State Propositions

YES on Proposition 15: Schools & Communities First

Proposition 15 closes a tax loophole for large corporations while guaranteeing existing property tax protections for homes, small businesses, and agricultural land. By rebalancing our state’s property taxes so that large corporations pay their fair share, Proposition 15 reclaims billions of dollars for public education in California and vital community services. This includes nearly $2.4 billion annually for the Bay Area counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo. Our Bay Area Policy Brief provides further key findings and impacts to these five Bay Area counties from reforming California’s broken commercial property tax system.

More information at: yes15.org

YES on Proposition 16, Opportunity for All

Proposition 16 expands employment and education opportunity to all Californians, including those who have been historically shut out.

For more than 20 years, California has been prohibited from considering race, sex, ethnicity, or national origin in any of its employment decisions, awarding of contracts, or admissions decisions at California’s public colleges and universities. Proposition 16 would remove this ban and allow the state to develop programs to directly address historic discrimination and systemic racial inequality, while also promoting diversity in public institutions. In California, we believe in giving everyone, regardless of race or gender, an equal shot at fair wages, good jobs, and quality schools. But women and people of color still face discrimination in hiring, employment, contracting, and education. Proposition 16 is our chance to change that by ending the ban and expanding opportunity for all.

More information at: voteyesonprop16.org

YES on Proposition 17, the Free the Vote Act

Proposition 17 restores voting rights in California to people currently on parole.

Our democracy is rooted in the idea that everyone’s voice matters. But right now, nearly 50,000 Californians on parole are unable to vote in local, state, or federal elections. Due to inequities in our criminal legal system, these policies disproportionately exclude Black and Brown people from being able to vote. Research shows that when people of color have increased political participation, their communities benefit from more economic opportunity and a more equitable distribution of public funds. Our democracy is stronger when it is fair and inclusive.

More information at: yeson17.vote

NO on Proposition 20

Proposition 20 would roll back recent reforms to the criminal legal system and would disproportionately harm communities of color.

In recent years, California voters have supported moving away from mass incarceration, which disproportionately impacts people of color due to inequities in our legal system. The nonpartisan Public Policy Institute of California found that these reforms decreased racial disparities in bookings and arrests with no increase in violent crimes. Proposition 20 would reverse some of these voter-approved reforms, increase penalties for certain crimes by allowing misdemeanors to be charged as felonies, limit access to parole, and increase DNA data collection from people convicted of misdemeanors.

More information at: nogprop20.vote

NO on Proposition 22

Proposition 22 creates a special exemption for a small group of companies such as Uber, Lyft, DoorDash, and Instacart from a law passed last year that requires a number of new industries to classify their workers as employees and offer benefits such as overtime pay, health care, paid sick leave, unemployment insurance, and workers’ compensation. App-based transportation and delivery jobs have become a common way that some people of color try to make enough money to survive in the Bay Area. If passed, this ballot initiative would dramatically decrease worker rights in California and requires a 7/8 vote in the legislature to make any changes.

More information at: nooneaprop22.com
Bay Area Local Propositions

YES on Alameda County: Yes on Measure W, Home Together

Measure W establishes a 10-year, 1/2-cent sales tax in Alameda County to generate approximately $150 million per year in revenue. This measure will provide revenue for the County’s essential public services and more resources for homelessness prevention and services. The funding would be guided by a spending plan informed by community organizations and adopted by the Board of Supervisors. Plus, it will help people who are at risk of homelessness stay in their homes, increase hygiene and sanitation services, and support homeless veterans and seniors, and shelter people experiencing homelessness to reduce COVID-19 impacts.

Alameda County’s Measure W generates an estimated $150 million per year for homelessness prevention, housing assistance, and other essential public services.

More information at: hometogether2020.org

YES on Contra Costa County: Yes on Measure X

Measure X authorizes a 1/2-cent sales tax to generate $81 million annually for 20 years to fund the regional hospital, community health centers, fire and emergency response, and other essential county services. Unlike neighboring Bay Area counties, the lack of a local sales or health tax has left Contra Costa County’s health and human services and safety net programs chronically underfunded. The County needs a sustainable revenue source to support the level and quality of services necessary to address the needs of residents who are low income and disproportionately people of color.

Contra Costa County’s Measure X generates approximately $81 million per year for essential county services.

More information at: healthyandsafecontracosta.com

YES on San Francisco: Yes on Proposition G

Proposition G allows 16- and 17-year-olds to vote in local elections in the City and County of San Francisco. It would not affect voting eligibility for state or national ballot measures. Allowing 16- and 17-year-olds to vote will help make voting a habit for these young people, increase their engagement with local government, and increase civic education. Young people have a stake in our future, and 16- and 17-year-olds can already work without limits on their hours, pay taxes on their income, and drive. Research shows that 16- and 17-year-olds have the necessary civic knowledge, skills, and cognitive ability to vote for their futures.

San Francisco’s Proposition G engages youth in important democratic processes.

More information at: www.vote16sf.org

YES on San Francisco: Yes on Proposition K

San Francisco and the Bay Area have had an affordable housing crisis for decades. But under Article 34 of the California State Constitution, which was added by segregationists in the 1950s, voters must approve low-income housing developments subsidized by public funds before they can be built. While the measure does not include funding, Proposition K would give San Francisco the prior approval required by law to build this housing.

Proposition K authorizes the city to build or acquire up to 10,000 units of affordable housing.

More information at: socialhousingsf.com