

# PUBLIC HEALTH ADVOCATES' 2024 VOTER GUIDE



## PROP 2: YES

### BOND TO FUND PUBLIC EDUCATION FACILITIES

Prop 2 approves a \$10 billion bond funding the construction and modernization of public education facilities, with \$8.5B for elementary and secondary school facilities and \$1.5B for community college facilities.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 2. It is hard for children to thrive and reach their potential without a safe and secure place to learn. This is a great investment in our future.**



## PROP 3: YES

### ESTABLISH THE RIGHT TO MARRY FOR ALL

Prop 3 protects the right of all Californians to marry a person of any gender. Decided by a 2008 proposition, California's constitution defines marriage as only between a man and a woman. That decision was invalidated by the U.S. Supreme Court's 2015 decision. Prop 3 protects that right, even if the Supreme Court later changes its decision.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 3. Let's act now and get it right this time. Prop 3 is especially urgent due to signs that the Supreme Court could overturn its decision recognizing the right to same-sex marriage.**



## PROP 4: YES

### BOND TO FUND PARKS, ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & WATER

Prop 4 issues \$10 billion in bonds to fund state and local parks, environmental protection projects, water infrastructure projects, energy projects, and flood protection projects.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 4. This key infrastructure investment cuts pollution and helps us adapt to climate change. Equity is embedded in this policy, with 40% of the projects benefiting low-income Californians or those affected by environmental changes or disasters.**



## PROP 5: YES

### LOWER THRESHOLD OF VOTERS TO FUND HOUSING & INFRASTRUCTURE

Prop 5 lowers the vote threshold from 66.67% (2/3) to 55% to pass local bond measures to fund housing projects and public infrastructure. It also requires jurisdictions to conduct annual audits to ensure the funds are being used for their intended purposes.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 5. California is in a housing crisis, so let's make it easier to build housing! When taxpayers know where their money is going, it should be easier to pass a bond, not harder. We appreciate the increased accountability offered by annual auditing.**



## PROP 6: YES

### END INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE FOR PRISONERS

Prop 6 bans slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime in California. It authorizes the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to award credits to incarcerated persons who voluntarily participate in work assignments.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 6. Forcing people in California prisons to work for no pay is slavery. SLAVERY = BAD. The California Legislative Black Caucus introduced this important reform in its reparations legislative package.**



## PROP 32: YES

### INCREASE MINIMUM HOURLY WAGE TO \$18

Prop 32 raises the minimum wage in California to \$18 an hour for all employers. It gives employers with 26 or more workers until 2025 to implement it and those with 25 or fewer workers until 2026. Starting in 2027, the rate is adjusted annually by increases in the cost of living.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 32.** This proposition brings low-income workers' wages closer to a living wage. It helps us keep up with rapidly rising prices and an untenable cost of living. The cost-of-living adjustment starting in 2027 makes this policy more sustainable.



## PROP 33: YES

### ALLOW FOR STRONGER RENT CONTROL LAWS

Prop 33 gives local governments more ways to lower the cost of housing by repealing a law called the Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act. Prop 33 allows cities and counties to enact rent control on single-family homes and limit rent prices for new tenants.

**PHA SUPPORTS Prop 33.** This proposition does not mandate any one set of rent control laws for cities and counties. It allows communities to decide what is best for them. Rent control can be a powerful tool to ensure more people can afford a place to live.



## PROP 34: NEUTRAL

### REQUIRE CERTAIN MEDI-CAL RX PARTICIPANTS TO SPEND 98% OF REVENUE ON PATIENT CARE

Prop 34 requires healthcare providers to spend 98% of revenues from federal discount prescription drug programs on direct patient care.

**PHA is NEUTRAL on Prop 34.** There are valid questions on how revenue from government programs can be used. However, this measure appears to be an attempt by one organization to target its political adversary.



## PROP 35: NO

### TAX MANAGED HEALTH CARE INSURANCE PLANS TO FUND MEDI-CAL

Prop 35 permanently puts a tax on managed care organizations, such as Anthem Blue Shield and Kaiser Permanente, to provide more funding for Medi-Cal, a state program that pays for medical services for low-income Californians.

**PHA OPPOSES Prop 35.** In the short term, this measure boosts Medi-Cal funding to serve low-income Californians, but it has significant flaws. It restricts the legislature's ability to adjust Medi-Cal rates, potentially leading to future cuts in eligibility and benefits. Setting fixed rates for providers could reduce money in the General Fund for vital safety net programs like CalWORKs and other public health investments, especially in years with budget deficits. Furthermore, the revenue collected from this tax is not allocated based on need. For example, community clinics serve 40% of Medi-Cal patients but only get 10% of the funding.



## PROP 36: NO

### HARSHER DRUG AND THEFT PENALTIES & MANDATED TREATMENT

Prop 36 classifies certain drug offenses as treatment-mandated felonies; increases penalties for certain drug crimes; warns convicted hard drug dealers they can be charged with murder if someone dies because of their dealing; and increases sentences for theft based on the value of the property stolen.

**PHA OPPOSES Prop 36.** This proposition threatens to reverse the progress of Prop 47, passed in 2014. California's prison population has dropped 28 percent with reduced racial disparities since 2014, according to Vera Institute of Justice. While we want to reduce retail theft, Prop 36 is costly and it won't reduce crime or make communities safer.

