

Next Meeting: Wednesday September 16th

We'll discuss our thoughts on the statewide ballot measures.

"I wanted to start the discussion on these measures with a refresher on the Forward Party's values:

- Rule of Law/Respect for the Constitution
- Support and Strengthen Democracy to Restore the Voter's Voice
- American Leadership
- Building from the Bottom up, not the Top down
- Using data to drive solutions
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Liberty, Responsibility, and Engagement
- Respect and Dignity
- Ethics, Integrity, and Compassion " - By JT

November 3, 2026, Statewide Ballot Measures

Proposition 1

[Authorizes Bonds for Housing Affordability Programs. Legislative Statute.](#)

[State Bonds Context](#)

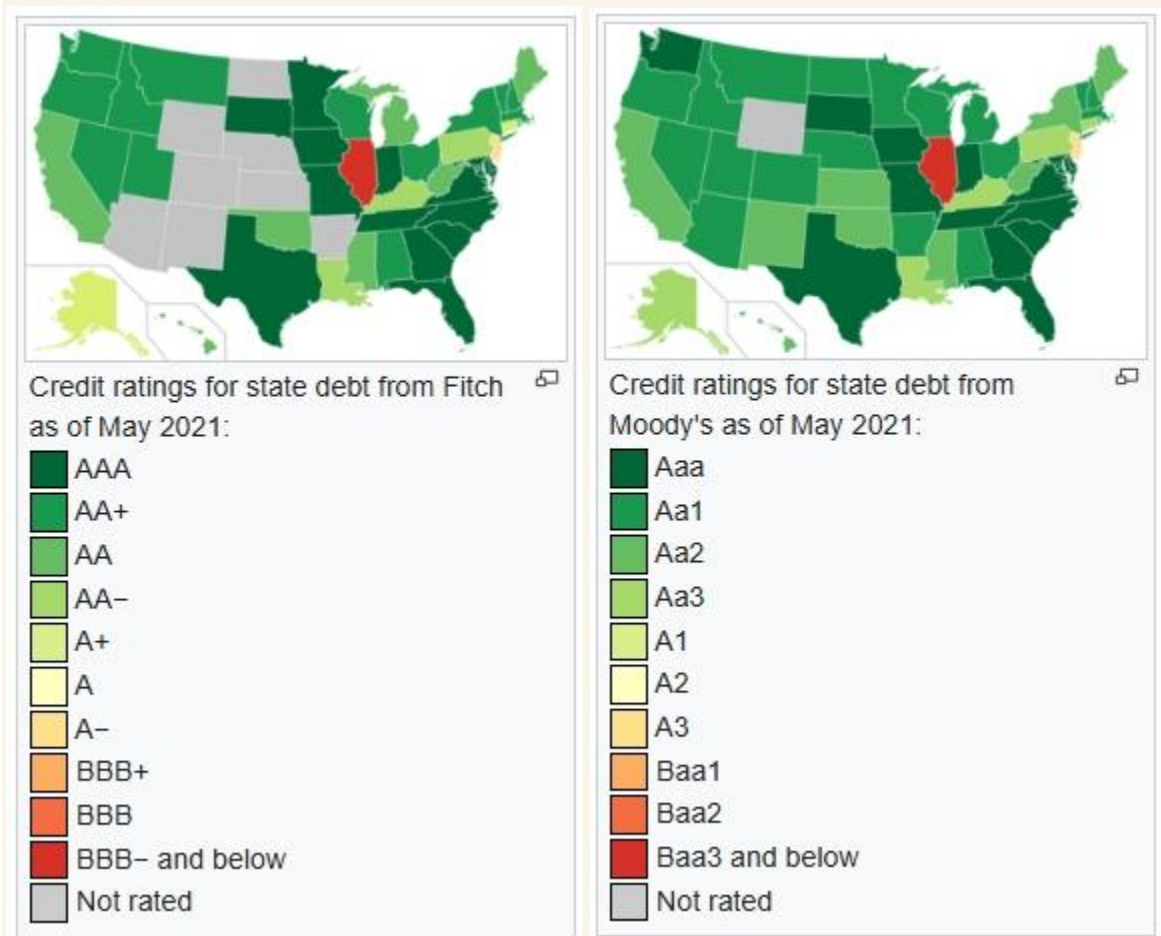
[Exact Text](#)

CalMatters

"This measure binds two questions together. 1. Should the state borrow \$11,250,000,000? 2. Should the state spend \$11,250,000,000 on [rather specific](#) housing programs. Note that any increase in housing spending will likely be < \$11,250,000,000, because existing sources of funding can legally be replaced with bond funding. Additionally, this measure raises no source of revenue to pay off the loan, so we'd want to investigate any reliance on budget cuts, tax increases, or overly optimistic revenue growth assumptions. We also don't know what the "next best option" is, which is critical in such funding decisions. This bill also groups together dozens of housing causes, but are higher ROI non-housing causes being skipped over?" - Erik

"Personally, I think it is a reasonable time for the state to borrow more money, but this bill is committing us to spending \$11,250,000,000 on programs I don't really know anything about... Furthermore, it relies on unspecified cuts, unspecified taxes, or unexplained budget expectations. I'm not comfortable campaigning for this until I know more. Borrowing money to advance housing makes sense, but I don't know if this bill does." - Erik

“This program seems like an expansion of the previously successful veteran homebuying program. Though the programs involved don’t address the housing supply issue, the extra money could help multifamily, veteran, low-income, and other financing options with extra liquidity. Also, [California has good bond ratings](#) and overall has a low debt profile compared to other states. “ -JT



“(Taken from Wikipedia)

The Los Angeles Forward Party should support Proposition 1.

Proposition 2

Increases State's Rainy Day Fund. Legislative Constitutional Amendment.

Exact Text

“The proposition is in line with overall good fiscal management. This amendment forces the state to place more money into the Rainy Day Fund and the state can only use the money for paying down debt, saving up for economic downturns, or school and infrastructure spending.”

-JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should support Proposition 2.

Orgs

California Professional Firefighters Association

Proposition 3

Provides Permanent Funding for Schools and Health Care by Extending Existing Tax on High Incomes. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.

“Proposition 3 makes permanent the income tax increases added in 2012. Though the income tax is a volatile revenue source, when paired with other Propositions like Prop 2 and Prop 1, this will help generate needed revenue while also placing money aside for recession and schools. Since we are now in an era of vast wealth inequality, increasing our existing progressive taxes seems to be the right political and economic move currently.” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should support Proposition 3.

Proposition 4

Repeals Prohibition Against Public Funding of Election Campaigns. Legislative Statute.

“If you can't prevent unlimited campaign contributions, you can at least ensure that candidates can raise competitive capital without having to seek megadonors. This measure allows non-charter cities to publicly fund campaigns, diminishing the impact of money on politics.

Here are some [materials](#) on it. “ - Erik

The Los Angeles Forward Party should support Proposition 4.

Orgs

Supporter: [CA League of Women Voters](#)

Opponent: [Family Business Association](#)

Proposition 5

[Changes Recall Election Process for Statewide Officers. Legislative Constitutional Amendment.](#)

“Prop 5 would be a massive realignment of electoral politics. Removing the ability for voters to recall elected officials takes away a vital power the public has worked hard to obtain. This also goes against one of our core tenets “Support and Strengthen Democracy to Restore the Voter’s Voice”. By allowing politicians to be able to fill any vacated seat we remove the voter's voice in who leads.” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 5.

Proposition 37

[Creates Loan Program for Middle-Income Buyers of Qualified New Homes. Initiative Statute.](#)

“Proposition 37 allows for down payment assistance for up to 17% home price. It will be administered by the California Housing Finance Agency, an established state housing organization. Just like in Prop 1, I am not a fan of just demand-side housing reform yet since this reform is structured in such a way to prevent misuse and does not increase the state debt, it should be an overall good reform.” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should support Proposition 37.

Relevant Orgs

Supporter: [United Nurses Association](#)

Proposition 38

[Authorizes Bonds for Immunology Medical Research. Initiative Statute.](#)

“Proposition 38 seems good in principle, the scope is what worries me. Allowing only University of California campuses and only a certain field is troubling. Many disciplines are in need of support and narrowing a multi-decade bond to just one field seems more like a handout than good scientific funding. “-JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 38.

Proposition 39

[Prohibits Citizens from Voting Unless They Present Government-Issued Identification. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.](#)

“Confidence in elections is vital to every Democracy. Our status quo is unsustainable. Something MUST be done to increase confidence, even if it doesn’t actually improve security. One question governs my vote here: Are the odds of democratic collapse higher or lower if this passes?

Note: It is my understanding that [a state issued ID](#) qualifies as a government ID, based on the bill text. ***I could not possibly support this if it required a federal ID.***

Note: A less visible element of this bill is that the state must report what percent of registered voters are likely non-citizens.” - Erik

“This is a solution in search of a problem. There is no reason to place extra restrictions on voters just because some people demand security theater. [Voting fraud is nonexistent](#). Furthermore, this goes against a Forward Party’s tenet, “Using data to drive solutions.” California should not be spending up to hundreds of millions of dollars in money to shore up a working system.”-JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 39.

Proposition 40

[Imposes One-Time Tax on Certain Taxpayers. Initiative Constitutional Amendment and Statute.](#)

“The Billionaire tax. Wealth taxes are notoriously difficult to perform, but there doesn’t seem to be a way to quickly undo wealth inequality without the rich becoming less wealthy. This transfers that wealth to the state, with restrictions on how it can be used, though any funds it displaces might have more leeway.

Note: I believe any realistic strategy to combat inequality in the age of automation involves the rich giving away, losing, or forfeiting large amounts of wealth.

Note: Make no mistake, this bill is political- it would serve to demonstrate 1. The viability of making the rich less wealthy. 2. The selfish reactions of billionaires. 3. Democrat opposition to the ultra-rich.

Democrats might also hope it shows a commitment to the working class. I don't believe it will do that.

” - Erik

“The Billionaire tax has the right intentions but the wrong tools. Wealth inequality in a liberal democracy is a threat yes, yet this proposal will not solve the problem but could in a worst case scenario make it harder to fix the problem. If this were to be passed and the effects show the rich will not be touched, people will build apathy towards governments and politics. There are [better](#) ways to create long term revenue and bring the rich back down to earth. I hope these solutions could have a home in the Forward Party.”-JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 40.

Proposition 41

[Prohibits New State Taxes That Exclude Revenues from State Spending Limit. Requires Audits for New State Special Taxes. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.](#)

“This is a poison pill for Proposition 40. In the event this proposition passes, the extra steps governments would have to go through for funding would hamstring any number of programs. I would not be in favor of being a pawn for another organization's plans” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 41.

Proposition 42

[Prohibits New State Personal Property Taxes and Certain Retroactive State Taxes. Initiative Constitutional Amendment.](#)

“Another poison pill for Prop 40. If the distortion caused by Prop 13 has not taught us about restricting taxation haphazardly I don’t know what to tell you.” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 42.

Proposition 43

Limits Voters’ Ability to Raise Revenues for Local Government Services. Legislative Constitutional Amendment.

“Speaking of Prop 13, the authors of it, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayer’s Association, have come back with another thinly-veiled attempt to strip local governments’ revenue again. Restricting local governments funding without any substitute will lead to across the board cuts statewide with poorer areas being the most vulnerable. Again, I would not like for the Forward Party to become the workerhorse for another organization’s agenda and take all the blame while they sit back and plead ignorance.” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 43.

Proposition 44

Requires Community Health Clinics Spend 90% Of Revenue on Program Services. Initiative Statute.

“Proposition 44 is trying to make sure healthcare is being delivered in much needed areas. I would be in favor of more supervision in healthcare if this was why health outcomes in California and the US are so low. Yet the real problem is more complex. Not having a universal healthcare public option and tighter regulation in the private healthcare insurance market is more to blame. In addition, the downstream effects have not been properly analyzed.” -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should oppose Proposition 44.

Proposition 45

Modifies Environmental Review for Certain Projects. Initiative Statute.

“Reducing CEQA lawfare will unlock a large amount of projects being held up by NIMBYs and vested interests. This Proposition even threads the needle and only speeds up permitting and

environmental review for projects deemed in the state's and community's interest. Overall this is inline with multiple Forward Party core tenets, mainly "Using data to drive solutions", "Building from the Bottom up, not the Top down", and "American Leadership". -JT

The Los Angeles Forward Party should support Proposition 45.

Relevant Orgs

Supporter: [CA Council for Affordable Housing](#)

Opponent: [Physicians for Social Responsibility](#)

Upcoming Events

In person in OC ~ 2weeks from now