

**YOUTH VOTER
GUIDE TO**

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITIONS

BY

A NEW DEAL FOR YOUTH



WHO WE ARE

We're A New Deal for Youth (ND4Y), a movement led by young people, for young people, pushing for new systems, policies, and investments that reimagine what life can look like for young people in America - including those disenfranchised and marginalized.

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HOW WE CREATED THIS GUIDE:

This guide was put together by young people just like you! Our scorecard checks how each California proposition on the ballot supports youth (particularly those from marginalized communities) and the issues that matter most to us: economic justice and opportunity, health and well-being, justice and safe communities, democratic and civic engagement, environmental justice, and immigration justice.

We turned those scores into a simple YES or NO and a confidence percentage to show how sure we are so you can decide how to vote.

2

HOW YOU CAN USE THIS GUIDE!

Use this guide to help fill out your ballot. Whether you're voting for the first time or just want to know what other young people think, we've got you.

This guide breaks down each proposition and gives you our take on whether it's a good idea based on how it impacts youth and aligns with our values.



WE THE FUTURE



A New Deal for Youth’s Policy Platform advances radical and interconnected policy ideas around six pillar issues:

ECONOMIC JUSTICE & OPPORTUNITY

Imagine an economy built to lift up young people, where everyone has equal opportunities without structural barriers.

HEALING & WELL-BEING

We’re pushing for awareness, responsiveness, support, and access to care that goes beyond just western medicine.

JUSTICE & SAFE COMMUNITIES

It’s time to rethink what safety and justice mean with the abolition of unfair, oppressive systems at the center.

DEMOCRACY & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

Young people have the power to lead change! We want to make sure youth voices are front and center year-round in our local, state, and national communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

We know that marginalized communities are hit hardest by pollution and climate change. We’re advocating for community-oriented solutions and supporting the return of land to Indigenous Peoples.

IMMIGRATION JUSTICE:

Migration for new opportunities has been happening for thousands of years and only became unsafe when systems were created that stigmatized and oppressed it. It’s time to dismantle oppressive systems and make sure we have access to basic human rights for immigrants and all people.

AND NOW, THE PROPOSITIONS

WAIT...WHAT'S A PROPOSITION?

A proposition is basically a law or change in government that voters get to decide on. Every election, these props (short for propositions) show up on the ballot, covering different issues like housing, schools, health care, and more. By voting YES or NO, we're choosing which ideas get the green light to become real policies in our communities.

1

VOTE YES ON PROP 2:
Authorizes Bonds for Public School and Community College Facilities

Percent Confidence: 80%

This \$10 billion bond would fund repairs and upgrades to public schools and community colleges, especially those serving low-income, foster youth, and English learners. It also makes grants easier to get and introduces transitional kindergarten to help families avoid costly childcare.

2

VOTE YES ON PROP 3:
Constitutional Right to Marriage

Percent Confidence: 82%

This amendment makes same-sex marriage a permanent right in California by repealing Prop 8—which said marriage should only be between a man and a woman. It's a huge win for young people who want to marry whoever they love in the future.

3

VOTE YES ON PROP 4:
Authorizes Bonds for Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, and Protecting Communities and Natural Lands from Climate Risks

Percent Confidence: 75%

This bond helps fund water projects, wildfire protection, and preserving parks and forests, benefiting future generations. It focuses on environmental justice and includes funding for Native American tribes.

4

VOTE YES ON PROP 5:
Allows Local Bonds for Affordable Housing and Public Infrastructure with 55% Voter Approval

Percent Confidence: 55%

This would make it easier for local governments to raise money for affordable housing projects by lowering the approval needed to 55%. It could mean more homes for people who need them and be a helpful step in solving California's housing crisis.

5

VOTE YES ON PROP 6:
Eliminates Constitutional Provision
Allowing Involuntary Servitude for
Incarcerated Persons

Percent Confidence: 77%

This would end low-wage, involuntary labor for people in prison. It's a big step for justice, especially for young people with incarcerated family members. States like New York are already doing this, and it's time for California to catch up.

6

VOTE YES ON PROP 32:
Raises Minimum Wage

Percent Confidence: 44%

This would raise California's minimum wage to \$18 an hour, helping young people and workers afford basic needs. Earning a living wage in entry-level jobs is a big win for young people, but there are concerns about its impact on small businesses.

7

VOTE YES ON PROP 33:
Expands Local Governments' Authority to
Enact Rent Control on Residential Property

Percent Confidence: 64%

"I love paying too much for rent!"—said literally no one ever. This gives local governments more power to set rent control rules. It could make renting more affordable and even open paths to homeownership for young people.

8

VOTE NO ON PROP 34:
Restricts Spending of Prescription Drug
Revenues by Certain Health
Care Providers

Prop 34 claims to regulate Medi-Cal prescription drug spending, but it really focuses on limiting spending for nonprofits that support affordable housing. The state already negotiates Medi-Cal drug prices, so this prop isn't necessary.

9

VOTE YES ON PROP 35:
Provides Permanent Funding for Medi-
Cal Health Care Services

Percent Confidence: 74%

This initiative would secure permanent funding for Medi-Cal healthcare services in California without raising taxes. That means better, more reliable healthcare for young people and their families, using money from existing taxes. A solid win for healthcare!

10

VOTE NO ON PROP 36:
Allows Felony Charges and Increases
Sentences for Certain Drug and Theft Crimes

Percent Confidence: 66%

This initiative would put more people in jail for certain drug and theft crimes. It feels like a step back to the "War on Drugs" era, which caused more harm than good. It ignores the voices of people affected by poverty and the justice system and makes it easier to get a felony charge, which means harsher punishments.

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