

2026



California

VOTER GUIDE

Shared Voice. Shared Vote. Shared Safety.



Californians for
Safety and Justice

www.safeandjust.org

Welcome to **Shared Voice. Shared Vote. Shared Safety.**



INTRODUCTION

This voter guide was created for and by members of our community—**crime survivors and people living with past conviction records** - to provide key information about the voting process. For too long, the decisions that shape our neighborhoods, safety policies, and justice system have been made without the input of the people most impacted. *Your participation in the voting process can change that.*

Our lived experiences give us unique insight into what real safety looks like. Whether healing from harm or rebuilding after a past conviction, our voices carry the authority of experience. **Voting is one of the most direct ways we can translate our shared stories into collective power**, holding decision-makers accountable and building safe, thriving communities for everyone.

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OUR NON-PARTISAN AGREEMENT



Shared Voice. Shared Vote. Shared Safety.

is a nonpartisan civic education and engagement campaign.

We Are Neutral:

We do not support, endorse, or oppose any political candidates or parties.

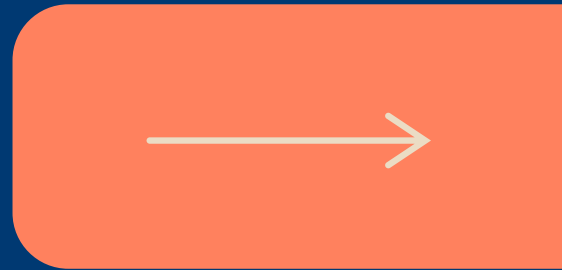
We Share Facts:

All voting rules in this guide come directly from official state laws.

→ **You Decide:** 

This guide is here to **give you facts so you can vote with confidence.**
We will never tell you how to vote.

CALIFORNIA PROP SUMMARIES



There are **14 propositions on the November ballot** covering issues from housing, voting, health, the economy, taxes, to public lands. Below we offer some short summaries on each. Remember, do your own research as these are general facts to get you started.

PROP 1

Housing bond: Borrow \$11.25B for affordable housing, veteran's housing, youth shelters

PROP 2

Rainy day fund: Raise limit on rainy day fund deposits

PROP 3

High-earner tax: Taxes on wealthiest 2% to fund education & healthcare

PROP4

Campaign public fundraising: Allow public financing of political campaigns

PROP 5

Recall reform: Delay replacing recalled state officials

PROP 37

Homebuyer program: Create low-cost mortgage for middle income buyers

PROP 38

Research bond: Borrow \$8.4 billion for immunology research

PROP 39

Voter ID: Require government ID for voting

PROP 40

Billionaire tax: One-time tax to billionaires for healthcare & education

PROP 41

Tax audits: Audits to new tax programs

PROP 42

Personal property taxes: Bans new taxes on retirement & savings accounts

PROP 43

Tax threshold: Raise vote threshold for specail tax measures

PROP 44

Clinic spending: Require care clinics to direct more spending on patient care

PROP 45

Environmental: Speed up environmental reviews for housing and infrastructure

LIVED EXPERIENCE

& Community Safety Priorities

As crime survivors, victims, and individuals with past conviction records, our communities hold unique, firsthand knowledge of how the justice system operates and where it falls short. Research consistently shows that those most impacted by crime and incarceration share a common vision for effective, lasting public safety.



CRIME
SURVIVORS
SPEAK

What Crime Survivors
Want



TIMEDONE

What Reentry and Old
Records Require



WHAT CRIME SURVIVORS WANT:

Our national and statewide surveys reveal that **crime survivors overwhelmingly favor safety policies focused on prevention, rehabilitation, and trauma recovery over more incarceration.**

Crime survivors and formerly incarcerated community members want the same thing: *real safety and fair chances*. Data from **Just Safe and Crime Survivors Speak** shows clear agreement on what works.

What Crime Survivors Want:

- **Help over punishment:** 2 out of 3 crime victims prefer rehabilitation over prisons.
- **Treatment & mental health:** Survivors prefer investing in treatment and mental health support over jails by a 6-to-1 margin.
- **Real support:** Most victims receive little to no support after harm happens. We need more local Trauma Recovery Centers and survivor assistance like victim compensation.



WHAT REENTRY AND PEOPLE WITH OLD RECORDS REQUIRE:

Despite traditional narratives that place crime survivors and formerly incarcerated individuals at odds, survey findings demonstrate a clear convergence in priorities. **Both groups recognize that true public safety requires addressing the root causes of crime, expanding community-based resources, and supporting human transformation.** By voting at the ballot box, you can transform your lived experience into actionable, community-led solutions.

What Reentry & Record Clearance Requires:

- *Stable housing & jobs:* Safe places to live and fair job opportunities are essential to rebuild lives and prevent future crime.
- *Clear record relief:* Streamlining record expungement lets people fully return to their communities and support their families.
- *Restoring civic power:* Having a voice at the ballot box builds stronger, healthier neighborhoods.



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CALIFORNIA VOTING FACTS

WHO CAN VOTE IN CA?

- A U.S. citizen.
- A resident of California.
- At least 18 years old on Election Day.

VOTING RIGHTS WITH A PAST CONVICTION RECORD:

- **You CAN vote if:** You are on probation, mandatory supervision, post-release community supervision (PRCS), or federal supervised release.
- **You CAN vote if:** You have a misdemeanor or felony conviction and are not currently serving a state or federal prison term.

- **You CANNOT vote if:** You are currently serving a state or federal prison term for a felony conviction. Your voting rights are automatically restored as soon as you finish your prison term.
- **Re-registration required:** Once you leave prison, you must register to vote again to restore your active status.

TAKE ACTION!

1. Check your voter status [here!](#)
2. Register to vote [here!](#)
3. Take the “**Pledge to Vote**”!



KEY VOTER DEADLINES & HOW TO CAST YOUR BALLOT



Vote by Mail:

Every registered voter in California automatically receives a ballot in the mail.

You can track your ballot after you mailed in [here](#)!

Ballot Drop Boxes:

You can drop your signed ballot off at any official drop box in your county.

In-Person Voting:

You can vote in person at any local polling place or Vote Center in your county.

Register Online:

You can register online up to 15 days before Election Day - **Monday, October 19th.**

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3rd! [Link here!](#)

Same-Day Registration:

Missed the deadline? You can still register and vote in person on Election Day using Conditional Voter Registration at your local polling place. [Link here!](#)



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Share



NEXT STEPS

Check Your Status:

1. Visit the Secretary of State website to make sure your address and registration are up to date.
Check your voter status [here!](#)

Make a Voting Plan:

2. Decide whether you will vote by mail, drop box, or in person.
Register to vote [here!](#)

Pledge Your Vote:

3. Talk to your family, neighbors, and friends. Help us turn lived experience into community power!
Take the "Pledge to Vote" [here!](#)