

Your Vote. Your Voice.

June 3, 2014
California Primary
Election

**How will we choose our next Governor?
What are the two state propositions?**

ARE YOU SIGNED UP TO VOTE?

May 19, 2014 Last day to register to vote in this election.

May 27, 2014 Last day to request a “vote by mail” ballot.

June 3, 2014 **ELECTION DAY**

Your polling place is open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Esta guía también está disponible en español ■ 本指南也有中文版

Bản hướng dẫn này cũng có bằng tiếng Việt ■ 또한 이 안내서는 한국어로도 제공됩니다

Visit www.easyvoterguide.org to order copies or
download this guide in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean.

★ About This Primary Election

How the Statewide Primary Election Works in California

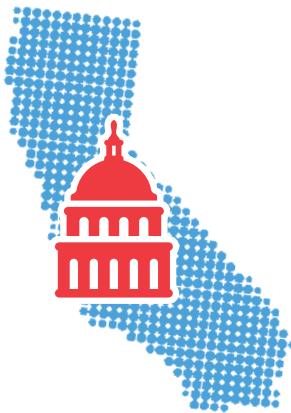
In the June 3, 2014 primary election, voters will decide on two proposed state laws (Proposition 41 and 42) and also choose which candidates get voted on in the November General Election.

Since 2012, California has used a “Top Two” system for primary elections.

- All voters see the same list of candidates for Governor and other statewide offices. Your ballot will also have your candidates for Congress and the state legislature.
- Voters can choose any candidate for each office, regardless of political party registration.
- Based on the results of this June election, the two candidates who get the most votes for each office will run against each other in the November election.

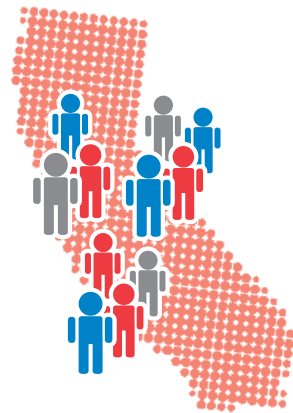
The main difference compared to the way Primary elections used to work in California is that your political party affiliation does not affect which candidates will be on your ballot. It is also possible that two candidates from the same party could be the top two winners in June and run against each other in November.

Offices that represent everyone in California (elected for a four-year term)



- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Secretary of State
- Controller
- Treasurer
- Attorney General
- Insurance Commissioner
- Superintendent of Public Instruction

Offices that represent a specific district in California



- Representative in U.S. Congress
- State Senator (even-numbered districts will be voted on in this election)
- State Assembly Member
- State Board of Equalization

There may be other local government candidates or judges on your ballot depending on where you live. Your county elections office will mail you a Sample Ballot that lists everything that you can vote on.

Remember, you do not have to vote on everything! Learn about the candidates and propositions that are important to you and make your choice.

For more nonpartisan information about this election, visit these websites:

www.easyvoterguide.org

www.smartvoter.org

www.sos.ca.gov/elections

Order copies or download this guide in five languages.

Look up your personal ballot and polling place.

In-depth Voter Information Guide in different languages.



Propositions are proposed laws presented to the public to vote on. This guide has short descriptions of the two statewide propositions being decided by California voters in the June 3, 2014 election.

41

Bonds for Veterans' Housing and Homeless Prevention

The way it is now:

The state provides some of the 1.9 million veterans living in California with opportunities to buy single family homes with low-interest loans. The state also supports affordable housing for low-income Californians, but does not have a program that targets low-income veterans.

What Prop 41 would do if it passes:

Allow the state to sell \$600 million in state bonds to pay for additional kinds of housing for veterans who are low-income or homeless. The money would be used for affordable multi-family residences, such as apartment complexes, some of which would include supportive programs and services.

Effect on the state budget:

The state would pay back \$600 million in bonds, plus interest of about \$150 million, over 15 years.

YES**People for
Prop 41 say:**

This will help thousands of low-income and homeless veterans get a roof over their heads and the programs they need.

NO**People against
Prop 41 say:**

This kind of support for veterans should be paid for by the federal government, and the state should not take on additional bond spending.

What is a bond?

Governments sell bonds to investors to borrow money now and then pay the bonds off over time plus interest. Bonds are usually used for things that last a long time, like buildings or bridges.

42

Public Records. Open Meetings. State and Local Governments.

The way it is now:

A state law called the Public Records Act requires local governments to provide copies of documents to anyone who asks for them. The state has to pay local governments back for what it costs them to obey the Public Records Act. Another state law called the Brown Act requires local governments to make their public meetings open to anyone who wants to attend.

What Prop 42 would do if it passes:

The cost of obeying the Public Records Act would no longer be the responsibility of state government. Instead, it would shift to local governments. Also, the requirement for local governments to obey the Public Records Act and the Brown Act would be put into the California Constitution.

Effect on the state budget:

The state could save tens of millions of dollars a year by not having to pay all local governments for what it costs to follow the Public Records Act. That responsibility would shift to each local government. For an average local government, the annual cost might be in the thousands of dollars. The amount will depend on the size of the local government and how many requests it receives.

YES**People for
Prop 42 say:**

Local governments, not the state, should pay the costs of letting the public have access to their information.

NO**People against
Prop 42 say:**

The state should pay local governments for the costs of these laws since state lawmakers still have the power to change these laws in ways that could increase local government costs.

Voting is as easy as 1-2-3!

CALIFORNIA PRIMARY ELECTION
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2014

1

SIGN UP



- You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older.
- You must register to get on the official list of voters in your county. The deadline to register is May 19 to vote in the June 3 election.
- You can pick up a voter registration form at your library or post office, have a registration form mailed to you by calling 1-800-345-8683, or fill out the form online at www.registertovote.ca.gov.
- It is important to fill out the form completely. You will be asked to include your driver license number or other identification.
- Once you are on the list, you only need to reregister if you change your address, change your name, or want to change your political party.

2

GET READY



- Before you vote, it helps to learn about what you will be voting on.
- All registered voters receive two things in the mail:
 - 1) a **Sample Ballot** that lists everything that will be on your ballot along with where you vote (your “polling place”)
 - 2) an **Official Voter Information Guide** about statewide candidates and measures
- In addition to this *Easy Voter Guide*, you can visit the **Smart Voter website** at www.smartvoter.org for more information about everything on your ballot plus a handy way to find your polling place.

3

VOTE!



- You choose whether to vote at your polling place or use a “vote by mail” ballot.
- For voting in person, the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You may also be able to vote before election day at your county elections office. If you registered and your name is not on the list of voters at your assigned polling place, you can vote using a “provisional ballot.”
- To vote by mail, use the form in your Sample Ballot to request a “vote by mail” ballot to be sent to you. The deadline to ask for one is May 27. When your “vote by mail” ballot comes, fill it out and mail it back *in time for it to arrive by election day*. You may also drop it off at any polling place in your county on election day. You can sign up to get a “vote by mail” ballot for every election.

ABOUT THE EASY VOTER GUIDE

The *Easy Voter Guide* has been providing new voters and busy voters with nonpartisan information for statewide elections in California since 1994. Community reviewers help ensure the guide is easy to read and understand. The proposition explanations in this guide are based on information from the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. The arguments for and against each proposition are taken from the arguments in the Secretary of State's Official Voter Information Guide and other sources.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information presented in the *Easy Voter Guide*. Additional information made available after the guide is printed and any other corrections are posted at www.easyvoterguide.org. Please send questions or suggestions about this guide to easyvoter@lwvc.org.

The *Easy Voter Guide* is made possible in part by the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act, administered in California by the State Librarian.

The League of Women Voters® of California Education Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues. For more information, go to www.cavotes.org.