

Peace and Freedom Guide to the November 2024 BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

- NO - Proposition 2** would authorize the state to borrow \$10 billion for K-12 school and community college construction and modernization. Interest on these bonds goes to wealthy investors.
- YES - Proposition 3** affirms marriage equality in California by enshrining a fundamental right to marry and removing language in the California Constitution that states marriage is between a man and a woman.
- NO - Proposition 4** is another \$10 billion bond to respond to the effects of climate change. It does not provide for public transportation or other measures to address the causes of climate change.
- NO - Proposition 5** makes it easier for local governments to approve bonds by reducing the threshold from 2/3 to 55% of the vote. Under pressure from the California Association of Realtors, it includes a ban on local governments using the money to buy existing single-family homes to convert into affordable units.
- YES - Proposition 6** abolishes all forms of slavery and involuntary servitude in California. Forced labor, even in prison, could no longer be used as a punishment. This measure would prohibit disciplining any incarcerated person for refusing a work assignment.
- YES - Proposition 32** would increase the minimum wage in stages until it reaches \$18 an hour and then adjust it annually for inflation.
- YES - Proposition 33** would repeal the Costa Hawkins Rental Housing Act. This Act has severely weakened local rent control ordinances in three ways: It exempts all single-family homes and condos from rent control. It exempts all units built since 1997 from rent control. It forbids regulation of new rents for vacant units. To undo all of that and allow effective local rent control, vote Yes on prop.33.
- NO - Proposition 34** appears to be about healthcare, but it's not. It was written to target the AIDS Healthcare Foundation as a means of retribution for sponsoring the repeal of the Contra Hawkins Rental Housing Act.
- YES - Proposition 35** would make permanent a tax, which is set to expire in 2026, on managed healthcare organizations. It guarantees more money for Medi-Cal so that patients will not be turned away.
- NO - Proposition 36** would upgrade some drug and theft misdemeanors to felonies and creates a new class of crime called treatment-mandated felony. Increasing incarceration does not lead to rehabilitation and does not make us safer.

Why the Peace and Freedom Party Opposes Bond Measures

The use of government bonds for any purpose, no matter how important or necessary, is essentially a transfer of wealth from working tax payers to the already wealthy. Paying for what we need by issuing bonds is a bad deal for working tax payers because we are really paying for something three times:

- First**, we have to pay back the loan (the principal). That is reasonable and to be expected.
- Second**, we must pay the interest on the loan. This can be almost as much as the loan itself, even at the low interest rates of government bonds.
- And third**, the rich investors do not pay taxes on the interest. This results in a budget deficit for the government, and that means either higher taxes for the rest of the taxpayers (you and me) or cutbacks in government services (one reason why we can't fully fund schools, patch potholes, or fix river levees).

The Peace and Freedom Party believes this is the wrong way to pay for needed public programs.

Current needs should be funded by a more fair tax structure with higher taxes on the wealthy (the top 1-2%) and by closing tax loopholes used by large corporation to avoid paying their fair share.

Vote Your Hopes. Not your Fears

- In California, voting "third party" will NOT help elect Trump. The Harris/Walz slate of electors will win California by millions of votes.
- Use your vote to help build a real alternative to the two parties that promote militarism around the world, destroy the environment, and put the interests of the rich and their corporations above the needs of working class people.
- Vote for Claudia De la Cruz and Karina Garcia.** And join a party that stands for socialism instead of capitalism.

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