



State Props & LOCAL Ballot Measures November 8, 2022 General Election

RECOMMENDATIONS

PROP 1 REPRODUCTIVE FREEDOM

SUPPORT

A recent decision by the U.S. Supreme Court held that the U.S. Constitution does not protect the right to abortion. While access to abortion is no longer federally protected and is under attack across the country, we can safeguard access in California. Proposition 1 will amend the California Constitution to enshrine the fundamental right to choose an abortion, use or refuse contraceptives (birth control), and make individual decisions on reproductive health. These rights are consistent with existing state laws and our state constitutional rights to privacy and equal protection. Access to affordable, comprehensive reproductive health care, including abortion, allows people to plan their lives, protect their health, and achieve their dreams. Prop 1 protects access to the care that will give individuals and families the freedom to make those choices. **Vote YES on Proposition 1**

PROP 31 BAN FLAVORED TOBACCO

SUPPORT

In 2020, California passed a law banning the in-person sale of flavored tobacco products, like candy-flavored e-cigarettes and menthol cigarettes, at stores and vending machines. Sellers violating the law would be subject to criminal misdemeanor prosecution. A YES vote on Prop 31 is a vote to keep the ban in place. More than two million middle and high school students in the U.S. use e-cigarettes, which deliver large doses of addictive nicotine. In California, 96 percent of high school e-cigarette users choose flavored products. Nationally, 80 percent of kids who use tobacco started out with a flavored product. In addition to the well-known dangers of tobacco-related disease and death, epidemic usage among youth poses risks to brain development, attention, mood, and impulse control. Furthermore, for many decades tobacco companies have targeted Black communities with well-funded campaigns to promote menthol-flavored tobacco. Now 85 percent of Black smokers use menthol cigarettes, and deaths caused by tobacco-related diseases (including heart disease, lung cancer and stroke) among Black people exceed deaths caused by AIDS, homicide and accidents combined. Prop 31 is an important step to protect the health and safety of Californians. **Vote YES on Proposition 31**

NOTE: When the LWV CA or LWV Sacramento have no pre-existing position relevant to a state ballot proposition or local ballot measure we offer no analysis. When we are neutral, we offer an explanation as to the reasons for our neutral stance.

PROP 26 IN-PERSON SPORTS BETTING IN TRIBAL CASINOS

NO POSITION

PROP 27 ONLINE SPORTS BETTING

NO POSITION

PROP 28 FUNDING ARTS/MUSIC EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS **NEUTRAL**

The League strongly supports a high-quality public education system in California. Because of a variety of voter-supported initiatives which limit and prescribe state and local spending, California does not provide the level of financial support for its schools that the League considers adequate. This proposition would provide additional financial resources (about \$1 billion per year), specifically for music and arts education. We recognize that arts and music education, which has been underfunded in California, is beneficial to student achievement, cognitive development, reading comprehension, attendance, and social emotional wellness. Furthermore, Prop 28 is designed to ensure that low-income schools and under-resourced students, who are often kept the farthest away from arts and music education opportunities, will benefit from the increased funding. Despite these advantages, we remain neutral on Prop 28 because making decisions about budget expenditures through ballot measures is not a good policy. It reduces the flexibility our legislators need to react to future needs and makes less revenue available to other important state priorities like climate change, health care, and housing. Earmarking funds in this way also limits the ability of local school boards to respond to local needs. Finally, we are concerned that Prop 28 has extensive reporting requirements paired with an unrealistically low cap (1 percent) on administrative expenses.

PROP 29 KIDNEY DIALYSIS CLINICS

NEUTRAL

This measure would require operators of chronic dialysis clinics to have a minimum of one licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant at a clinic whenever patients are being treated, offer the same level of care to all patients regardless of how payment is being made, and make reports about dialysis-related infections to the state's health department, in addition to submitting federal agency reports containing the same information. Consent of the California Department of Public Health would be required prior to any clinic's closure or reduction of hours of operation. Prop 29 would also require that patients be informed if a physician owns five percent or more of a dialysis clinic. Under current law, clinics are required to have a medical director and are staffed with dialysis nurses and dialysis technicians. The patient's personal doctor is required to see each patient once a month during the time the patient receives dialysis. Reporting of dialysis related infections is currently made to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. There is disagreement about whether the presence of a doctor is always necessary and if requiring additional staff would exacerbate a medical provider shortage, and over whether costs are manageable or prohibitively high. Furthermore, the League of Women Voters of California questions why voters should be deciding questions of recordkeeping and medical staffing. The uncertainty of the costs and benefits of the measure leads us to take a neutral position.

PROP 30 INCOME TAX ON MILLIONAIRES FOR ELECTRIC CARS **NEUTRAL**

Prop 30 would increase the income tax for very wealthy Californians, and use the proceeds on programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transportation and wildfires in the state. The initiative includes thoughtful proposals for moving to electrify our transportation, including incentives and education, requirements for improving charging infrastructure for all road vehicles, and improving the electric grid to meet increased demand. The League supports these goals and proposals. The need to make significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions is clear. However, making decisions about budget expenditures through ballot measures is not a good policy. It reduces the flexibility our legislators need to react to future needs. In this case, this problem is increased because the huge size of this program could force deep cuts in basic state programs like healthcare, child care, and housing assistance due to a previously enacted spending limit (“Gann Limit”).

NOTE: Current state positions can be found on the website lwvc.org/our-work/positions

Local Ballot Measures - LWV Sacramento County

SACRAMENTO CITY MEASURE O – Emergency Shelter and Enforcement Act **OPPOSE**

The LWVSC strongly supports permanent affordable housing as the main solution to the problem of homelessness, while recognizing the need for temporary shelter and social services as the unhoused become self-sufficient. Measure O will not achieve these goals. It commits the City to funding up to \$5M per year to provide shelter for 1000 individuals. Costs to maintain a shelter bed range from \$5K - \$21K+ per year. Annual costs could be over \$25M. Because criminalizing camping when no shelter beds are available has been adjudicated as illegal, Measure O cannot enforce unlawful camping if no shelter space can be provided. Nevertheless, Measure O creates a means for residents and businesses that claim inaction against unlawful camping or storage to sue the City. These costs to taxpayers and staff time to handle lawsuits further limit the City’s ability to provide mandated shelter beds and could create a fiscal crisis. This measure uses problem solving words, yet in reality, it has no sustainable remedies for shelter or housing and invites lawsuits. **VOTE NO on Measure O**

SACRAMENTO COUNTY MEASURE A – Transportation Sales Tax **OPPOSE**

The LWVSC opposes Measure A, the “Sacramento County Transportation Maintenance, Safety, and Congestion Relief Act of 2022,” which adds a half-cent sales tax to fund transportation infrastructure projects for the next 40 years. While it promises to fix potholes and repair streets, fund light rail maintenance, extend light rail, and add bike and pedestrian pathways, the majority of Measure A’s funding goes to roadway projects that will likely have harmful consequences for the county. For example, a new 34-mile expressway connecting Elk Grove, Rancho Cordova, and Folsom, would, along with other roadway expansions, lead to suburban sprawl and more climate-warming greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions released. If GHG emissions exceed state-mandated caps, Sacramento County will risk losing significant state and federal funding for housing and additional transportation projects for many years. Even the welcome

extensions of light rail could fail to offset GHG emissions related to automobiles and sprawl from Measure A roadway projects. Further, low-density sprawl development could also compromise mass transit finances by drawing population centers away from light rail lines. Tellingly, the special interests/power brokers who drafted Measure A bypassed that key regional planning agency. Drafted without public participation or the transparency that good governance requires, and absent the usual planning process to avoid adverse impacts, Measure A could upend all the Climate Action Plans and Declarations of Climate Emergency in Sacramento County and was clearly written by, and for, special interests rather than in the interest of Sacramento County residents and taxpayers. The LWVSC urges voters to reject it as they did in 2016. **VOTE NO on Measure A**

SACRAMENTO CITY MEASURE L – Funding Youth Programs NEUTRAL

The LWVSC strongly supports funding for youth programs including prevention programs. However, we do not support the mechanism for financing this measure, which would have a permanent impact on our city budget unless it was overturned by another charter amendment adopted by voters. Known as "ballot box budgeting" or "budgeting by the ballot box", it specifies a percentage of our city's general budget or general fund to be used for youth programs. This removes the flexibility a city budget requires and therefore can have a detrimental impact of other critical services the city must provide. The City Council has the power with 5 votes to allocate funding for much needed youth programs and can do so without a permanent set-aside of funds.

SACRAMENTO CITY MEASURE M – Redistricting Map Implementation SUPPORT

Our Independent Redistricting Commission created a very robust and transparent public process that resulted in the Commission successfully adopting a revised council district boundary map in December of 2021. That new city council district map is now being used for current city council elections and will be used for future city council elections. However, the existing language says that a newly adopted council redistricting map is "effective immediately upon adoption". This has created some confusion, especially as it relates to representation by the councilmembers already in office. So, this amendment would clarify that a newly adopted map is effective immediately ONLY for the purposes of any upcoming council district election, which is the sole purpose of the redistricting process. Measure M would make that language clear. **VOTE YES on Measure M**

Local and State Candidate Forums & Pro/Con Issue Forums have been recorded and YouTube video links can be found at lwvsacramento.org

Please distribute widely & encourage voting. For more information, contact Advocacy@lwvsacramento.org • LWVSC Website: lwvsacramento.org

