mailto:max4mkt@gmail.com) | Instagram: @newamericans | [www.newamericans.com](http://www.newamericans.com)

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### **Serge Fiankan** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

My mission is to bring Californians together, across regions, backgrounds, and political lines, to build a state that works for the people who live here. I'm running to deliver practical, transparent, accountable leadership that puts solutions over ideology and people over politics. That means restoring trust in government, reforming systems that no longer serve us, and strengthening communities, from rural towns to major cities, so every Californian has opportunity, an affordable life, and a safe place to call home.

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### **Amanda Martin** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

Mother, Builder, Entrepreneur solving California's problems!

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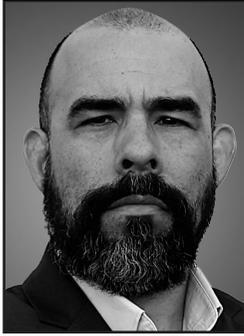
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### **Daniel Mercuri** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

My governorship will NOT be one to lead, but to serve all Californians. I'm a US Navy Veteran and native-born Californian armed with full knowledge and understanding of our Constitution to: investigate, indict, prosecute, and *imprison* corrupt bureaucrats, protect children from pedophiles and child sex traffickers, restrain school indoctrinators, refine student education, strengthen parental rights, end criminalizing victims and victimizing the criminal, prioritize the lawful citizen over the illegal, penalize government money laundering, end state tax on tips, retirement, property, and income while re-invigorating small businesses and stifling regulatory overreach. We'll become energy independent, restrict CEQA, and provide medical freedom. The status of the people will remain above government at all times under my administration. This is your one chance to make a difference by voting outside the establishment picks. I will not

fail you! [www.danielforcalgovernor.com](http://www.danielforcalgovernor.com)

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E-mail: [daniel@danielforcalgovernor.com](mailto:daniel@danielforcalgovernor.com) | X: @daniel4calgov26 | Instagram: daniel4calgovernor

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### **Naomi Bar-Lev** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

The party system has definitively failed us. Media's incomplete reporting, unforgivable. My background includes a BA in Economics, UCLA, real estate broker for 20 plus years, construction experience, vice president, managing hundreds of loan officers and agents, to a robust Airbnb business. Improvements were made to my property to double the business's income, the very year vandalism and espionage against me began. Survival of continued attacks has enlightened me! I wrote a primer about the tyranny that has taken over, its explosive corruption, its use of police, the courts, technology, corporatism (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/naomi-bar-lev-56b894346>). Big tech partnerships now are violating civil and consumer rights as well as anti-trust law. At the center are fusion centers, hubs of information and military grade technology—6 centers statewide run by “local police”. They have connected all devices, espionage made possible against the individual and business, which has transformed the courts. I am no friend to politicians. As governor, fusion centers will be for serious investigations of fraud, theft, and waste, a healthy revenue source with a leaner budget. Police will return to neighborhoods, fighting crime, taking reports equally among citizens, using a constitutionally compliant database. Phones and devices will be recalled, past services refunded, phone, alarm systems, wifi . . . “Partnerships” and non-disclosure agreements in government will be eliminated. A hiring spree to stock consumer and civil rights agencies, local and state leaders replaced by public servants. No sales, income, or property tax. Parking fees and permit fees will be eliminated.

2244 2nd Ave. #39, San Diego, CA 92101 | Tel: (619) 317-3634 | E-mail: [lawfulwon@gmail.com](mailto:lawfulwon@gmail.com)

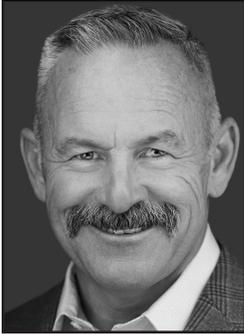
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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## GOVERNOR

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### **Chad Bianco** | REPUBLICAN

My name is Chad Bianco. I'm a husband, a father, and the Sheriff of Riverside County. I didn't rise through politics. I rose through public service. As Sheriff, I lead one of the largest law enforcement agencies in California. We've reduced violent crime, stood up for victims, and supported the men and women who protect our communities. I've made hard decisions under pressure, in situations with real consequences. Leadership isn't about slogans. When common sense fails, regular people pay the price. California is at a turning point. Too many families are struggling just to get by. Moms and dads are working longer hours and still falling behind. Jobs are leaving, pushing our children to look elsewhere for opportunity. Buying a home feels out of reach. Gas, groceries, and utilities cost more every month. People are doing everything right and still getting squeezed. As Governor, I will bring accountability and common sense back to state

government. I will cut through bureaucracy that keeps families from rebuilding after wildfires. I will demand real results for the billions spent on homelessness, and end the cycle of spending without accountability. We may not agree on everything, but we all want the same basics: safe neighborhoods, opportunity for our kids, and a fair shot at getting ahead. As a husband, a father, and a Sheriff, I know what responsibility means. I know what leadership is. I've seen the best and the worst, and I know we can do better. I'm asking for your vote.

3649 Mission Inn Ave., Floor 2, Riverside, CA 92501 | Tel: (951) 782-7886  
Instagram: @sheriffbianco | Facebook: Sheriff Chad Bianco

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### **Derek Grasty** | DEMOCRATIC

I come from a working class community. I believe that everyone should have a good quality of life. That means affordable housing, a safe community and a quality education. My life experiences have taught me that anything is possible. My work across California as a teacher, principal and public servant supporting diverse communities, has prepared me to tackle statewide issues. Together, we will keep kidnappers (ICE) off our streets, make housing affordable for working families, first responders, teachers, firefighters, and nurses. Education will be supported with pre-school, reading specialists, and mental health counselors to help our students thrive. Let's make California truly the Golden State. [www.GrastyforGovernor.com](http://www.GrastyforGovernor.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## GOVERNOR

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No Photograph  
Submitted

### **Don J. Grundmann** | NO QUALIFIED PARTY PREFERENCE

Kirk murdered by shaped-charge bomb Israel used. Government knows. YouTube—Why Kirk had to die. Israel murdered Liberty sailors. Israel “art students” wired Twin Towers for 9/11. controlled demolition. Planes did NOT destroy towers. Israel did. 3,000 murdered to create new “Pearl Harbor” to justify fighting wars for Israel. “Dancing Israelis” (Mossad agents) prove knowledge of attack. Government knows. Israel (our greatest enemy), NOT Iran, will suitcase nuke U S. via “Samson Option”—false flag attack to blame on Iran/Russia and permanently end our nation. Israel, the REAL terrorists, created and funds Hamas via Qatar. Countless war crimes by Israel/ Netanyahu. No further funding for Israel. They call Palestinians AND Christians AND America “Amalek”—their sworn forever enemy. We are “goyim” (less than human animals/cattle) that they will enslave. We are stupid chumps. Israel rules our conquered

Republic. Talmud—their Bible—says Christ boiling in in Israel allowed/planned/promoted Hamas attack (they murdered their own people) to justify genocide and steal billion\$ in Gaza oil/gas rights. Christian Zionism = soul poison. Talmudic “Judeo-Christian values” don’t exist . . . [DestroyTheZOG.org](#). Constitution Party of California, state affiliate Christian Nationalist Party. [CNParty.org](#).—developing. [Fight-the-Power.org](#). [CPofCA.org](#). [StopNumber24.org](#). Nationalize FED. Print interest free United States Notes. Freedom Law School \$300,000 challenge. [BlackGenocide.org](#). Planned Parenthood murdered 20 MILLION blacks = REAL “White Supremacy.”, [HenryMakow.com](#). [NationalStraightPrideCoalition.org](#). [Gtvflyers.com](#)

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### **Ramsey Robinson** | PEACE AND FREEDOM

*I'm fighting for a California for the People, not the Billionaires.* California's 194 billionaires hoard more wealth than 27 million of us. That's not an accident—it's a rigged system. We make California rich, but can't afford rent, medicine, or decent schools for our kids because billionaires extract the wealth we create. Our socialist campaign demands guaranteed housing capped at 20% of income, free healthcare, free childcare and union jobs at minimum \$30/hour with a guaranteed dignified retirement. Stop deportations, abolish ICE! I'm fighting for socialism—a system where we working people have the political and economic power to meet our needs. Together we will end billionaire rule once and for all. Vote Socialist! Vote [leftunityslate.org](#). Register Peace & Freedom Party.

Tel: (510) 560-3514 | E-mail: [info@ramsey4gov.com](mailto:info@ramsey4gov.com) | Instagram: [@ramsey4gov](#) | TikTok: [@ramsey4gov](#)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## GOVERNOR

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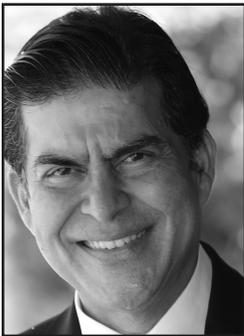
### Satish Rao | DEMOCRATIC

Efficient, effective, and humane. That's the test. Every policy helps some and hurts others, so discussion is necessary—and hard. Too often tribalism, power, and narrow incentives decide the outcome. Education makes it plain. California has failed vulnerable students at a basic task: learning to read. Meanwhile, places we're taught to dismiss have done better. The genius stroke? Words are made of letters—fundamentals, not magic. Arithmetic is not a hate crime. Yet in California, basics are treated like villains and complexity like virtue: a thousand-page, state-approved physics book that's great for strong backs and publisher margins, but essentially unread. The people who oversaw failure still control the institutions. That's not a conspiracy; it's bureaucracy. In universities, power concentrates in administration, and budgets follow power. At the University of California, Berkeley—where I work—non-academic staff

compensation alone runs north of \$30,000 per student. That's before you pay a single instructor, professor, TA, tutor, reader, lab assistant, or researcher. And it doesn't stop at bloat. In California, there is a regulation for every problem—and too often it fails to solve it while creating new ones. Governor Newsom tries—hair always in place. Still, he governs in a dishonest system that rewards the loudest interests and the fanciful promises they sell. California is rich in people, place, and position. Let's get out of our own way: do what works, stop what doesn't, and treat people with decency.

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### Raji Rab | DEMOCRATIC

California faces 20B deficit, affordability crisis. Solution is additional revenue, space age advancement not reversing back to basics. I'm the only candidate with Now Plan bringing billions in global investment, balance budget, surplus for all departments, manufacture low-cost meds and multifamily housing, ease regulations, lower taxes, universal healthcare, 1.5 million jobs in first year. I'm an aviator, educator, entrepreneur, owned operated airline, mentored students, served civil rights, support immigration Amnesty. [www.rajirabforgovernor.com](http://www.rajirabforgovernor.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## GOVERNOR

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### **Randeep S. Dhillon** | REPUBLICAN

I am Dr. Randeep S Dhillon, an economist and finance professional, running for Governor of California to provide practical leadership focused on affordability, public safety, and long-term economic security. California's challenges affect every community. Families face high living costs, farmers need reliable water, small businesses struggle with rising expenses, and neighborhoods want safety restored. These challenges require balanced, economically sound solutions guided by facts and accountability. My professional background includes economics, finance, healthcare innovation, and large-scale operations. I believe government must be fiscally responsible, transparent, and focused on results. Financial stability strengthens families, supports communities, & restores confidence in institutions. As Governor, I will protect California agriculture by ensuring fair, reliable, and affordable water,

including consistent pricing across water districts so farmers can plan, invest, and produce. Rural communities must be treated as partners in California's future. Energy affordability matters to households and businesses alike. I support responsible California crude oil production alongside renewable energy development to stabilize fuel costs, protect jobs, and reduce dependence on foreign energy. California must also lead in technology. I will support California-owned operating systems, software, and hardware so innovation, jobs, and data remain here. I will stand with small businesses by reducing regulations and expanding access to capital so entrepreneurs can grow and hire. Public safety is fundamental. Shoplifting of any amount is a crime, and laws must be enforced fairly. I support women's economic advancement, solutions to veteran homelessness through housing and employment, and firm action against illegal drugs.

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E-mail: [Dhillon@Cagov2026.com](mailto:Dhillon@Cagov2026.com) | Facebook: [Facebook.com/Cagov2026](https://www.facebook.com/Cagov2026) | Instagram: [Instagram.com/Cagov2026](https://www.instagram.com/Cagov2026)

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### **LivingForGod AndCountry DeMott** | NO PARTY PREFERENCE

My Legal Name LivingForGod Means: Living A Life Reflecting The Good Character of Jesus Christ; it is my foundation, my operating system, and compass. As a chaplain it is my opinion that any success built on the foundation of deceit and corruption is like building a castle on the sand. So when the storm screams against the windshield, I will not flinch! When it comes to the kind of turbulence that brings planes down, I will be the pilot who punches through the storm so the passengers (You the People) can breathe again. As a successful business man I built Big Time Pest Control from the ground up, then sold it trading upper management to serve as a chaplain, in the trenches, kneeling hand-in-hand, with the forgotten, and the broken. My heritage is a map of U.S. American grit, stretching from Samuel Fuller, the Doctor of the Mayflower to the lightning rod of Ben Franklin. But I'm not looking back—I'm looking forward to all

of California, where people are feeling abandoned and betrayed! I have a plan to STOP illegal ICE operations; and a chaplain's heart to remember who the system serves. I'm 100% against the miles-driven tax. To Make California Great Again, PROTECT THE PEOPLE! As the old parties are debating the heat over who bought the matches, while the dumpster fire burns; I'm handing you a fire extinguisher! That's why I am the best choice for Governor of California. • [www.DeMottForGovernor.com](http://www.DeMottForGovernor.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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- 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 Commission for Economic Development; is a member of the State Lands Commission, and the Ocean Protection Council; and sits on the boards of the California university systems.
- 



### Janelle Kellman | DEMOCRATIC

Janelle Kellman is a climate risk expert, local community leader, and disaster preparedness non-profit executive focused on solving the high cost-of-living crisis facing California. As an environmental lawyer with climate risk expertise, Janelle founded the Center for Sea Rise Solutions to help governments and local communities reduce economic risk from wildfires, flooding, and extreme weather—instead of passing on the costs of disasters to taxpayers. As a local community leader and Mayor of Sausalito, Janelle has led responses to flooding, sea level rise, and wildfires—securing millions of dollars to strengthen local infrastructure, which led to lower homeowner insurance premiums. Rather than waiting for someone else to act on homelessness, as Mayor, she declared a state of emergency for a local encampment and led a humanitarian response to move people into housing. Local homelessness has

since dropped by more than half. California's Lieutenant Governor helps direct educational, environmental, and economic policy statewide. Janelle will: 1. Use her climate expertise to cut electricity bills in half over the next decade by changing how fire prevention is funded; 2. Invest in disaster-preparedness programs to stabilize the insurance market; and 3. Expand vocational and career-aligned education in our community colleges so that every student can contribute to California's climate tech, housing, service, and skilled trades. Resulting in cutting electricity bills, slashing home insurance costs, and making community colleges free for all California residents. [JanelleKellman.com](http://JanelleKellman.com)

PO Box 1688, Sausalito, CA 94965 | E-mail: [janelle@janellekellman.com](mailto:janelle@janellekellman.com)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/janellekellmanfortlg> | Facebook: <https://facebook.com/janellekellmanfortlg>

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### Michael Tubbs | DEMOCRATIC

I'm running for Lieutenant Governor to make California more affordable and prove that government can deliver results, not just make promises. I grew up poor, raised by a single mom. My family and community taught me resilience and service—values that helped me attend Stanford and be elected Mayor of Stockton at the age of 26. I took office when Stockton was in crisis—just years after bankruptcy. Working with our community, I charted a new path. Thanks to partnerships with police, we cut homicides by 40% and achieved the state's largest decline in officer-involved shootings. Unemployment hit near record lows. Stockton was named the state's second most fiscally healthy city. I launched a guaranteed income pilot that lifted people out of poverty and has been emulated by over 150 cities. California faces serious challenges: too much talk, and not enough action. As Lieutenant Governor, I'll focus relentlessly on

affordability: I'll fight to lower the cost of higher education—whether vocational programs or college. I'll introduce outside-the-box ideas to build affordable housing so Californians can stay in the state we love. And I'll champion proven solutions like guaranteed income programs to end poverty and prevent homelessness. I'll use the office to drive accountability and accelerate solutions that work. I'm honored to have the endorsements of SEIU California, California Working Families Party, and leaders across the state who believe California needs leaders who know how to govern—and deliver. My vision is simple: a California that works for everyone. [michaeltubbsforca.com](http://michaeltubbsforca.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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### **Ebie Lynch** | REPUBLICAN

Advocate, Veteran, Nurse. California First! (Learn more)  
[www.ebielynchforcalifornia.com](http://www.ebielynchforcalifornia.com)

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E-mail: [elynch@ebielynchforcalifornia.com](mailto:elynch@ebielynchforcalifornia.com) | Facebook: [ebielynch4caltgov](https://www.facebook.com/ebielynch4caltgov) | Instagram: [ebielynch](https://www.instagram.com/ebielynch)

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### **Alice Stek** | PEACE AND FREEDOM

Physician, educator, and socialist. In my ongoing 32-year career as an OBGYN and HIV specialist within California's failing healthcare system, I'm continuously affirmed that socialism is the only cure for capitalism. Let's build a California for the People, not the billionaires! Vote Socialist and support the Left Unity Slate!

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E-mail: [alicestek4ca@gmail.com](mailto:alicestek4ca@gmail.com) | [www.alicestek4ca.com](http://www.alicestek4ca.com) | Instagram: [alicestek4ca](https://www.instagram.com/alicestek4ca)

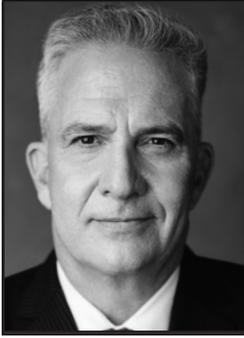
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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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### David Fennell | REPUBLICAN

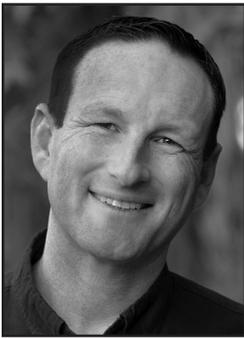
Hi California! David Fennell is running for Lieutenant Governor to restore the state's greatness! California has always symbolized the American Dream, but over the past 20 years, we've seen that dream slip away due to failed leadership in Sacramento. We need new solutions, not more of the same. Why can't we build affordable homes, start new businesses, or provide for our families? Why are tech companies leaving for Texas, movies being filmed overseas, and our farmers struggling for water? Our streets are unsafe, and our forests are burning. The problem is clear: bad leadership. As your Lieutenant Governor, I will take action. I'll lead audits to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in Sacramento, ensuring your tax dollars are spent wisely. I'll work on the State Lands Commission and other boards to ensure farmers get the water they need and to manage our resources, preventing and rebuilding from wildfires. I'll fight for quality

education that prepares our students for California's future. With my background in business, farming, and tech, I'm ready to bring a real-world approach to Sacramento and lead California back to prosperity. Vote for David Fennell for Lieutenant Governor! I won't let you down! Learn more at <https://www.fennellforcalifornia.com>

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FennellForCalifornia> | Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/fennellforcalifornia>

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### Josh Fryday | DEMOCRATIC

I'm a Navy veteran, former mayor, and a Member of the Governor's Cabinet. I'm a dad with three kids in public school, married to a second grade public school teacher—and proud to be the only candidate endorsed by both unions representing California's teachers and educators. I'm running because we need a new generation of Democrats to be tougher and stronger—to stop Donald Trump and greedy corporations hurting Californians. As a JAG Officer in the Navy, I stood up for the Rule of Law, defended detainees, and testified before Congress against human rights abuses at Guantanamo Bay. As the only veteran running, I have the experience to lead California's fight against Trump's misuse of our national guard and military—and protect our families, neighbors, and democracy from Trump's ICE army. On the Coastal Commission and State Lands Commission, I will stop Trump and Big Oil from new off-shore oil drilling. By

doubling our production of clean energy, we'll cut pollution and reduce energy costs to save you money. Born and raised in California, my family moved 17 times before I graduated high school. Our housing and cost of living crisis is personal to me. I will take on the tough fights career politicians won't—to protect our democracy and make California more affordable for working families like mine. I'd be honored to have your vote. Learn more about my housing, energy, and jobs plans for California at [www.joshfryday.com](http://www.joshfryday.com).

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Instagram: [@josh\\_fryday](https://www.instagram.com/josh_fryday) | YouTube: [@josh\\_fryday](https://www.youtube.com/josh_fryday)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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### Tim Myers | DEMOCRATIC

I'm Tim Myers, President of Californians For Climate Change, a co-founder and former member of the multi-platinum band OneRepublic, and a creator behind 16 gold and platinum albums. I studied at Harvard and have spent my life at the intersection of creativity, activism, and public service. As an activist, I've led anti-Trump and anti-ICE protest rallies across California. I've stood on the front lines while snipers were aimed and rubber bullets were fired. I put my life on the line because I believe in justice, equality, and the power of people rising together. I grew up poor and went on to build Palladium Records, creating hundreds of jobs and opportunities for artists and working families. Today, I'm a husband and father of two girls, and my fight is deeply personal. I want my children and every California family to inherit a state that is safe, affordable, and full of possibility. I'm running on a people first platform focused on affordability,

cleaning up homelessness, bringing tech jobs back, lowering costs, reducing crime, and raising wages. I proudly helped pass Proposition 28, expanding music and arts education in our public schools. I have taken zero PAC money because public service should never be bought. Career politicians have lost touch. Corruption must end. My viral message has reached over 16 million Californians ready for change. I won't watch more families get pushed out. Together, we rise and take back California for future generations and working families statewide.

Tik Tok: timmyersmusic | Instagram: timmyersofficial

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### Fiona Ma | DEMOCRATIC

California stands at a crossroads in America's history. We need clear-eyed, proven leaders willing to stand tall and fight on behalf of every Californian. Defending California's values and people—especially women and immigrants—will be my top priority as your Lieutenant Governor. I'm the daughter of immigrants and there's no place for fear or intimidation in our state. I'll *protect birthright citizenship* from Trump's attacks, and *hold ICE accountable* for excessive violence. I've spent my life in public service standing up for women. As California State Treasurer, I *funded reproductive health, birth control, and cancer screenings* when Trump cut Title X funding. As Assemblywoman, I chaired the Select Committee on Domestic Violence to *protect survivors*. The Lieutenant Governor serves on the Coastal Commission and Boards of UC and CSU. I will *fight Trump's plan to reopen offshore drilling*, while defending

universities and protecting academic freedom. I'll vote to *freeze tuition so middle-class families can afford college*. My mother was a public school teacher. That's why I'm committed to delivering a quality education to every California student. We live in an unprecedented moment—and California must chart the path forward—a future that embraces a shared belief in a better California for all. Join us, *California Professional Firefighters, California Federation of Teachers, National Union of Healthcare Workers, Building Trades, Carpenters, Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis* and more than 30 labor unions in our campaign at [www.fionama.com](http://www.fionama.com). I love California and I humbly ask for your vote for Lieutenant Governor.

1032 Irving Street, #908, San Francisco, CA 94122

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## SECRETARY OF STATE

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- As the state’s chief elections officer, oversees statewide elections and provides public access to campaign and lobbying financial information.
  - Maintains certain business filings, authenticates trademarks, regulates notaries public, and enables secured creditors to protect their financial interests.
  - Preserves California’s history by acquiring, safeguarding, and sharing the state’s historical treasures.
- 



### Donald P. (Don) Wagner | REPUBLICAN

As Secretary of State, I will restore Californians’ trust in our election system and *protect every eligible voter’s fundamental American right to participate in our democracy*. California’s election system is broken. Thirty-six states and most democratic nations require voters to establish their identities at the polls. California does not. Election security is so weak at least *one dog was registered to vote* in California—and had its vote counted! While other large states can finish vote counts and announce results on Election Night, California takes 30 excruciating days. We are usually the last state in the country to stop counting and report final results. That’s embarrassing and unacceptable. You deserve an excellent election system that is *secure, efficient, accurate, and accessible* to eligible voters only. As Secretary of State, I will work to institute common-sense reforms including: 1) *Require Voter ID* at the polls; 2) Require

mail ballots to be returned by Election Day; 3) Prohibit “ballot harvesting” by paid canvassers. The Secretary of State also has a role in fixing California’s business climate. The office must be modernized and made business friendly. As Secretary of State, I will fight against bad business policies that make California unaffordable and drive away our families, friends, and employers. I have the experience to deliver. I have served as a member of the California Legislature, Mayor of Irvine, Orange County Supervisor, and owned my own business. I pledge to protect your vote as Secretary of State. Learn more at [WagnerforCalifornia.com](http://WagnerforCalifornia.com).

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E-mail: [donwagner@WagnerForCalifornia.com](mailto:donwagner@WagnerForCalifornia.com) | [WagnerForCalifornia.com](http://WagnerForCalifornia.com)

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### Shirley N. Weber | DEMOCRATIC

*I will never give up on protecting your voting rights. We are not in normal times. We need strong leaders to stand up and fight for what is right and just.* I was born in the Jim Crow south to sharecroppers who couldn’t vote. California welcomed us with open arms and has been my home ever since. My parents cast their first votes here and even used our family living room as a polling place. America is the only country in the world where within one generation a family can go from Jim Crow disenfranchisement, to administering elections in the largest state in the nation. We’ve come so far, and I’ve seen it firsthand. However, there are people that want to roll back that progress. They want shorter polling hours, fewer days to vote and the removal of vote-by-mail ballots. Some of them have even threatened the lives of election officials when their preferred candidate loses. This behavior will not be tolerated in California. As Secretary of State,

28 statewide and special elections were successfully held. When our voting rights were under attack, I fought for us in the courts, and won. I’ve been a transparent leader because trust is everything. Every eligible Californian should register to vote and cast their ballot whether we agree politically or not. I will continue to fight to make sure that nothing stands between you and the ballot box. Vote Dr. Shirley N. Weber for Secretary of State. Visit [www.DrShirleyWeber.com](http://www.DrShirleyWeber.com) to learn more.

E-mail: [info@drshirleyweber.com](mailto:info@drshirleyweber.com)  
Facebook: [facebook.com/ShirleyWeber4SOS](https://facebook.com/ShirleyWeber4SOS) | X: [x.com/drweber4ca](https://x.com/drweber4ca)

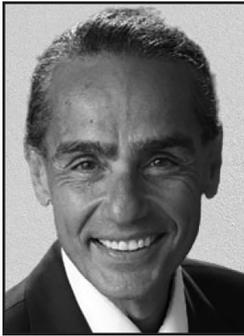
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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## SECRETARY OF STATE

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### Michael Feinstein | GREEN

California is a beautiful, richly diverse blend of people, ideas and perspectives. We're best when all are heard and represented. Everyone deserves a seat at the table of our democracy. A vote for former Santa Monica mayor Michael Feinstein is a vote for a *Democracy Bill of Rights*: (1) *Ranked Choice Voting*. Empower voters with more voice over more candidates, positive campaigning, and coalition-building. (2) *Multi-Party Democracy*. Instead of our existing 'lesser-of-evils', winner-take-all system—*enact proportional representation elections—where like-minded voters receive representation in proportion to their numbers, and all voters can help elect candidates who truly represent their views*. Multiple perspectives win representation from the same district. *We gain from the wisdom of our diversity*. (3) *Campaign Finance Reform*. Stop the corrupting influence of Big Money, ensure full disclosure. *Reduce the cost of running*

*for office, and ensure all voters have information needed to make informed decisions*. Provide free candidate statements in official voter guides, and use our public airwaves to inform voters about all electoral choices. *Provide candidates with a broad, grassroots base of clean money support*. Match small donor contributions with public funds. Empower residents with democracy vouchers to fund candidates. *Our democracy is worth it*. (4) *Election Integrity*. *All votes must be counted—and all votes must count*. Promote transparency, accuracy and trustworthiness with publicly-owned, open-source voting equipment, paper ballots, and meaningful audits. (5) *Ensure Voting Rights for all*. Universal voter registration. Expand language access. Make it easier to vote by declaring election days state holidays.

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E-mail: [info@feinstein4sos.org](mailto:info@feinstein4sos.org) | [www.feinstein4sos.org](http://www.feinstein4sos.org) | X: [www.twitter.com/feinstein4sos](https://twitter.com/feinstein4sos)

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### Gary N. Blenner | GREEN

Tired of government that only listens to wealthy interests rather than working people? The answer is to fix our election system and expand democracy. Proportional Representation. Ranked Choice Voting. Public financing of campaigns. End corporate personhood. Vote for the Left Unity Slate on June 2nd! [blenner4sos.org](http://blenner4sos.org)

4540 American River Drive, Sacramento, CA 95864  
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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## CONTROLLER

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- 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 and conducts audits and reviews of state operations.
  - Serves on the Board of Equalization, the Board of Control, and other boards and commissions.
- 



### **Meghann Adams** | PEACE AND FREEDOM

In California’s \$4 trillion economy, why do millions of us live paycheck to paycheck? As president of the San Francisco school bus drivers union, SMART 1741, I have years of experience in the fiscal management of the union and a track record of fighting for my members in the face of billionaire attacks on our school systems. As your Controller, I will fight to solve the affordability crisis, close corporate tax loopholes, and introduce a California Reinvestment Plan to divest public pensions from war and reinvest in housing and green energy. It’s time to put our immense wealth to work for the working people who create it. Vote Socialist—Together we can build a California for the people, not the billionaires! [LeftUnitySlate.org](http://LeftUnitySlate.org) [Meghann4CA.com](http://Meghann4CA.com)

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Instagram: [@meghann4ca](https://www.instagram.com/meghann4ca) | <https://www.meghann4ca.com/>

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### **Malia M. Cohen** | DEMOCRATIC

As California State Controller, Malia Cohen serves as the state’s chief fiscal officer, safeguarding the finances of the world’s fourth-largest economy. She is running for re-election to ensure taxpayer dollars are managed with transparency, accountability, and fairness. Born and raised in San Francisco, Malia understands firsthand the promise of California and the urgency of protecting it for future generations. A working mom, lifelong Democrat and dedicated public servant, she believes budgets are moral documents that should reflect our shared values and invest in people, not special interests. As Controller, Malia has strengthened fiscal transparency by expanding public access to financial and payroll data, giving Californians a clear view of how public dollars are spent. She has released timely monthly cash reports to help keep California fiscally strong during economic uncertainty, reunited all 58 counties with millions in unclaimed property, and honored local governments for excellence in accurate financial reporting. She has also advanced the long-overdue modernization of California’s payroll system to better serve public workers statewide. At a time when trust in government matters more than ever, Malia Cohen is committed to protecting California’s financial future and making the California Dream real for every community. Join teachers, nurses, healthcare workers, operating engineers, plumbers, pipefitters, electrical workers, and working folks across California in supporting Malia Cohen for Controller. Learn more at: [MaliaCohenForCA.com](http://MaliaCohenForCA.com)

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/malia.cohen> | Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MaliaCohen>

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## CONTROLLER

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### **Herb W Morgan** | REPUBLICAN

California is ready for a new era of financial transparency and modern oversight. As State Controller, I will implement radical transparency across the state and its subsidiaries—publishing transaction-level spending online with near real-time reporting so every Californian can clearly see how public funds are used. When the facts are visible to everyone, debates about spending settle and confidence in government grows. My focus is modernization and accountability. Using advanced technology, we can streamline operations, drive meaningful reform, and ensure resources reach the classrooms, communities, and programs that matter most. With nearly four decades of experience overseeing investments and complex financial systems, I will bring disciplined stewardship and practical leadership to Sacramento—strengthening California’s culture of compassion by making every public dollar work smarter, faster, and more effectively for the people it serves.

E-mail: [info@herbmorgan.com](mailto:info@herbmorgan.com) | X: [@herb4controller](https://twitter.com/herb4controller) | Instagram: [@herb4controller](https://www.instagram.com/herb4controller)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## TREASURER

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- As the state’s banker, manages the state’s investments, and administers the sale of state bonds and notes.
  - 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.
- 



### **Eleni Kounalakis** | DEMOCRATIC

I’m a businesswoman, financial expert and daughter of Greek immigrants. I believe in the California dream and as Lieutenant Governor have worked hard supporting small business, education and opportunities for hard working families. I’m running for State Treasurer to be a disciplined, responsible manager of California’s finances, focused on protecting working families, strengthening our economy, and making smart investments that reflect our values. I’m running for State Treasurer to: *Build affordable housing using public finance. Fight Trump’s attacks on our health care and immigrants. Protect the pensions of hard-working Californians. Invest in the financial future of children and families.* I have the support of Governor Gavin Newsom, Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Adam Schiff and Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi. I also have the support and endorsement of over 450,000 California teachers. California’s firefighters, first

responders and health care workers also support my candidacy and I hope to have yours as well. As a businesswoman, I spent decades building housing communities, using infrastructure financing, and delivering results. As California’s 50th Lieutenant Governor and a former Obama diplomat, I’ve brought real-world financial expertise to some of the state’s toughest challenges. I’ve created clean-energy jobs, managed public lands, and voted to approve more than 60,000 new beds on college campuses to help lower costs for students and families. I’m a fierce fighter for democracy. I’m on the front lines against Donald Trump’s attacks on immigrant communities and women’s reproductive freedom—all while protecting our environment and California’s core values. *EleniForCA.com*

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### **Glenn Turner** | GREEN

Divest from Genocide! State pension funds (CalSTRS and CalPERS) have over \$3 billion invested in companies doing business with Israel; California’s Treasurer sits on their boards. We must divest from Israel, weapons manufacturers and fossil fuels. We need a billionaire tax, student debt jubilee, higher wages, Health Care for All, public banks to help fund housing, and a safety net for the 99%. As a retired small business owner (30+ years) I plan 5–10 years ahead, following money carefully. Let’s plan for our future, not austerity. Vote *LeftUnityState.org* For more: *GlennTurner26.org*

P.O. Box 7005, Berkeley, CA 94707 | Tel: (510) 527-2855  
E-mail: [glennturnerforstatetreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:glennturnerforstatetreasurer@gmail.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## TREASURER

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### **David Serpa** | REPUBLICAN

*Husband. Father. Veteran. Businessman. Overtaxed Citizen. [www.serpaforCA.com](http://www.serpaforCA.com)*

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Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DavidSerpaforThePeople?mibextid=wwXlfr>  
TikTok: [tiktok.com/@davidserpaforcalifornia](https://www.tiktok.com/@davidserpaforcalifornia)

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### **Jennifer Hawks** | REPUBLICAN

I am not a career politician, and that perspective is exactly why I'm running for California State Treasurer. A Silicon Valley resident since 1983, I've watched California grow, innovate, and face increasingly complex financial challenges. I raised my family here, worked inside large organizations, and served on community and public boards where budgets had to balance and decisions carried real consequences. Those experiences taught me that good intentions are not enough. Sound financial management requires discipline, follow-through, and accountability. California's fiscal challenges did not happen overnight. They are the result of years of decisions made without sufficient scrutiny or long-term discipline. I am detail-driven and persistent, and I believe the Treasurer has a responsibility to ask hard questions, follow the money, and provide clear answers to the public when something doesn't add up. Honesty, integrity, and transparency are not slogans; they are essential duties of this office. The Treasurer's Office should operate with rigorous oversight, measurable performance standards, and full transparency for taxpayers, local governments, and investors. As Treasurer, I will prioritize thorough audits, clear reporting, and practical financial discipline to strengthen California's fiscal foundation. This office exists to safeguard public money, independent of political agendas. My focus will be on what best serves the people of California. Responsible stewardship, accountability, and long-term financial stability. Vote Jennifer Hawks [www.hawksforus.com](http://www.hawksforus.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## TREASURER

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### **Tony Vazquez** | DEMOCRATIC

As California confronts some of its toughest challenges, financial security is a top priority. Oversight of the fourth largest economy in the world demands strong fiscal accountability, meticulous procedures and protocols and a determination to be fair in all financial reviews. For the last 40 years I have devoted my life to the betterment of California. I have been active in educational and community foundations, local and municipal governance as a City Council member and Mayor of Santa Monica, and statewide representation as a member of the California Board of Equalization. For years I've served as the BOE Chair and sat on the Franchise Tax Board representing taxpayers statewide and of District 3, the most populous county of the state. I believe the top priority California now faces is affordable housing. To face this challenge, at the BOE, I initiated a Streamlining & Efficiency Project for our exemption processes,

practices and procedures, and initiated an educational campaign to inform low-income housing applicants how to claim a property tax exemption. I bring to my candidacy a unique perspective about what's best for California. I love California. Its unique worldwide population mix and its natural beauty have been a magnet for all who visit. If elected California State Treasurer, I will devote my full attention to precise fiscal oversight, creative approaches to major challenges and developing an all-star team of professionals to help California meet and exceed all of its financial challenges.

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## ATTORNEY GENERAL

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- As the state’s chief law officer, ensures that state laws are enforced and investigates fraudulent or illegal activities.
  - Heads the Department of Justice, which provides state government legal services and represents the state in civil and criminal court cases.
  - Oversees law enforcement agencies, including county district attorneys and sheriffs.
- 



### **Marjorie Mikels** | GREEN

I’m an Attorney, UCLA Law Doctorate, licensed to practice in California, Ninth Circuit and United States Supreme Court, endorsed by the Left Unity State and Green Party. Championing Justice and Accountability, my Priorities: Uphold Democracy and Prosecute Human Rights Violations; Protect Free Speech/Stop Censorship, in classrooms/everywhere; Restrict Big Tech’s Take-over of Media and our Lives; Enforce Rapid Transition from Fossil Fuels/Nuclear to Clean Renewables; Further Genuine Security for ALL People, ALL Rights; Promote Universal Healthcare, Taxes on Billionaires, and reduced military expenditures to End Poverty; Stop ICE and Imperialism; Fight Fascism! More inspiration: <[marjoriemikels4justice.com](http://marjoriemikels4justice.com)>

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### **Michael E. Gates** | REPUBLICAN

California families deserve to be safe again. Crime is rising, homelessness is out of control, fraud with taxpayer dollars is rampant, and our children—especially young girls—are not being protected. The Office of Attorney General should be focused on enforcing the law and keeping families safe, not playing politics. I’m a husband and father of five, and like every parent, I want our children to grow up in safe communities. That’s why public safety has always been my top priority. As the City Attorney for Huntington Beach, I fought for the people. I created a city criminal prosecutor program that prosecuted quality-of-life crimes and reduced crime by double digits. We proved that when the law is enforced, communities thrive. As Attorney General, I will make crime illegal again by prosecuting all crimes, including enforcing Proposition 36, and use the law to address homelessness by holding criminals accountable while getting

people off our streets and into treatment. I will stand up for police, support law enforcement and defend them when they are unfairly attacked. I will also bring proven programs that lowered crime and homelessness in Huntington Beach to cities across California. I will aggressively prosecute fraud and corruption in Sacramento, protect parents’ rights, enforce laws that keep boys out of girls’ sports and support Voter ID. This is a serious office. I will fight for everyday Californians and bring accountability and safety back to California. Learn more at [www.Gates4AG.com](http://www.Gates4AG.com).

E-mail: [info@gates4ag.com](mailto:info@gates4ag.com) | X: <https://x.com/MichaelGatesESQ> | Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/michael.e.gates/>

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

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- Heads the Department of Insurance, which enforces California insurance laws and adopts regulations to implement the laws.
  - Licenses, regulates, and examines insurance companies.
  - Answers public questions and complaints about the insurance industry.
- 



### Patrick Wolff | DEMOCRATIC

California is in an insurance crisis. We need an Insurance Commissioner with deep insurance and financial expertise to solve it—not someone who is part of the politics that created the problem. I am not a politician, and if elected this is the only elected office I will ever run for. From 2001–2005, I worked at a major bank where I built a home and auto insurance brokerage. Since 2005, I have worked as a financial analyst where, among other sectors, I analyzed insurance markets and companies. I know how insurance works inside out, and I am running to make our insurance system fair, efficient and transparent. The Insurance Commissioner must be a champion for customers and ensure the Department of Insurance is *never* under the influence of insurance companies. My campaign does not accept any money from insurance companies or fossil fuel companies, and I will never accept gifts from corporate or

special interests. Before I graduated from college in 1997, I was a champion chess player: I became a chess grandmaster and was a two-time U.S. Chess Champion. I know how to fight and win in tough, complex situations and I will bring those skills to the role of Insurance Commissioner. You can read my detailed plan to fix the insurance crisis at <https://patrickwolff.com/my-plan>. I would be honored to have your vote, and as your Insurance Commissioner, I will be a Wolff on *your* side. <https://patrickwolff.com/>

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Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/wolffonyourside/> | X: <https://x.com/WolffOnYourSide>

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*No Photograph  
Submitted*

### Stacy A. Korsgaden | REPUBLICAN

Stacy Korsgaden is a licensed insurance professional (License #0750748), small business owner, and lifelong Californian running for Insurance Commissioner to unleash a competitive insurance marketplace that works for consumers, not Bureaucrats. For nearly 40 years, she has worked directly with families, seniors, farmers, and small businesses, helping them protect their homes, livelihoods, and futures. She's seen firsthand how overregulation, market distortion, and regulatory failure have left consumers with fewer options and higher prices. Korsgaden brings real world experience, not ideology, to the job. As Insurance Commissioner, Stacy will fight for a free and fair market that will restore competition. Her goal is simple, lower costs, more choices, and a healthy insurance market that actually works for consumers. Stacy Korsgaden respectfully asks for your vote to bring competition, accountability, and

common sense back to California insurance.

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E-mail: [stacy@stacykorsgaden.com](mailto:stacy@stacykorsgaden.com) | X: [@SKorsgaden](https://twitter.com/SKorsgaden) | Facebook: Stacy Korsgaden for California Insurance Commissioner

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

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### Jane Kim | DEMOCRATIC

The insurance commissioner should be working for you to lower prices, not working for the industry to increase profits. That's why I will never take a dime of insurance industry money. Right now, the insurance system is broken. Insurance companies raise our rates, cancel our coverage, and deny our claims while they rake in record profits. As Insurance Commissioner, I'll *cap excessive profits* and *freeze your rates* when you file a claim. I'll create a public *Disaster Insurance for All* program so we are protected when fires, floods or earthquakes strike. I'll crack down on *illegal price-fixing*, stop insurers from using credit scores to deny coverage, and fight for *guaranteed healthcare for every child* in California. I'm a civil rights attorney, organizer and consumer advocate, and I know how to take on big challenges and win for working families. As an elected San Francisco Supervisor, I won *universal tuition-free community college*, California's *first \$15 minimum wage*, and *record levels of affordable housing*. I've earned the support of state and national leaders like United States Senator Bernie Sanders, Controller Malia Cohen, teachers, and healthcare workers because they know I'll fight for *you*. It's time for an insurance system that works for *all* working families, and I would be honored to earn your vote. Visit [JaneKim.org](http://JaneKim.org) to learn more.

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### Sean Lee | REPUBLICAN

Sean Lee is a Financial Services Executive committed to protecting California consumers, families, homeowners, seniors, and small businesses. For over two decades, Lee has helped individuals and business owners understand insurance coverage, manage financial risks, and make informed decisions. He has worked with families facing rising premiums, homeowners seeking reliable protection, and seniors concerned about financial security. Earlier in his career, Lee conducted scientific research at JPL / NASA through Caltech, developing a disciplined, data-driven approach to analyzing complex problems. He later applied those analytical skills in the insurance and financial services industries. Lee believes the Insurance Commissioner must be an independent regulator focused on fair insurance rates, clear policy language, and strong consumer protections. He supports transparency, accountability, and effective oversight of insurance practices. Lee also supports the responsible use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and InsurTech, to improve efficiency and combat fraud. *If elected, Sean Lee will work relentlessly to protect consumers and strengthen California's insurance marketplace.*

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Linkedin: [www.linkedin.com/in/sean-lee-phd-0556624b/](https://www.linkedin.com/in/sean-lee-phd-0556624b/) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ad.lee.39](https://www.facebook.com/ad.lee.39)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

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### Ben Allen | DEMOCRATIC

On January 7, 2025, the Palisades Fire erupted just miles from my home, tearing through a community I've represented in the State Senate for over a decade. Helping hundreds of constituents who lost everything successfully navigate insurance claims gave me a front-row seat to our broken insurance system. Standing amid smoke, ashes, and uncertainty, I saw what failure looks like. California must do better. That's why I'm running for Insurance Commissioner: to protect consumers, safeguard the environment, and make government accountable to the people it serves. California needs leaders with the determination and track record to deliver results. I have a long track record of success working for the public interest: In the State Senate, I've taken on insurance industry lobbyists, passed some of the nation's strongest consumer protection laws, and led efforts to invest \$10 billion in wildfire prevention, water

infrastructure improvements, and climate resilience. As Insurance Commissioner, my #1 priority will be putting consumers first. That means: *Holding polluters accountable: I'll make corporate polluters financially responsible for climate damages that drive up insurance costs. Fair treatment after disasters: I'll protect consumers and require insurers to facilitate expedited, resilient rebuilding. Preventing future disasters: I'll accelerate vegetation and forest management programs that reduce fire risk and lower your insurance costs. Free from industry influence: I'm refusing insurance industry campaign contributions.* I'm honored to have support from leaders like U.S. Senator Adam Schiff, California Environmental Voters, California Professional Firefighters, and California Federation of Teachers. I hope to earn your support, too. [benallenca.com](http://benallenca.com)

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### Robert P Howell | REPUBLICAN

Years before the Los Angeles fires, I warned that California's insurance system was failing the people it was supposed to protect. Today, that failure is both tragic and undeniable. California's insurance system is broken, and it did not fail overnight. Insurance companies have operated with little oversight for years. Policies canceled, coverages reduced, and premiums increased, while regulators sit on the sidelines. Californians do everything right. They pay their premiums and follow the rules. Yet when they need urgent coverage, the system fails them. Career politicians who are beholden to insurance insiders have created these problems. I pledge to *never* take political donations from insurance companies. I am a husband, father, and grandfather. I'm a business owner who understands affordability in the real world. As the CEO of a Silicon Valley cybersecurity manufacturing company, we employ American workers and

manage bottom-line budgets. Voting Robert Howell for Insurance Commissioner will guarantee an independent watchdog for consumers. I will hold insurance companies accountable to the rules and challenge abusive practices. I will implement an "Insurance Payers Bill of Rights" to protect policyholders from unfair cancellations and unjustified rate increases. We deserve an Insurance Commissioner who enforces the law and answers to the people. Everyday Californians must come first. I take that responsibility very seriously. *Vote Robert Howell for California Insurance Commissioner.* BTW . . . more than 5.4 million Californians voted Robert Howell for Insurance Commissioner in 2022. This time, let's win together! [ElectRobertHowell.com](http://ElectRobertHowell.com) [CRAgop.org](https://www.CRAgop.org)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

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### Eduardo “Lalo” Vargas | PEACE AND FREEDOM

Every year Californians pay higher insurance premiums for less coverage. I pledge to freeze insurance rates and lower premiums, to investigate and hold insurance executives accountable for exploitative claim procedures, and to fight for a public insurance system that guarantees full and fair coverage for all. As a socialist, science teacher, union organizer, former firefighter and EMT—I have extensive experience serving ordinary people and putting their interests first. Vote Socialist 2026! Vote *LeftUnitySlate.org*.

Tel: (213) 770-8485 | E-mail: [info@lalovargas4ca.com](mailto:info@lalovargas4ca.com)  
[lalovargas4ca.com](http://lalovargas4ca.com) | [@lalovargas4ca](https://twitter.com/lalovargas4ca)

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### Merritt Farren | REPUBLICAN

I’m Merritt Farren, a California wildfire survivor, former Amazon lawyer, and former head of legal, guest claims, and security operations for the Disneyland Resort. I lost my home in the Pacific Palisades fire and saw firsthand how broken our insurance system is. After the fire, I joined the State Farm rate-increase proceedings to represent consumer interests. California is in the midst of an insurance crisis. Millions of us—individuals, families, and businesses—can’t get the insurance we need. Those who can are facing skyrocketing costs, and consumer treatment continues to worsen. How’s this possible? California is the world’s great center of innovative problem solving. Our private sector is second to none. Yet when it comes to insurance reform, our government has failed us. I have experience at two of the world’s most innovative, customer-centric companies: Amazon and Disney. Both understand that putting the customer first doesn’t limit success; it’s the best way to drive it. I want to bring the customer-centric innovation I’ve learned to California insurance regulation. Not incremental change around the edges. Real reform. Reform that expands your insurance options, lowers your costs, and keeps your family safe. Elect me as Insurance Commissioner, and you’ll see the bold thinking and decisive action we need—in home, health, business, and auto insurance. Oh, and I define myself as a California Values candidate. I value most what Californians value most: optimism, creativity, personal responsibility, safety for our communities, individual liberties, and compassion for others. Thanks, Merritt

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[@MerrittFarrenCA](https://www.facebook.com/MerrittFarrenCA) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MerrittFarrenCA](https://www.facebook.com/MerrittFarrenCA)

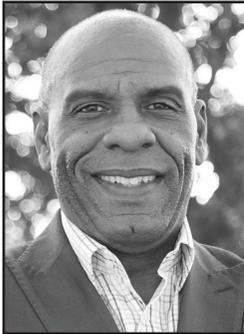
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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

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### Steven Craig Bradford | DEMOCRATIC

Steve Bradford is running for California Insurance Commissioner to restore stability, fairness, and affordability to California’s insurance marketplace. A former State Senator and public servant, Bradford brings decades of experience in government and policymaking to this critical role, including service on the State Legislature’s Insurance Committee where he helped build consensus on complex regulatory challenges.

Bradford believes no Californian should face financial devastation after a manmade or natural disaster, and will work collaboratively with insurers, regulators, local governments, and consumers to stabilize markets, make insurance more affordable, and stop insurers from dropping Californians from being covered. Steve’s plan includes bringing transparency to insurance pricing, rewarding people who protect their homes, rebuilding the insurance market in high risk areas, and making rates make sense.

Bradford will support safer moves for the most at-risk, modernize the Department of Insurance, and put equity front and center. Throughout his career, Bradford has fought for working families, equitable access to healthcare, economic opportunity, and consumer protection. He’s authored legislation to expand healthcare access, promote financial literacy, and protect communities statewide, and has a proven record of lifting up underserved Californians. That’s why Bradford is endorsed by grassroots Democrats, Teamsters, construction workers, and leaders like Secretary of State Shirley Weber, State Treasurer Fiona Ma, Congressman Adam Gray, Former State Senate President Toni Atkins—because they recognize his leadership, integrity, and relentless advocacy for accountability and an insurance market that works. By June 2nd, Vote Steve Bradford for Insurance Commissioner. *Learn more at [www.bradfordforcalifornia.com](http://www.bradfordforcalifornia.com)*

E-mail: [info@bradfordforcalifornia.com](mailto:info@bradfordforcalifornia.com)

X: <https://x.com/stevebradford> | Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BradfordForCalifornia/>

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

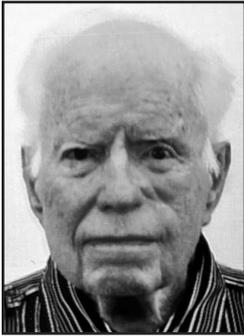
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Serves on the Board of Equalization, the state's elected tax commission, which:

- Assesses the property of regulated railroads and specific public utilities, and assesses and collects the private railroad car tax.
- Oversees the assessment practices of the state's 58 county assessors.
- Assesses and collects the alcoholic beverage tax, and jointly administers the tax on insurers.

## DISTRICT 1

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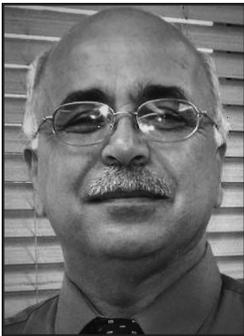
### Donald E. Williamson | DEMOCRATIC

35+ Years Experience. Donald Williamson Earned 4 State-Board of Equalization (B.O.E.) Certifications. • Appraiser Certification • Permanent Appraisal Certification • B.O.E. Advanced Appraiser Certification • B.O.E. Instructor—Teaching Classes Certifying Appraisers • B.O.E. Consultant. Deputy Assessor—B.O.E. Advanced Certified. Elected San Bernardino County Assessor—3 Terms. #1 Priority “Good Public Service”—Helped 30,000+ Disaster Fire Victims; Assessor Williamson, His Great Staff were at the Evacuation Center and in the Field Daily. Awarded Official Accommodations. • Fought the B.O.E.: Won—Protected Cities, Businesses, Mobilehome/Home Owners • Saving 900+ Jobs in Victorville and Ontario • Assessor Donald Williamson Helped Seniors, Churches, Disabled Veterans, VFW—American Legions receive their Full Exemptions. • Assessor Williamson Sponsored Senior/

Disabled Homeowner—Renter Assistance increase. Helped 10,000,000 Seniors Statewide. • Reduced All Excessive Tax Assessments per Prop 8 and R&T Code and Will Again. Created Budget Oversight Committee—Under Budget all 12 Years. Past President: Central Southern California Assessor Association Veteran: USMC—SEMPER FI, Kiwanis: Past Lt. Governor, President 7 times, Chairman: Food Program for Needy Families, helping Ronald McDonald House, Convalescent Hospitals, Students. Elks: Charter Member, American Legion Member. Married 49 Years: Wife Martha. Sons: Dale, James and Donald II. Endorsed by: President Mark Westwood—Yucaipa Mobilehome Residents Association. Endorsed by Tim Prince Democratic Central Committee Parliamentarian. Supported by Teamsters AFL-CIO Union Members—i.e. Fire Fighters, HOD Carriers, Carpenters, Engineers, Trades, Nurses. Supported by: Teachers, Veterans, Seniors, Homeowners, Tenants. “I’ll Be Your Voice State Wide” Vote Donald Williamson State Board of Equalization District #1

29102 Rosewood Lane, Highland, CA 92346 | Tel: (909) 709-9448 | E-mail: dwmson44@msn.com

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### Nader F Shahatit | REPUBLICAN

I am Nader Shahatit, a tax consultant and dedicated taxpayer advocate committed to building a fair and equitable tax system for all Californians. I will protect Proposition 13 and bring modern, AI-driven innovation to our tax administration to make services simpler, faster, and more accessible for the more than 10 million residents of the First District and across California. Your vote is your voice. I respectfully ask for the opportunity to earn your support, regardless of political affiliation.

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E-mail: shahatitnader@yahoo.com | shahatit4boe2026.com

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

### DISTRICT 1



#### **Nelson Esparza** | DEMOCRATIC

Nelson Esparza is a dedicated public servant and proven champion for California's working families. Raised in California's Central Valley, Nelson's life and career have been shaped by a deep commitment to opportunity, fairness, and economic prosperity for all. As a long-time educator and economics professor, Nelson will bring real-world economics expertise to California's state tax board. On the Fresno City Council, he serves as Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee—where he deals with complex financial issues every day. Additionally, he has secured hundreds of millions in investment for our communities. Nelson is running for the State Board of Equalization to make sure California's tax system is fair and that corporations and the wealthy are paying their fair share. Nelson will fight to close tax loopholes and crack down on tax evaders, to ensure that our local governments can continue to invest in education, healthcare, public safety, infrastructure, and economic development. At the same time, he will oppose new taxes on middle class and working class families who are already struggling to make ends meet. He'll fight for more transparency in our tax system, and for fair impartial property tax assessments. Nelson is supported by teachers, nurses, law enforcement, and many leaders at the local, state, and federal levels throughout our district—because they know that he has the experience and the drive to protect our tax dollars and our public services. By June 2nd, Vote Nelson Esparza for State Board of Equalization—and learn more at [nelsonesparza.com](http://nelsonesparza.com).

E-mail: [nelson@nelsonesparza.com](mailto:nelson@nelsonesparza.com)

Facebook: [facebook.com/esparzanelson](https://www.facebook.com/esparzanelson) | Instagram: [@esparzaforBOE](https://www.instagram.com/esparzaforBOE)



#### **Shannon Grove** | REPUBLICAN

Isn't it time normal people had a voice when they needed help from our state government in Sacramento? That's why I'm running for the Board of Equalization. It's an office you may have never heard of that is tasked with helping people when they think the government has unfairly taxed them. First, a little about me. I grew up in Kern County. After high school, I joined the U.S. Army, then after my service, I started a small business that helps local people find good-paying jobs. As a business owner, I've had my share of trying to work through endless government regulations and red tape. Later, I ran for and won a seat in the Assembly, and later, the State Senate. In the legislature, I was known for being a strong, bipartisan voice for public safety. Specifically, I led the charge to make sex trafficking children a felony. This was signed into law and now helps protect our most vulnerable Californians. I've also been a voice for small business owners, farmers, and ranchers. These businesses, often run by families, are the heart of our state. I've worked hard to reduce unfair rules, taxes, and fees, and make it easier for businesses to start, to grow, and to hire more people. As your representative on the Board of Equalization, my goal is clear: to make sure that you have somewhere to turn when you believe you were unfairly taxed and need some help. That's my pledge to you.

E-mail: [press@shannongrovec.com](mailto:press@shannongrovec.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShannonGroveForCA/> | Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/shannongrove4ca>

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

### DISTRICT 2



#### **John Pimentel** | DEMOCRATIC

California's families face rising costs and an unfair tax system. We need practical, balanced leadership focused on fairness, affordability, and accountability. I'm a *common sense* Democrat who will: *End the sales tax on food*. It's regressive and burdens working families, seniors, and young people. *Close tax loopholes* so large corporations and the wealthy pay their fair share. *Strengthen transparency and accountability* to ensure our government deserves the public's trust. I've delivered results throughout my career. I developed more than \$1.5 billion in renewable energy projects in wind, solar, biofuels, and water recycling—creating thousands of union jobs while reducing energy costs. As California's Deputy Secretary for Transportation I implemented innovative incentive-based contracts that rapidly rebuilt earthquake-damaged freeways, consolidated agencies to eliminate duplication, and expanded the CHP to improve public safety. As community college Trustee, I led efforts to create Free College. Enrollment rose 24% and 35,000 people have used the program to reduce the cost of college or enhance their skills and earnings. My story reflects California's Promise. My grandfather was a farmworker. My father entered kindergarten speaking no English. My generation is first to graduate college. I attended community college in Stockton, transferred to UC Berkeley, and completed grad school at Harvard. Public education transformed my life trajectory. I want to pay it back. I plan to fix California's broken taxing and spending policies, lower the cost of living for working families, and ensure our tax system is fair. *I respectfully ask for your vote.*

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Facebook: <https://facebook.com/JohnPimentelCA> | Instagram: <https://instagram.com/johnsmcccd/>



#### **Sally J. Lieber** | DEMOCRATIC

I am honored to serve as your representative on the California State Board of Equalization, where I work to make our tax system more accountable and transparent for Californians. On the Board, I have worked to expand property tax relief outreach, strengthen access to tax credits for Veterans and low-income families, increase public information on Proposition 19, and advance consumer protections for homeowners' insurance. I supported affordable housing, identity theft protections for property owners, and ensured that the Board responded responsibly and efficiently to changes in state tax law. I do not accept contributions from corporate PACs and will always insist that wealthy interests pay what they owe. Over the next four years, I will continue to work for accurate and equitable property tax assessments, expanded taxpayer assistance, and policies that support housing affordability, disaster recovery, and economic stability for working families. As a member of the Board, I take an oath to uphold the Constitutions of the United States and California, including Proposition 13. Before election to the Board, I served in local, regional, and state government. In the California State Assembly, I authored legislation to raise the statewide minimum wage, protect our coast and the San Francisco Bay, expand renewable energy, increase Cal Grant scholarships, and worked to preserve free community college access statewide. I am proud to be endorsed by teachers and firefighters statewide and to hold a lifetime 100% rating from Planned Parenthood, the Sierra Club, the Congress of California Seniors, and Equality California. Most importantly, I am proud to serve you. I respectfully ask for your vote. [www.sallylieber.org](http://www.sallylieber.org)

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E-mail: [vote@sallylieber.org](mailto:vote@sallylieber.org) | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/CAvoteSally](http://www.facebook.com/CAvoteSally)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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### DISTRICT 2

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#### **Bill Shireman** | REPUBLICAN

California's taxes can be fair, predictable, and as low as possible—while delivering real value for families, communities, and the economy and environment. But too often, power brokers and special interests capture and waste our dollars. I've spent my career stopping that. As a bipartisan public servant and business leader, I helped build California's modern recycling system—cutting taxes, creating jobs, and protecting our coast and wildlife. That system pays for itself and has recycled over half a trillion cans, plastics, computers and more, with zero reliance on tax dollars. Today, California faces a deeper affordability crisis. Housing, rents, taxes, and insurance are driving families out, widening inequality, and hurting public schools. The Board of Equalization plays a critical but overlooked role—protecting homeowners, enforcing Proposition 13, and ensuring property taxes are fair and lawful. Proposition 13 must be protected—and modernized—so California again works for working families and small businesses, not just insiders and billionaires. On the Board of Equalization, I will be a fiscal conservative with a conscience: • Defending taxpayers from unfair assessments • Promoting housing affordability and opportunity • Ensuring taxes are administered competently and transparently • Fixing the system so we can cut and shift taxes to do more with less. My record shows we can cut taxes and deliver two to four times the value for every dollar spent. Let's make California work again.

E-mail: [Bill@SolutionCitizen.org](mailto:Bill@SolutionCitizen.org) | LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/bill-shireman](https://www.linkedin.com/in/bill-shireman)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

### DISTRICT 3



#### **Yvonne Yiu** | DEMOCRATIC

As your representative on the State Board of Equalization, *I will use my 25 years of experience in finance to serve as California's fiscal watchdog, safeguarding your tax dollars, using audits to root out government waste and utilizing technology to increase transparency. I currently serve on the state Treasurer's Local Investment Advisory Board, where I help communities manage investments, pay for public services like police and fire, and invest in their infrastructure.* I immigrated to the U.S. from Hong Kong when I was 16 years old, following the death of my father. Through hard work, I earned a *degree in Economics from UCLA, an MBA from Loyola Marymount University* and a Certified Regulatory and Compliance Professional designation from *Wharton Business School. I hold 10 securities licenses from the Federal Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA).* After working at top finance firms, I opened my own investment

company with over \$1 billion in assets. As Mayor of Monterey Park, my financial experience and advice saved over \$55 million and helped balance our budgets and pay for city services. On the Board of Equalization, I will *1) Safeguard California's finances by ensuring accountability and transparency, 2) Use audits to uncover and remove government waste, and 3) Develop programs to help people achieve economic security and make California affordable.* The mother of three sons, I always fight for our families. I am not a politician. *I am a reformer and the only candidate with the education, background and experience in both the public and private sectors to improve California's finances, ensure sound investments and save taxpayers money.*

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#### **Mike Gipson** | DEMOCRATIC

Assemblymember Mike Gipson is a proven leader with decades of experience fighting for working families. He is running for the Board of Equalization to fight for fairness, transparency, and accountability. Mike will fight to close tax loopholes that billionaires and corporations exploit to avoid paying their fair share. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Mike has dedicated his life's work to public service. He has worked for service employee and public educator unions, as a local city councilmember, a former local police officer, and currently is a member of the California State Assembly. He is the longest-serving Assembly Democratic Caucus Chair in state history. As Assemblyman, Mike has championed groundbreaking laws protecting California children and families from ICE, laws to get 3-D printed "ghost guns" off of the streets and out of the hands of criminals, funding for expanded access to healthcare, education, and childcare, and

Investments in mental health services. That's why Governor Gavin Newsom said, "Mike has been a bold leader for the people of our state." Previously serving as Chief of Staff to the former Board of Equalization Chairman, Mike currently serves as Chair of the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee, which oversees the Board of Equalization. On the BOE, Gipson will bring in the funds needed to support quality healthcare, strong schools, and vital social services that sustain families and communities across our state. By June 2nd, vote Mike Gipson for Board of Equalization! Endorsed by nurses, construction workers, and classroom teachers. Visit [mikegipson.net](http://mikegipson.net)

X: <https://x.com/mgipson2014> | Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MikeGipson4BOE>

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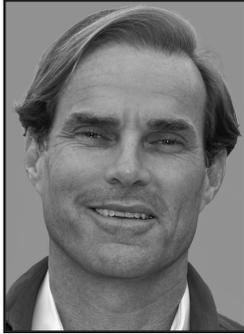
# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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### DISTRICT 4

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#### **Cody Petterson** | DEMOCRATIC

As Chief Deputy of the Board of Equalization Fourth District, Cody Petterson is the most qualified candidate on the ballot. He already helps oversee the annual assessment of \$167 billion in corporate properties and property tax assessment in California's 58 counties. "I'm running to restore California's struggling middle class, rebuild our infrastructure, reinvest in our schools, and spur the production and preservation of housing for working Californians. With half a decade of experience at the BOE, I'm uniquely qualified to leverage the Board's authority to ensure that utilities pay their fair share for public education and other services and to make our tax system work for working families." As the immediate past President of the San Diego Unified School Board, Cody Petterson has balanced difficult budgets and prioritized the well-being and academic growth of our children. Cody helped lead approval of more than 2,800 units of affordable housing for teachers and staff—tripling the state total—and serves as founding Chair of the San Diego Regional Housing Finance Authority. At the Board of Equalization, he will be uniquely situated to continue this work. Mike Schaefer, the outgoing Board Member whose seat Dr. Petterson is seeking says, "I strongly endorse Cody. He knows the job inside and out and can hit the ground running. He's done an outstanding job for me and will do an outstanding job for California's taxpayers."

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[www.codyforequalization.com](http://www.codyforequalization.com) | Instagram: [codyforequalization](https://www.instagram.com/codyforequalization)



#### **Gardner C. Osborne** | LIBERTARIAN

With 25 year tax practice as Enrolled Agent, representing individuals and small business and 45 year resident, my concerns are excessive state spending and protecting Prop 13. As citizen officeholder shall fight against Legislative over-reach like formation of CDTFA which removed taxing accountability from this elected position in 2017, replaced with insulated bureaucracy. *Change won't Happen without your Vote for Osborne4Equalization.com*

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

### DISTRICT 4



#### **Martín Arias** | DEMOCRATIC

Join California Firefighters in voting for Martín Arias for the California State Board of Equalization! “Taxpayer Advocate Martín Arias is the only qualified candidate and certified expert by the State Board of Equalization that Firefighters trust. We have seen Martín’s strong record of protecting wildfire survivors from unfair property taxes and penalties when rebuilding their homes.”—CAL FIRE Local 2881. *As your Taxpayer Advocate, Martín Arias has “saved taxpayers millions,” and he will deliver you tax relief too!* Utilizing California State Board of Equalization tax saving programs, Martín SAVED HOMEOWNERS \$31.8 million; SAVED SENIORS \$5.7 million; SAVED DISABLED VETERANS \$36.8 million; SAVED CHURCHES, NON-PROFITS, AFFORDABLE HOUSING, SMALL BUSINESSES, and RENTERS \$228 million in tax relief. Martín ensures transparency and fairness—protecting renters and homeowners with Prop 13 tax savings. As the proud son of working-class immigrants, Martín understands the struggles facing many Californians who work hard and pay taxes yet still struggle to afford homeownership. That’s why Martín fights to make California more affordable, safeguarding you and your family from being overtaxed! Martín is a San Diego State University graduate, father of two, and husband to an amazing wife and working mom. Martín serves on the USS MIDWAY and YMCA leadership. Endorsed by firefighters, teachers, neighbors, small business owners, *California State Board of Equalization Member Tony Vazquez*, and community leaders from San Diego County, Orange County, Riverside County, Imperial County, and San Bernardino County, as well as Senators and Assemblymembers of the California Latino Legislative Caucus. “I would be honored to earn your vote and continue advocating for you.”—Martín Arias, Cell: (619) 483-1122 Learn more at [www.VoteMartinArias.com](http://www.VoteMartinArias.com)

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#### **Tom Umberg** | DEMOCRATIC

I am running for Board of Equalization to be your watchdog—fighting to make our tax system fair and equitable for everyday Californians while ensuring that big monied corporations pay their fair share. The Board of Equalization provides accountability for billions of dollars in property taxes, funding vital local services including schools, hospitals, libraries, parks, and emergency response. I will be your voice for tax fairness, protecting homeowners, renters, and small businesses while standing up to wealthy interests who get around the rules. My record shows that I care about working families and know how to ensure accountability at the Board. In the State Senate, I wrote the “No Kings” law to prevent Donald Trump from appearing on the California ballot again and backed legislation demanding accountability from ICE while protecting civil rights for all Californians. As a federal prosecutor and Army JAG officer, I convicted politicians and government workers of fraud, abuse and corruption, held corrupt foreign governments to account for human rights abuses, and investigated the Republican Party’s intimidation of Latino voters with poll guards on election day. Recently, I authored a measure to crack down on the influence of special interests in our elections. As a small businessman, I understand the challenges our businesses and workers face. I am proud to be supported by Governor Gavin Newsom, U.S. Senator Adam Schiff, California Senator Steve Padilla, California Professional Firefighters, and labor unions representing healthcare workers, educators, and nurses. I’d be honored to earn your vote.

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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### DISTRICT 4

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#### **Denis Bilodeau** | REPUBLICAN

Southern California taxpayers deserve a government that protects families from higher costs and small businesses from job-killing regulations. I am running to bring strong taxpayer protections and independent oversight to California's \$8.7 trillion property tax system. I signed the *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association* pledge to protect Proposition 13 & oppose tax increases. I am endorsed by *Reform California* and will fight the proposed car mileage tax. As President of the *Orange Taxpayers Association*, I fight government waste and demand transparency. I bring 25 years of public service, including leading the Orange County Water District, where I balance budgets, deliver the highest quality drinking water in California, and protect the environment. As a City Councilmember, I've focused on keeping our neighborhoods safe and eliminating homelessness. On the Board of Equalization, I will work to reduce costs for everything from electric and gas bills to groceries and prescription medications. I support common-sense growth that protects neighborhoods and gives future generations a fair chance at home ownership. I will protect homeowners from higher property taxes that lead to higher rents. I'll be an independent voice for taxpayers. Please vote *Denis Bilodeau for Board of Equalization*.

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NONPARTISAN OFFICE)

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- As the state’s chief of public schools, provides education policy direction to local school districts, and works with the education community to improve academic performance.
  - Heads the Department of Education and carries out policies set by the State Board of Education.
  - Serves as an ex-officio member of governing boards of the state’s higher education system.
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### Josh Newman

California is home to the fourth-largest economy in the world, a global leader in innovation and opportunity. Our public education system should reflect that status, yet a majority of California students are not meeting grade-level standards in reading, math, or science. This is a clear sign our system is not aligned for success. As a veteran, businessperson, classroom educator, and former State Senator who chaired the Senate Education Committee, I’ve seen both the extraordinary potential of California’s students and the structural barriers holding them back. California’s vast, decentralized school system, with millions of students and billions of tax dollars, lacks the coordination and leadership needed to ensure that every student, regardless of geography or background, receives the high-quality public education they deserve. I’m running for State Superintendent because California can and must do better. In the

Senate, I authored major legislation modernizing schools, strengthening student supports, expanding career-technical pathways, and improving teacher preparation. I’ve built coalitions, solved complex problems, and delivered results, and I’m proud to have earned broad support from educators, parents, law enforcement, business organizations, and trade unions across California. As Superintendent, I’ll bring the alignment and collaboration our education system urgently needs, with a focus on expanding mental-health supports, strengthening partnerships with labor and industry, aligning the school day with the workday, and ensuring that our schools effectively prepare students for a rapidly changing economy and full participation in our democracy. California’s future depends on the strength of our public schools. All our students deserve better.

[www.newmanforspi.com](http://www.newmanforspi.com)

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### Ainye Long

Ms. Long is a third-generation Californian public school student and fifth-generation public school teacher committed to strengthening California through youth and education. For 19 years, she has been a leader teaching mathematics in Oakland, Richmond, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, serving diverse communities statewide. She has also led as Director of Family & Community Engagement, Board President, and Regional Superintendent, building strong partnerships between schools and families. Currently an 8th grade mathematics teacher and Department Chair at Willie L. Brown Middle School in SFUSD, she mentors educators and champions instructional excellence. After being the only public school teacher in the 2022 race, she continues to lead with authentic classroom experience.

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NONPARTISAN OFFICE)

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### Frank Lara

As a union leader and public school teacher for over ten years, I've seen the realities of our schools up close. California is the fourth largest economy in the world, yet classrooms are crowded, school buildings are crumbling, and students are underserved. As VP of United Educators of San Francisco, I've seen the power of workers fighting together for a better system. I'll push to tax corporations and billionaires to fully staff schools and modernize facilities. I'll fight for smaller class sizes, quality special education, ICE-free schools, ethnic studies, and free childcare and college for all. Vote Socialist. Vote [LeftUnitySlate.org](http://LeftUnitySlate.org)

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### Sonja Shaw

California's public schools are failing our children. Fewer than half can read or write at grade level. Girls' sports are under attack, with female athletes losing medals and scholarships. Many even change in their cars before practice because they feel unsafe in locker rooms. This is unacceptable. As a mother of two daughters, I was elected President of the Chino Valley Unified School Board because parents demanded change. We delivered. When I took office in 2022, our district faced the same problems seen across California: poor grades, declining test scores, political distractions in classrooms, and girls losing fairness and privacy. We chose a different path. We refocused on reading, writing, and math. Protected girls' sports and private spaces. Cut bureaucracy. Directed resources back into classrooms, where they belong. The results were undeniable. Student outcomes improved, and independent research recognized our district as a model for post-COVID academic recovery. That success didn't come from Sacramento mandates. It came from parents who linked arms and stood up for common sense. As State Superintendent, I will bring that same leadership statewide. I will be an independent advocate for students and families, not political insiders. My plan is simple: restore high academic standards in reading, writing, and math; protect Title IX, ensuring fairness and safety for girls; give parents a real seat at the table; support excellent teachers; and cut wasteful bureaucracy. The blueprint exists at the local level. We've proven it works. Let's deliver results for every California student. Learn more at [ShawForCA.com](http://ShawForCA.com).

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NONPARTISAN OFFICE)

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### Gus Mattammal

I grew up in an area with a failing public school, and I watched an entire generation of low-income, mostly Black and brown kids get fed into it. My parents made enormous sacrifices to give me a better opportunity, and education became my hand up, a pathway to a better life. In California, our low-income students, overwhelmingly students of color, are failing to get the education they deserve. They're not getting a hand up. California ranks near the bottom in the US in outcomes despite ranking top 20 in spending. Year after year this injustice continues, and our kids pay the price. As Superintendent, I will change that. I've been a full-time educator for 23 years, working with over 1,000 students of every background. I've spent 19 years as a senior executive of a nationally recognized education company. I'm an elected representative and the author of a book laying out a bold reform agenda for California's schools and vision for

the role of Superintendent. I'm the only candidate who can offer you the breadth and depth of experience in education and in elected office to ensure that every student, regardless of background, is able to read a book, do math, and get a job. Education need not be partisan. It can bring people together, because we all want our kids to get a great education. Join state legislators, teachers, superintendents, parents, and students from across the political spectrum in supporting me. It's easy to remember: *vote Gus for Us!*

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### Al Muratsuchi

I'm an educator, former local school board president, public school parent, and Chair of the California Assembly Education Committee, with a proven record of fighting for California's schools for decades. I'm running for Superintendent of Public Instruction because I want California's public schools to be the best in the country. As the son of immigrants, product of public schools, and a first generation college graduate from Berkeley and UCLA, I'm passionate about fighting for equal educational opportunities for all. As Education Chair in the California Legislature, I've led the fight to fully fund our schools, reduce class sizes, provide more art and music as well as career technical education, expand quality preschool and after school programs, provide school meals for all, and support student mental health and well-being. To improve reading test scores, I coauthored a law and delivered funding for more phonics-based reading

instruction based on the science of reading. When immigration raids threatened our students, I wrote the California Safe Haven Schools Act, to keep ICE out of our schools. And to fix our aging and unsafe school facilities throughout the state, I wrote Proposition 2, the \$10 billion state school bond that California voters approved in 2024. I'm proud to be endorsed by more than 370,000 teachers and school staff represented by the California Federation of Teachers and the California School Employees Association. On June 2nd, vote Al Muratsuchi for Superintendent of Public Instruction. Visit [www.AlforCaliforniaSchools.com](http://www.AlforCaliforniaSchools.com)

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# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (NONPARTISAN OFFICE)

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### Richard Barrera

It is an honor to serve as State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond's Senior Advisor, and to be endorsed by the California Teachers Association (CTA), representing 300,000+ classroom teachers, nurses, counselors and educators. California Teachers of the Year Tammy Reina and Zenaida Rosario: "We trust Richard to fight for our students and educators. He has delivered for 18 years!" As President of San Diego Unified School District, the state's 2nd largest, I transformed a district in crisis into a national model of success. Among all large urban districts, we now rank Number 1 in Reading and Math on "The Nation's Report Card." In California, we're First in Reading, Math, Science, Graduation Rates and College/Career readiness. We've achieved success by cutting waste and bureaucracy, and investing directly in our students, families and educators. I successfully asked voters 4 times to replace 60 year

old buildings with state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable schools. We increased educator salaries by 40%, provided full family healthcare and created thousands of affordable homes for our families and educators. I've fought to protect students from the heartless Trump administration: keeping ICE out of our schools, standing up for LGBTQ students, and testifying before Congress against Trump's drastic cuts to education. I am endorsed by those most responsible for student success—from the classroom teachers of CTA to the school principals of United Administrators of Southern California, and Cindy Marten, President Biden's Deputy Secretary of Education. Current Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tony Thurmond: "Richard Barrera's track record of student success is unmatched. That's why I asked him to join us at the California Department of Education. That's why I support him in this election." *BarreraforEdu.com*

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### Anthony Rendon

California's public education system changed my life. I wasn't a good student in high school. I barely graduated and went on to work in warehouses and construction. But I discovered my passion for learning at community college, graduated from Cal State Fullerton, and earned a Ph.D. at UC Riverside. Ultimately, I became Speaker of the State Assembly—one of the top public officials in California—a meaningful accomplishment for the grandson of Mexican immigrants. I'm running for Superintendent of Public Instruction to continue my lifelong mission of offering every child, regardless of background, access to high-quality public education. When I ran early childhood education programs for underprivileged kids, I saw the devastating impacts of state budget cuts. So as Assembly Speaker I increased education funding by 50 percent, then enacted the strongest education oversight laws in the country, and

successfully stood up to the Trump Administration to protect our schools and civil rights. Today, schools need not only more investment but real reform. Our schools should be focused on the core skills kids need to succeed. We should be wary of technology overload that undermines students' ability to learn and thrive. Collaborative leadership between parents, educators, and schools is essential to establishing proper guardrails around classroom technology. Students should have fewer distractions in class. Teachers shouldn't compete with billion-dollar tech algorithms to teach the basics of reading, writing, math, science, and civics. My life experience gives me the tools to deliver meaningful change. Our children deserve nothing less. [www.anthonyrendon.org/](http://www.anthonyrendon.org/)

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