

LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

2020 ELECTION VOTER GUIDE





A MESSAGE FROM
L.A. AREA CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE
PRESIDENT & CEO

MARIA S. SALINAS



2020 is proving to be a dynamic year for the Los Angeles region. Many are looking for ways to help empower local communities and create change for a thriving region. One of the most important contributions is to engage civically and exercise our right to vote.

Our advocacy agenda focuses upon ensuring our region is globally competitive, to champion business-friendly policies that enable innovation and the creation of jobs in the Los Angeles region. We are excited to present our 2020 voter guide to assist with the upcoming November election.

Join me on Nov. 3, 2020 at the polls to ensure our voices are heard.



Maria S. Salinas

New Voter Registration Deadline: Oct. 19, 2020

For more information, please visit the California Secretary of State website at registertovote.ca.gov.

PROP 14: California Stem Cell Research Institute Bond Initiative

The initiative authorizes \$5.5 billion in general obligation bonds to finance grants distributed by the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine for the purposes of funding educational, nonprofit and private entities to advance stem cell research.

**YES
ON 14**



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber **SUPPORTS** the California Stem Cell Research Institute Bond Initiative. Supporting the bond measure advances innovation in all industries and promotes access to affordable health care. The initiative is specifically dedicating funds and resources to enhance access to innovative treatments and to make them more affordable.

PROP 15: California Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative

This initiative is a property tax increase. Commercial properties would be assessed at market value, resulting in higher taxes. Tenants, many small businesses, would be burdened by additional taxes. The initiative lacks accountability and transparency.

**NO
ON 15**



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber **OPPOSES** this property tax increase. The COVID-19 pandemic has left many businesses struggling, especially small and minority owned businesses. They are trying to keep the doors open and protect the jobs that support families in their community. An increase to property taxes will create an untenable situation. This measure also does not include accountability, transparency or other methods to ensure that taxpayers understand where the dollars will be spent.

The L.A. region relies on an economy that is fueled by small businesses. The measure would have significant impacts on small businesses that operate with leases that require property taxes to be absorbed, affecting 78 percent of small businesses in California that rent or lease.

PROP 16: California Repeal Proposition 209 Affirmative Action Amendment

The measure would repeal Proposition 209 (1996), which added the following provision to the California Constitution: “The State shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting” ending affirmative action programs.

YES
ON 16



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber **SUPPORTS** this ballot measure that would repeal Proposition 209 and reinstate affirmative action. It is clear from statistics that Proposition 209 has had a detrimental impact on education, contracting and hiring by creating additional barriers for participation.

We drive solutions to create economic growth and mobility to help rebound our economy. This initiative will expand access to economic opportunities for those that have been left behind.

PROP 19: California Property Tax Transfer Initiative

The ballot initiative would amend Proposition 13 (1978) to allow homebuyers who are age 55 or older or severely disabled to transfer the tax-assessed value from their current home to their new home, no matter (a) the new home's market value; (b) the new home's location in the state; or (c) the number of moves.

The ballot initiative would also allow the transfer of tax-assessed values from a prior house to a new house for contaminated or disaster-destroyed properties, no matter the new home's market value or the new home's location in the state.

NEUTRAL
ON 19



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber remains **NEUTRAL** for the California Property Tax Transfer Act.

PROP 21: California Local Rent Control Initiative 2020 or Rental Affordability Act

The Costa-Hawkins Act was approved by the state Legislature in 1995 to prohibit municipalities from sharply curtailing the use of rent control laws that are more rigorous than the State requirements. This initiative is an attempt to eliminate Costa-Hawkins by expanding local authority municipalities to regulate local rent control laws including applicability to single family homes and eliminating statewide rent caps.

**NO
ON 21**



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber **OPPOSES** the California Local Rent Control Initiative. The California Legislature recently adopted some of the strictest rent control measures with the adoption of AB 1482 in 2019. Rent control measures currently exist making this measure unnecessary. Also, in this COVID-19 economic crisis, state and local municipalities cannot afford to lose tens of millions of dollars in revenues from state and local taxes that will lead to cutting essential services.

PROP 22: California App-Based Drivers Regulations Initiative

The ballot measure was pursued in response to the recent passage of AB 5 authored by Lorena Gonzales (D-80). This measure would reclassify employees as independent contractors. This ballot measure is being led by the gig economy companies such as Uber, Lyft, DoorDash, etc.

**NEUTRAL
ON 22**



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber remains **NEUTRAL** on the California App Based Drivers Regulations Initiative.

PROP 23: California Dialysis Clinic Requirements Initiative

The initiative establishes regulations for staffing requirements at chronic dialysis centers including at least one licensed physician on site during treatment.

NO
ON 23



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber **OPPOSES** the California Dialysis Clinic Requirements Initiative. This measure could lead to reduced or loss of services and closure of clinics in response to the increased costs for requiring a physician. This measure could reduce the quality of medical care for patients.

PROP 24: California Consumer Personal Information Law and Agency Initiative

The proposition would expand or amend the provisions of the California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018 (CCPA) and create the Privacy Protection Agency. The CCPA was recently approved through the legislative process with extensive stakeholder input and it just recently became law. It has not had the opportunity to realize its benefits, making this measure needless.

NO
ON 24



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:

The Chamber **OPPOSES** the California Consumer Personal Information Law and Agency Initiative. As we become more reliant on technology, it is important to have a balanced approach to consumer privacy. The Legislature adopted protections in 2018 through the legislative process, establishing CCPA. Current law already provides extensive protections for consumers.

MEASURE J: Investment and Alternatives to Incarceration Minimum County Budget Allocation (Re-imagining L.A. County)

This L.A. County initiative is a proposed amendment to the County of Los Angeles' charter, which would set aside 10 percent of the county's locally generated, unrestricted general funds. These funds would be used to address limited economic opportunities, health disparities, homelessness, affordable housing, and alternatives to incarceration in under-resourced communities. It would explicitly prohibit the use of these funds by law enforcement agencies or the criminal justice system.

NEUTRAL
ON J



CHAMBER RECOMMENDATION:


The Chamber remains **NEUTRAL** on measure J.


POSITION SUMMARY





State Propositions


PROP 14 California Stem Cell Research Institute Bond Initiative  **SUPPORT**


PROP 15 California Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative  **OPPOSE**


PROP 16 California Repeal Proposition 209 Affirmative Action Amendment  **SUPPORT**

PROP 19 California Property Tax Transfer Initiative  **NEUTRAL**


PROP 21 California Local Rent Control Initiative 2020 or Rental Affordability Act  **OPPOSE**

PROP 22 California App-Based Drivers Regulations Initiative  **NEUTRAL**

PROP 23 California Dialysis Clinic Requirements Initiative  **OPPOSE**

PROP 24 Consumer Personal Information Law and Agency Initiative  **OPPOSE**

Los Angeles County

MEASURE J Investment and Alternatives to Incarceration Minimum County Budget Allocation (Re-imagining L.A. County)  **NEUTRAL**