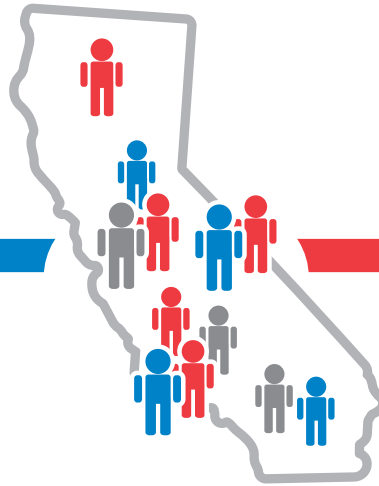


**YOUR
VOTE.**



**YOUR
VOICE.**

CALIFORNIA SPECIAL ELECTION



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025

**ARE YOU SIGNED
UP TO VOTE?**

October 20, 2025 Last day to register to vote in this election.
November 4, 2025 **ELECTION DAY** Your voting location is open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

GET READY:

- Register to vote by **October 20** at registertovote.ca.gov.
- Check your registration to make sure it's up to date. If your signature has changed over time, then re-register to update your signature at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.
- If you want to get voting materials in a language other than English, make that choice at voterstatus.sos.ca.gov.

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

Hướng dẫn này cũng có sẵn bằng tiếng Việt ■ 이 안내서는 한국어로도 제공됩니다

★ About this Special Election

This “special election” is to decide whether to temporarily change California’s Congressional voting districts through 2030 and then give map-drawing back to the Citizens Redistricting Commission in 2031. Voters will also decide on whether the state should encourage the use of independent commissions to draw voting maps across the U.S.A. You can find the new and old map at bit.ly/Prop50Maps.



Why Are We Having a Special Election?

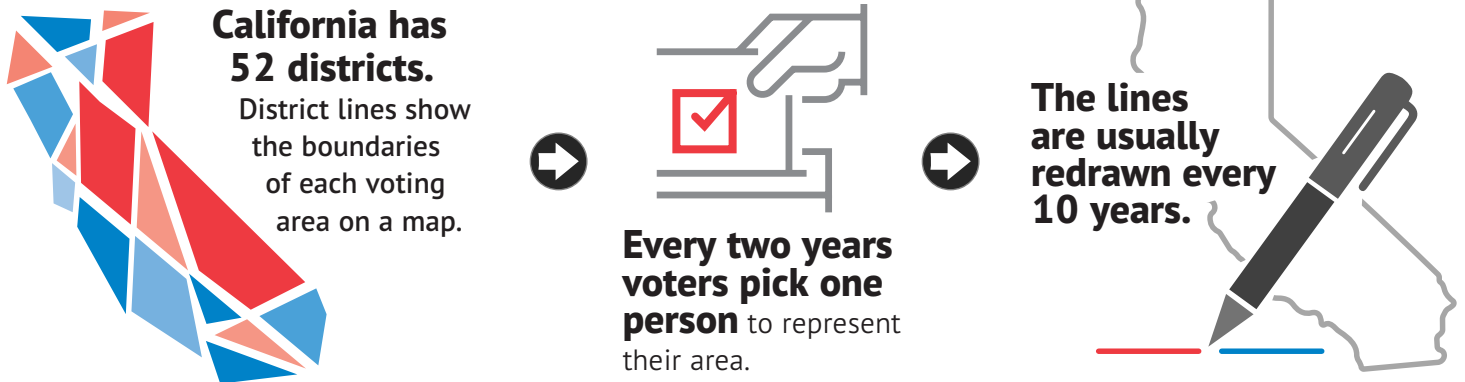
President Trump asked Texas to redraw congressional districts to help Republicans, so Governor Newsom asked the California Legislature to do the same for Democrats. In this special election, voters will decide if California can use these new maps for all congressional elections through 2030.

How You’re Represented in Congress (U.S. House of Representatives)

California has 52 members in the U.S. House of Representatives. They are each elected for a two year term. Each member represents the people from their district in Washington, D.C. They help develop the federal budget and U.S. policy priorities, and work with other U.S. Representatives to make new laws.

What Are Districts?

Congressional districts are parts of a state where people vote for someone to represent them in the U.S House of Representatives.



What is Redistricting and Gerrymandering?

Every 10 years, the “census” counts everyone in the U.S., and district lines are redrawn so each district has about the same number of people. This is called **redistricting**. It is rare to change the lines in the middle of the 10 year period and also rare to ask voters to approve the lines. **Political gerrymandering** is when district lines are drawn in a way that favors one political party over another, to give that political party a better chance of electing candidates they prefer.

What is the Citizens Redistricting Commission?

The independent Citizens Redistricting Commission is a group of California voters who are chosen to draw the maps for California’s congressional districts. The Commission must follow certain rules. It is not allowed to draw districts that favor a candidate or political party, and it must listen to and use public input from communities about which neighborhoods should be kept together.

★ State Proposition

Propositions are proposed laws presented to the public to vote on. Propositions can make new laws, change existing laws, and sometimes they change California's Constitution. They can be placed on the ballot by people who collect enough voter signatures or by state lawmakers (the California Legislature). A proposition passes and becomes law if it receives more than 50 percent YES votes.

- A YES vote means that you support the way the proposition would change things.
- A NO vote means that you want to leave things the way they are now.

50

Temporary Changes To Congressional District Maps

*Legislative
Constitutional Amendment*

The way it is now: California's congressional districts were drawn by the state's independent Citizens Redistricting Commission in 2021 and are expected to stay in place until 2031. When it drew the district lines, the Commission had to follow certain rules. For example, it was not allowed to draw districts that favor a candidate or political party, and it had to use information from people who live in an area about which neighborhoods should be kept together in the same voting district.

What Prop 50 would do if it passes:

Prop 50 would change the California Constitution to replace maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission with new maps drawn by the California State Legislature. The new maps would be used in any congressional election through 2030, including those in 2026, 2028, and 2030. After the 2030 census, the Commission would return to drawing district lines using the rules set out by law. You can find the new and old map at bit.ly/Prop50Maps.

Fiscal Impact: Changing the maps would cost counties up to a few million dollars to update election materials. It would cost the state about \$200,000. For the state, that's less than one-tenth of one percent of its \$220 billion budget, which pays for services like schools, health care, and prisons.

YES People for Prop 50 say:

- Prop 50 is a short-term, temporary emergency plan needed to stop President Trump's attempt to unfairly rig next year's congressional election.
- Prop 50 gives voters the ability to approve the district lines in this election.
- Prop 50 creates fair maps that reflect California's diverse communities and protect our voices from partisan gerrymandering.
- Prop 50 keeps California a leader in fair elections by preserving its independent redistricting system.
- Prop 50 strengthens democracy by making sure that Republicans don't have an unfair advantage in Congress.

NO People against Prop 50 say:

- Prop 50 is a power grab by politicians that undoes fair election reforms and returns California to gerrymandered districts that benefit politicians over voters.
- Prop 50 replaces an open public process with secretive political backroom deals.
- Prop 50 hurts fair representation by dividing neighborhoods and weakening minority voices in elections.
- Prop 50 lets politicians control district lines for years and could open the door to permanent, not temporary, control.
- Prop 50 costs taxpayers \$200 million when the state is cutting funding to important programs because of budget problems.



**TRACK MY
BALLOT**

After returning your ballot, check WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov to find out where your ballot is in the process and when it has been accepted.



Visit VOTE411.org to see what will be on your ballot.
It's easy. Just enter your address.

VOTE 411

1

SIGN UP

- You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older, not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony, and not currently found “mentally incompetent” to vote by a court.
- You must register to get on the official list of voters. The deadline to register is October 20.
- 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 registertovote.ca.gov.
- Missed the deadline? You can still register and vote in this election at any Voting Location. If you go to your assigned location, then your ballot will be sure to include all the contests on which you’re allowed to vote. Check findmypollingplace.sos.ca.gov.
- Once you are on the list, you only need to re-register if you change your address, change your name, want to change your political party, need to update your signature, or because you are no longer in prison or on parole for a felony.

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GET READY

- Along with this Easy Voter Guide, you can visit VOTE411.org for more information about everything on your ballot.
- In addition to a ballot, all registered voters will receive a *Voter Information Guide* from the state. It is also available online at voterguide.sos.ca.gov.
- You may have other contests on your ballot. If so, you will receive a *County Voter Information Guide*.
- Find your County Elections Office online at sos.ca.gov/county-elections-offices.

VOTE 411

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VOTE!

- **If you are already registered to vote, you will receive a ballot in the mail.** If you wish to use the mailed ballot instead of voting in person, fill it out, sign and date the envelope carefully, and mail it back *early so that it is postmarked no later than Election Day*. You may also drop it off at any secure drop box starting on October 7 or at any voting location in your county on **Election Day**. If you decide to hand in your ballot instead of mailing it, you must drop it off no later than 8PM on **Election Day, November 4**.
- You choose whether to vote in person at your Voting Location or use a “vote by mail” ballot.
- For voting in person on Tuesday, November 4, the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You may also be able to vote before Election Day. Check caearlyvoting.sos.ca.gov.
- For information on voting locations, dates, and hours check findmypollingplace.sos.ca.gov.



VOTING TIPS

- If you choose to vote in person, it may help to bring the ballot that was mailed to you.
- If you don’t bring your mailed ballot, some counties will require you to vote using a provisional ballot that will be counted once elections officials are able to determine that you are eligible to vote.
- At in person Voting Locations you can:
 - Vote in person.
 - Drop off your completed ballot.
 - Vote with an accessible voting machine.
 - Get help and voting materials in multiple languages.



MADE A MISTAKE? YOU CAN GET A REPLACEMENT BALLOT.

To get a new ballot contact your **County Elections Office** before Election Day or go to your Voting Location when it opens and ask for a replacement.