

Proposition 2

Authorizes Bonds for Public School and Community College Facilities.

★ Legislative Statute.

Proposition 2 would provide \$8.5 billion to K-12 schools and \$1.5 billion to community colleges to renovate, fix and construct facilities.

The money would be distributed through matching grants, with the state paying a greater share of costs for less affluent districts and those with higher numbers of English learners and foster youth.

Some of the money would be set aside for removing lead from water, creating transitional kindergarten classrooms and **building career and technical education facilities**.

Bonds are a loan or credit line for the government that must be repaid with taxpayer dollars — **with interest**. They are essentially a tax increase.

Under California's current budget plans, the state aims to take on \$100 billion in debt to pay for new spending like under Prop 2.

Can California afford the additional spending? School facilities can be improved under the state's current funds, but to do so they would have to practice smart budgeting and cut back on funding programs that are outside of core curriculum.

Voting Yes on Prop 2 would be funded by you, the tax-payer.

Additionally, Prop 2 requires no strict accountability or reporting measures.

Having no audit on measures like Prop 2 allows for no accountability on government spending.



The Democratic Party currently holds veto-proof supermajorities in both houses of the California State Legislature. The Assembly consists of 62 Democrats and 17 Republicans, while the Senate is composed of 31 Democrats and 9 Republicans.

Proposition 2

Authorizes Bonds for Public School and Community College Facilities.

★ **Legislative Statute.**

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Authorizes \$10 billion in general **obligation bonds** for repair, upgrade, and construction of facilities at K–12 public schools (including charter schools), community colleges, and career technical education programs, including for improvement of health and safety conditions and classroom upgrades.

Requires annual audits.

Fiscal Impact: Increased state costs of about **\$500 million annually for 35 years** to repay the bond.

Supporters: California Teachers Association; California School Nurses Organization; Community College League of California

Opponents: Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

ARGUMENTS

PRO:

Many schools and community colleges are outdated and need basic health and safety repairs and upgrades to prepare students for college and careers and to retain and attract quality teachers. Prop. 2 meets those needs and requires strict taxpayer accountability so funds are spent as promised with local control.

CON:

Proposition 2 will increase our bond obligations by \$10 billion, which will cost taxpayers an estimated \$18 billion when repaid with interest. A bond works like a government credit card—paying off that credit card requires the government to spend more of your tax dollars! Vote NO on Prop. 2.

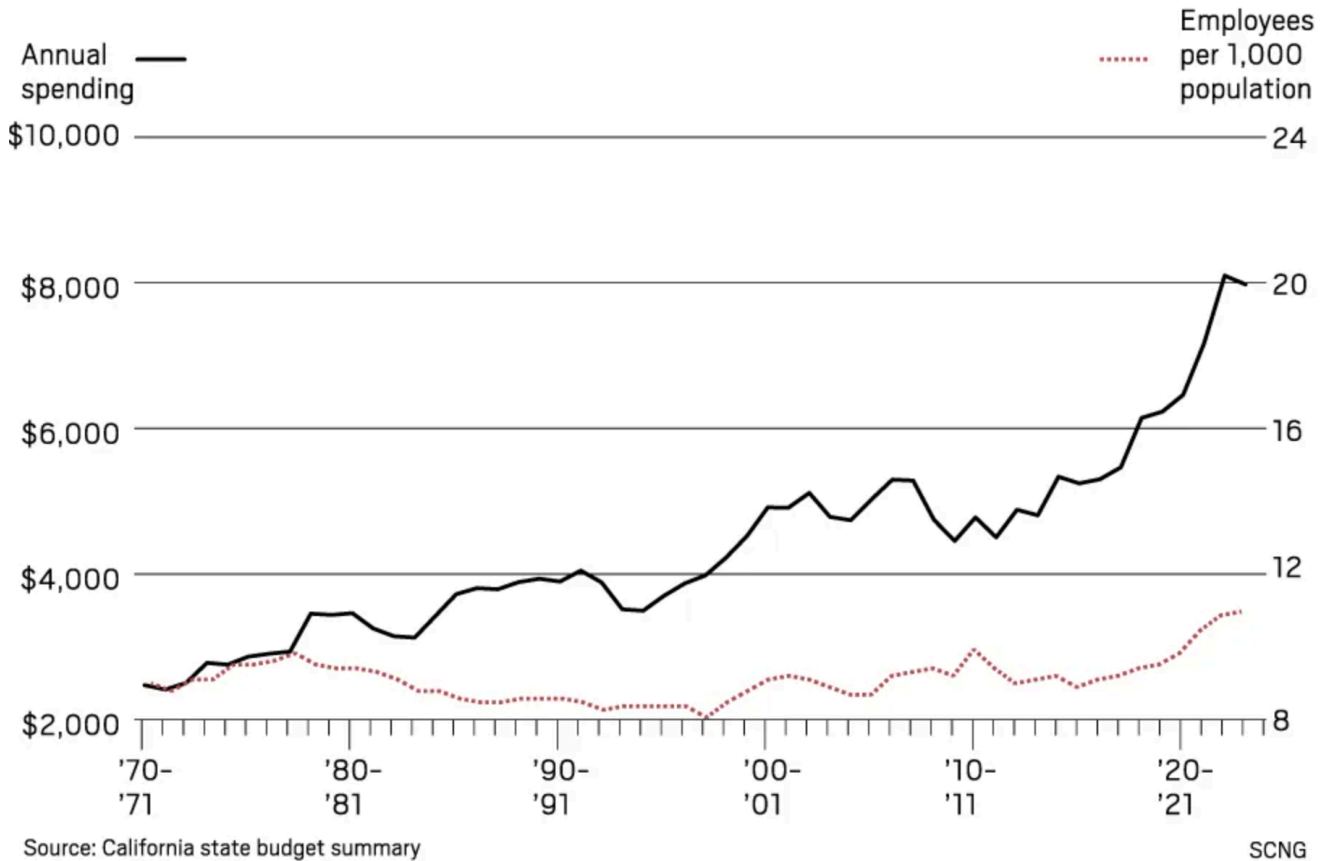
Proposition 2

Authorizes Bonds for Public School and Community College Facilities.

★ Legislative Statute.

California's spending per capita nearly quadruples

A look at the state's population and total annual expenditures over the past half-century shows that per-capita spending in the Golden State has skyrocketed.



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Proposition 3

Reaffirm the right of same-sex couples to marry

Proposition 3 would enshrine the right to same-sex marriage into the California constitution, repealing Proposition 8 — a measure approved by voters in 2008 that defined marriage as between a man and a woman. In practice, the ballot measure would not change who can marry.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES vote on this measure means: Language in the California Constitution would be updated to match who currently can marry. There would be no change in who can marry.

NO vote on this measure means: Language in the California Constitution would not be changed. There would be no change in who can marry.

Amends California Constitution to recognize fundamental right to marry, regardless of sex or race.

Removes language in California Constitution stating that marriage is only between a man and a woman.

Fiscal Impact: No change in revenues or costs for state and local governments.

Supporters: Sierra Pacific Synod of The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; Dolores Huerta Foundation; Equality California

Opponents: Jonathan Keller, California Family Council; Rev. Tanner DiBella

PROP 4

AUTHORIZES BONDS FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER, WILDFIRE PREVENTION, AND PROTECTING COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL LANDS FROM CLIMATE RISKS.



Authorizes \$10 billion in general obligation bonds for water, wildfire prevention, and protection of communities and lands.

Requires annual audits.

Fiscal Impact: Increased state costs of about **\$400 million annually for 40 years** to repay the bond.

Supporters: Clean Water Action; CALFIRE Firefighters; National Wildlife Federation; The Nature Conservancy

Opponents: Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS **Legislative Analyst's Office**

YES vote on this measure means:
The state could borrow \$10 billion to fund various activities aimed at conserving natural resources, as well as responding to the causes and effects of **climate change**.

NO vote on this measure means:
The state could not borrow **\$10 billion to fund various activities aimed at conserving natural resources**, as well as responding to the causes and effects of climate change.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Yes on 4 for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, clean air, and protection of natural resources. California firefighters, conservation groups, clean water advocates urge YES.

Accountable, fiscally responsible, with independent audits, strict transparency.

Proactive approach saves money and prevents the worst impacts of devastating wildfires, smoke, droughts, and pollution.

CON

Bonds are **the most expensive way** to fund government spending. Water and wildfire mitigation are necessities, not luxuries. They should be budgeted for, not bonded.

Mismanagement led to this crisis. This \$10 billion bond will cost taxpayers almost \$2 to repay for every dollar spent.

Vote NO on Prop. 4.



The Democratic Party currently holds veto-proof supermajorities in both houses of the California State Legislature. The Assembly consists of 62 Democrats and 17 Republicans, while the Senate is composed of 31 Democrats and 9 Republicans.

PROP 5

ALLOWS LOCAL BONDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE
WITH 55% VOTER APPROVAL.

★ LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Allows approval of local infrastructure and housing bonds for low- and middle-income Californians with 55% vote.

Accountability requirements.

Multiple entities in California audit spending, including the California State Auditor, the State Controller's Office, and the Office of State Audits and Evaluations (OSAE)

Fiscal Impact: Increased local borrowing to fund affordable housing, supportive housing, and public infrastructure. The amount would depend on decisions by local governments and voters. Borrowing would be repaid with **higher property taxes.**

Supporters: California Professional Firefighters; League of Women Voters of California; Habitat for Humanity California

Opponents: California Taxpayers Association; California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce; Women Veterans Alliance

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means: Certain local bonds and related property taxes could be approved with a 55 percent vote of the local electorate, rather than the current two-thirds approval requirement. These bonds would have to fund affordable housing, supportive housing, or public infrastructure.

NO vote on this measure means: Certain local bonds and related property taxes would continue to need approval by a two-thirds vote of the local electorate.

★ A constitutional amendment can be initiated by the Legislature if it passes both houses by a two-thirds vote. A constitutional amendment does not need the Governor's signature, but becomes part of the constitution only if the electorate approves it at the next general election. A special election can also be called by the Governor to consider a proposed constitutional amendment, if it is deemed necessary.

When the Legislature adopts a proposed constitutional amendment, it often also adopts a "companion bill"; i.e., a bill which takes effect only if the constitutional amendment is passed by the people. These companion measures generally contain detailed statutory provisions which would implement the constitutional amendment.

The constitution can also be amended through the "initiative process," in which the signatures of the requisite number of voters on a petition is sufficient to cause the Secretary of State to place the petition on the ballot. No action by the Legislature is needed in this process and the Legislature cannot prevent it from occurring.

PROP 5

ALLOWS LOCAL BONDS FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE
WITH 55% VOTER APPROVAL.

★ LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Prop. 5 shifts local spending priorities away from state government, giving local voters and taxpayers the choice and the tools to address the challenges facing their communities. Whether it's housing affordability, safer streets, more fire stations, or other community-driven projects, Prop. 5 empowers local voters to solve local problems. Vote YES.

CON

Prop. 5 changes the constitution to make it easier to increase bond debt, leading to higher property taxes. Prop. 5 shifts the financial burden from the state to local communities, increasing costs for homeowners, renters, and consumers. Politicians wrote loopholes in Prop. 5 so "infrastructure" can mean just about anything.

PROP 6

ELIMINATES CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION ALLOWING INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE FOR INCARCERATED PERSONS.

★ LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Put on the Ballot by the Legislature

Amends the California Constitution to **remove** current provision that allows jails and prisons to impose involuntary servitude to punish crime (i.e., forcing incarcerated persons to work).

Fiscal Impact: Potential increase or decrease in state and local costs, depending on how work for people in state prison and county jail changes.

Any effect **likely** would not exceed **the tens of millions of dollars annually**.

★ Supporters: Assemblymember Lori Wilson
Opponents: None submitted

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

YES vote on this measure
means: Involuntary servitude
would not be allowed as
punishment for crime. State
prisons would not be allowed to
discipline people in prison who
refuse to work.

NO vote on this measure
means: Involuntary servitude
would continue to be allowed as
punishment for crime.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Proposition 6 ends slavery in California and upholds human rights and dignity for everyone. It replaces carceral involuntary servitude with voluntary work programs, has bipartisan support, and aligns with national efforts to reform the 13th Amendment. It will prioritize rehabilitation, lower recidivism, and improve public safety, resulting in taxpayer savings.

CON

No argument against
Proposition 6 was submitted.

★ Assemblywoman Wilson is the first legislator in the history of California to openly discuss being the parent of a transgender child. In today's heated political climate, it is crucial that this community has representation in Sacramento and Assemblywoman Wilson has demonstrated her commitment to defending vulnerable communities.

PROP 32

RAISES MINIMUM WAGE. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

SUMMARY

Raises minimum wage as follows:

For employers with 26 or more employees, to \$17 immediately, \$18 on January 1, 2025.

For employers with 25 or fewer employees, to \$17 on January 1, 2025, \$18 on January 1, 2026.

Fiscal Impact: State and local government costs could increase or decrease by up to hundreds of millions of dollars annually.

State and local revenues likely would decrease by no more than a few hundred million dollars annually.

Supporters: None submitted

Opponents: California Chamber of Commerce; California Restaurant Association; California Grocers Association

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means: The state minimum wage would be \$18 per hour in 2026. After that, it would go up each year based on how fast prices are going up.

NO vote on this measure means: The state minimum wage likely would be about \$17 per hour in 2026. After that, it would go up each year based on how fast prices are going up.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

YES on Proposition 32 raises the minimum wage to \$18 so more SERVICE, ESSENTIAL, AND OTHER WORKERS, and SINGLE MOMS can AFFORD the state's COST OF LIVING. CORPORATE PROFIT MARGINS INCREASED 100% since 2000 because CORPORATIONS SPIKED the PRICES OF GOODS.

CON

Prop. 32 was written by one multimillionaire alone, and he wrote a horribly flawed measure.

Prop. 32 increases the cost of living, eliminates jobs, makes our state and local government budget deficits worse, and makes California's complex minimum wage laws even harder for businesses and workers to understand.

PROP 33

EXPANDS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' AUTHORITY TO ENACT RENT CONTROL ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature.

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Repeals Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995, which currently prohibits local ordinances limiting initial residential rental rates for new tenants or rent increases for existing tenants in certain residential properties.

Fiscal Impact: Reduction in local **property tax revenues** of at least tens of millions of dollars annually due to likely expansion of rent control in some communities.

Supporters: CA Nurses Assoc.; CA Alliance for Retired Americans; Mental Health Advocacy; Coalition for Economic Survival; TenantsTogether

Opponents: California Council for Affordable Housing; Women Veterans Alliance; California Chamber of Commerce

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means:
State law would not limit the kinds
of rent control laws cities and
counties could have.

NO vote on this measure means:
State law would continue to limit
the kinds of rent control laws cities
and counties could have.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

The rent is too high. One million people have left California. Rent control in America has worked to keep people in their homes since 1919. California's 17 million renters need relief. Homeowners and taxpayers benefit from stable communities. The California dream is dying. You can help save it.

CON

Don't be fooled by the latest corporate landlord anti-housing scheme. California voters have rejected this radical proposal twice before, because it would freeze the construction of new housing and could effectively reverse dozens of new state housing laws. Vote No on 33 to protect new affordable housing and California homeowners.

PROP 33

EXPANDS LOCAL GOVERNMENTS' AUTHORITY TO ENACT RENT CONTROL ON RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

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Prop 33

- overturns more than 100 state housing laws and weakens the strongest statewide rent stability law in the nation.
- grants local governments broad authority to supersede California's historic statewide renter and unjust eviction protections.
- authorizes permanent price controls, even on single-family homes and condominiums.
- enables local governments the ability to potentially hinder affordable housing development.

Prop 33

- does not provide funding for affordable housing or a requirement that it be built.
- does not provide specific provisions to reduce rent.
- does not provide specific protections for renters, seniors, or veterans.

A **"yes"** vote on Prop 33 essentially removes the limits placed on local governments. The limit currently placed on local government's power over rent control stems from the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995. The 29-year-old law prohibits cities from setting rent control on single-family homes or apartments built after 1995. Prop 33, if it passes on Nov. 2024, would repeal Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act.

For context, similar ballot measures have tried to take down Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act in 2018 and 2020, but both efforts ended up failing. In 2019, Gavin Newsom signed a law limiting annual rent increases across California to 5%, with inflation taken into account. The proposition itself does not make any changes to existing local rent control laws. The prop would prevent the state from taking future actions to limit local rent control, and place that responsibility on local governments.

A **"no"** vote on Prop 33 keeps the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act in effect. This will mark the third time in six years that a push to let local governments have more power in controlling rent increases has failed to pass.

PROP 34

RESTRICTS SPENDING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG REVENUES BY CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Requires certain providers to spend 98% of revenues from federal discount prescription drug program on direct patient care. Authorizes statewide negotiation of Medi-Cal drug prices.

Fiscal Impact: Increased state costs, **likely** in the millions of dollars annually, to enforce new rules on certain health care entities. Affected entities would pay fees to cover these costs.

Supporters: The ALS Association; California Chronic Care Coalition; Latino Heritage Los Angeles

Opponents: National Org. for Women; Consumer Watchdog; Coalition for Economic Survival; AIDS Healthcare Foundation; Dolores Huerta

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means: Certain health care entities would have to follow new rules about how they spend revenue they earn from a federal drug discount program. Breaking these rules would result in penalties (such as not being able to operate as a health care entity), generally for a ten-year period.

NO vote on this measure means: These new rules would not go into effect.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Proposition 34 will protect patients and ensure public healthcare dollars actually go to patients who need it. Prop. 34 will close a loophole that allows corporations to spend this money on things like buying stadium naming rights and multi-million dollar CEO salaries. Protect Patients Now. Vote Yes on Proposition 34.

CON

Prop. 34—The Revenge Initiative. California Apartment Association, representing billionaire corporate landlords, doesn't care about patients. Their sole purpose is silencing AIDS Healthcare Foundation, the sponsor of the rent control initiative. 34 weaponizes the ballot, is a threat to democracy, and opens the door to attacks on any non-profit.

PROP 34

RESTRICTS SPENDING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG REVENUES BY CERTAIN HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

YES on 34, Protect Patients Now:

A Coalition of Women, Veterans, LGBTQ+

Advocates, and Patient Groups

2350 Kerner Blvd. #250

San Rafael, CA 94901

(916) 447-7881

info@protectcapatientsnow.com

YesOnProp34.com

AGAINST

Susie Shannon

Stop the Revenge Initiative—No on 34,
sponsored by AIDS Healthcare Foundation

1250 6th Street,

Suite 205

Santa Monica, CA 90405

(310) 576-1233info.voteno34.org

www.voteno34.org

The folks at the AIDS Healthcare Foundation call this a “revenge initiative,” and we can see why. Proposition 34 would change the state’s rules for healthcare providers participating in the federal 340B drug discount program in ways that seem designed to cut off the foundation’s tenant advocacy.

The 340B program requires pharmaceutical companies to sell drugs to healthcare nonprofits that serve low-income patients at a discount. The nonprofits charge insurance companies full price and keep the difference. The rules say they must use the resulting revenue to expand services for their low-income patients. But what constitutes “services”? Michael Weinstein, the president of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation, says that because **a lack of housing harms people’s health**, its use of **\$300 million in 340B revenue to push tenant protections and buy apartment complexes has served its patients.**

<https://www.latimes.com/opinion/story/2024-10-07/no-on-proposition-34-the-ballot-is-no-place-for-revenge-measures>

PROP 35

PROVIDES PERMANENT FUNDING FOR MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature.

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Makes permanent the existing tax on managed health care insurance plans, which, if approved by the federal government, provides revenues to pay for Medi-Cal health care services.

Fiscal Impact: Short-term state costs between roughly **\$1 billion and \$2 billion annually** to increase funding for certain health programs.

Total funding increase between roughly \$2 billion to \$5 billion annually. Unknown long-term fiscal effects.

Supporters: **Planned Parenthood Affiliates** of CA; American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists; American Academy of Pediatrics, CA

Opponents: None submitted

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means:
An existing state tax on health plans that provides funding for certain health programs would become permanent. New rules would direct how the state must use the revenue.

NO vote on this measure means:
An existing state tax on health plans would end in 2027, unless the Legislature continues it. The new rules would not become law.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Prop 35 addresses our urgent healthcare crisis by securing dedicated funding—without raising taxes—to protect access to primary and specialty care, community clinics, hospitals, ERs, family planning, and mental health providers. Prop. 35 prevents the state from redirecting funds for non-healthcare purposes.

Supported by **Planned Parenthood,
pediatricians, California**

CON

No argument against Proposition 35 was submitted.

PROP 35

PROVIDES PERMANENT FUNDING FOR MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

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SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Makes permanent the existing tax on managed health care insurance plans, which, if approved by the federal government, provides revenues to pay for Medi-Cal health care services.

Fiscal Impact: Short-term state costs between roughly **\$1 billion and \$2 billion annually** to increase funding for certain health programs.

Total funding increase between roughly \$2 billion to \$5 billion annually. Unknown long-term fiscal effects.

Supporters: **Planned Parenthood Affiliates** of CA; American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists; American Academy of Pediatrics, CA

Opponents: None submitted

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means:
An existing state tax on health plans that provides funding for certain health programs would become permanent. New rules would direct how the state must use the revenue.

NO vote on this measure means:
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ARGUMENTS

PRO

Prop 35 addresses our urgent healthcare crisis by securing dedicated funding—without raising taxes—to protect access to primary and specialty care, community clinics, hospitals, ERs, family planning, and mental health providers. Prop. 35 prevents the state from redirecting funds for non-healthcare purposes.

Supported by **Planned Parenthood,
pediatricians, California**

CON

No argument against Proposition 35 was submitted.

PROP 35

PROVIDES PERMANENT FUNDING FOR MEDI-CAL HEALTH CARE SERVICES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature.

State Uses Tax for Two Purposes. The amount of revenue raised by the health plan tax has changed over time. Based on recent legislative action, we estimate the tax is expected to result in between \$7 billion to \$8 billion each year (annually) to the state. The state uses this money for two purposes.

Paying for Existing Costs in Medi-Cal. Some revenue helps pay for existing costs in the Medi-Cal program. Using the tax revenue in this way allows the state to spend less money from the General Fund on Medi-Cal. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons. Medi-Cal is expected to get around \$35 billion from the General Fund this year.) In other words, the health plan tax revenue reduces costs to the state General Fund.

Increasing Funding for Medi-Cal and Other Health Programs. Some of the revenue increases funding for Medi-Cal and other health programs. For example, the state is increasing Medi-Cal payments to doctors and other health care providers. This is a new use of health plan tax revenue. Some of these funding increases began in 2024, but most will begin in 2025 and 2026. Once they all begin in 2026, the increases likely would result in around \$4 billion more for Medi-Cal annually. Around half of this amount will come from the health plan tax. (The rest will come from increased federal funding.)

Tax Will End, Unless It Is Approved Again. The Legislature has not permanently approved this tax. Instead, it has approved it for a few years at a time. The federal government also must approve the tax. The tax was most recently approved in 2023. It will expire at the end of 2026, unless the Legislature and federal government approve it again.

PROPOSAL

Makes Existing Health Plan Tax Permanent. Proposition 35 makes the existing health plan tax permanent beginning in 2027. The state would still need federal approval to charge the tax. The tax would continue to be based on the number of people to whom health plans provide health coverage. The proposition allows the state to change the tax, if needed, to get federal approval, within certain limits.

PROP 36

ALLOWS FELONY CHARGES AND INCREASES SENTENCES FOR CERTAIN DRUG AND THEFT CRIMES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature.

SUMMARY

Put on the Ballot by Petition Signatures

Allows felony charges for possessing certain drugs and for thefts under \$950, if defendant has two prior drug or theft convictions.

Fiscal Impact: State criminal justice costs likely ranging from several tens of millions of dollars to the low hundreds of millions of dollars annually. Local criminal justice costs likely in the tens of millions of dollars annually.

Supporters: Crime Victims United of California; California District Attorneys Association; Family Business Association of California

Opponents: Diana Becton, District Attorney Contra Costa County; Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS Legislative Analyst's Office

YES vote on this measure means: People convicted of certain drug or theft crimes could receive increased punishment, such as longer prison sentences. In certain cases, people who possess illegal drugs would be required to complete treatment or serve up to three years in prison.

NO vote on this measure means: Punishment for drug and theft crimes would remain the same.

ARGUMENTS

PRO

Prop. 36 makes California communities safer by addressing rampant theft and drug trafficking. It toughens penalties for fentanyl and drug traffickers and "smash-and-grabs" while holding repeat offenders accountable. It targets serial thieves and encourages treatment for those addicted to drugs, using a balanced approach to fix loopholes in current laws.

CON

Don't be fooled. Proposition 36 will lead to more crime, not less. It reignites the failed war on drugs, makes simple drug possession a felony, and wastes billions on prisons, while slashing crucial funding for victims, crime prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation. This puts prisons first and guts treatment. Vote No.

PROP 36

ALLOWS FELONY CHARGES AND INCREASES SENTENCES FOR CERTAIN DRUG AND THEFT CRIMES. INITIATIVE STATUTE.

The ballot initiative process gives California citizens a way to propose laws and constitutional amendments without the support of the Governor or the Legislature.

INCREASES PUNISHMENT FOR SOME THEFT AND DRUG CRIMES

Proposition 36 increases punishment for some theft and drug crimes in three ways:

1. Turns Some Misdemeanors Into

Felonies. For example, currently, theft of items worth \$950 or less is generally a misdemeanor. Proposition 36 makes this crime a felony if the person has two or more past convictions for certain theft crimes (such as shoplifting, burglary, or carjacking). The sentence would be up to three years in county jail or state prison. These changes undo some of the punishment reductions in Proposition 47.

2. Lengthens Some Felony Sentences.

For example, Proposition 36 allows felony sentences for theft or damage of property to be lengthened by up to three years if three or more people committed the crime together.

3. Requires Some Felonies Be Served in

Prison. For example, as discussed above, sentences for selling certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, or methamphetamine) can be lengthened based on the amount sold. Currently, these sentences are served in county jail or state prison depending on the person's criminal history. Proposition 36 generally requires these sentences be served in prison.

CREATES NEW COURT PROCESS FOR SOME DRUG POSSESSION CRIMES

Proposition 36 allows people who possess illegal drugs to be charged with a "treatment-mandated felony," instead of a misdemeanor, in some cases. Specifically, this applies to people who (1) possess certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, or methamphetamine) and (2) have two or more past convictions for some drug crimes (such as possessing or selling drugs). These people would generally get treatment, such as mental health or drug treatment. Those who finish treatment would have their charges dismissed. Those who do not finish treatment could serve up to three years in state prison. This change undoes some of the punishment reductions in Proposition 47.

REQUIRES WARNING OF POSSIBLE MURDER CHARGES FOR SELLING OR PROVIDING DRUGS

Proposition 36 requires courts to warn people that they could be charged with murder if they sell or provide illegal drugs that kill someone. This warning would be given to people convicted of selling or providing certain drugs (such as fentanyl, heroin, cocaine, and methamphetamine). This could make it more likely for them to be convicted of murder if they later sell or provide illegal drugs to someone who dies.