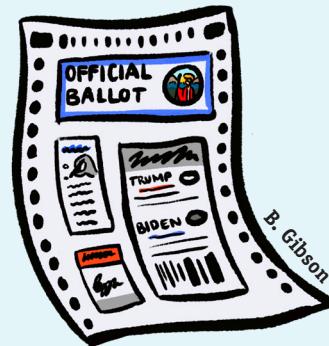


# 2020 Election Updates

## Presidential Election & California Proposition Projected Results



### How do Propositions Work?

Propositions can make their way on the ballot for election years in two ways. In 1911, voters passed a constitutional amendment allowing citizen-initiated measures. For prospective propositions relating to initiated constitutional amendments to get on the ballot, California requires a number of signatures equivalent to eight percent of votes cast for the governor in the previous election. For propositions regarding initiated state statute and veto referendum, California requires a number equal to five percent of votes cast for the governor. The state legislature also has the authority to place constitutional amendments, bond measures, and proposed changes to the law on the ballot.

(Sources: California Secretary of State, Ballotpedia)

- Jenna Roselli, Center Editor

**14**  
Proposition 14 authorizes the state to sell 5.5 billion dollars in general obligation bonds to fund stem cell and other medical research, while also dedicating 1.5 billion dollars to research and therapy for Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, strokes, and epilepsy. Researchers are particularly fascinated with stem cells because they have potentially regenerative traits, which could help address diseases including HIV/AIDS. The estimated total cost to pay off the bonds is 7.8 billion dollars — the original 5.5 billion dollars with an interest of 2.3 billion dollars. This money would come from the state's current General Fund and the cost would average around 260 million dollars a year for about 30 years. The proposition currently leads at 84 percent of ballots counted.

(Sources: California Secretary of State, Ballotpedia)

- Jenna Roselli, Center Editor

**15**  
Proposition 15 is a constitutional amendment that would require certain commercial and industrial properties to pay property taxes based on their current market value, rather than the price the property was purchased for. Small business owners who hold less than \$3 million in CA property would be exempt from this amendment, and nearly half the additional revenue would be directed towards education. Proposition 15 would invalidate part of Proposition 13, which passed in 1978 and is held sacrosanct by many CA voters. As of Nov. 12, multiple news outlets are reporting that voters have officially rejected Prop. 15 with 51.8 percent of Californians voting no and 48.2 percent voting yes.

(Sources: NY Times, Ballotpedia)

- Cooper Bowen, Editor-in-Chief

**16**  
Proposition 16 would have overturned California's ban on affirmative action and thereby allowed public universities and government institutions to consider race, sex, and ethnicity during decision-making processes. Advocates of the proposition argued affirmative action levels the playing field for historically disadvantaged minorities, while opponents said that allowing these decisions to be made with consideration of race, sex, and ethnicity is discriminatory in its own right. The proposition failed to pass this election; therefore, public universities still cannot use race, sex, and ethnicity as factors in the admissions process.

(Sources: Politico, LA Times)

- Maddie Dewhirst, National/World Editor

**17**  
California's Proposition 17 restores a person's right to vote upon completion of their prison term, and it is currently passing with 84 percent of the ballots recorded. Governor Newsom along with the Californians for Safety and Justice organization supported the proposition. Supporters argued civic engagement helps remove the stigma of their past and it leads to fewer parolees committing other crimes. Those who were against Prop. 17 argued that parole is an opportunity for violent offenders to show that they've completed rehabilitation, and so people should only be able to vote after they have rehabilitated into society.

(Sources: California Secretary of State, Ballotpedia, Calmatters)

- Jenna Roselli, Center Editor

**18**  
Proposition 18 would have allowed 17-year-olds who turn 18 by the time of the general election to register and vote in the March primaries. The National Conference of State Legislatures placed this constitutional amendment on the ballot, reporting that at least 18 other states have similar laws in place. Supporters of the measure argued that new voters may become more politically active and make more educated political decisions if they are allowed to participate in a full election cycle. However, California voters rejected this proposition, so 18-year-old Californians whose birthdays fall after the March primaries will not get a say in who makes it on the ballot next election year.

(Source: LA Times)

- Sonali Muthukrishnan, National/World Editor

**20**  
Voters rejected Proposition 20, which would have called for an increase in penalties for some property crimes and made parole for inmates more difficult to obtain. This proposition would have changed certain crimes currently charged as misdemeanors to felonies. It would also have required a number of people charged with misdemeanors before 2014 to submit DNA samples to state and federal databases. Law enforcement agencies that were in favor of this proposition believe that California needs to be stricter when it comes to criminal sentencing. Opponents, including former governor Jerry Brown and the American Civil Liberties Union, argue that since crime has significantly decreased in California, there is no need for harsher criminal sentencing.

(Sources: LA Times, CalMatters)

- Michaela Thimot, National/World Editor

**21**  
Proposition 21 did not pass; however it would have allowed counties to regulate rent on real estate properties 15 years old or older and limit how much a landlord can raise rent when changing to a new renter. This proposition would not have applied to single family homes with a landlord owning two properties or less. Those in support hoped it would have protected renters from eviction in case of rent spikes and decreased gentrification. Those against proposition 21 claim it would have decreased county government revenue and encouraged housing shortages.

(Sources: CalMatters, LAO, KQED)

- Alexandra Evans, News Editor

**22**  
Voters passed Proposition 22, allowing app-based drivers working for companies such as Uber and Lyft the ability to work as their own personal contractor instead of an employee under the brand. With benefits like a salary of at least 120 percent of minimum wage (only while driving customers), this may be ideal for some drivers, but the coverage of sexual harassment claims would no longer involve the company, and would instead become an issue solely between the driver and the passenger. As voters pass Prop. 22, the drivers will also receive no medical benefits or unemployment insurance, since the company can now view them as independent contractors and no longer as an employee.

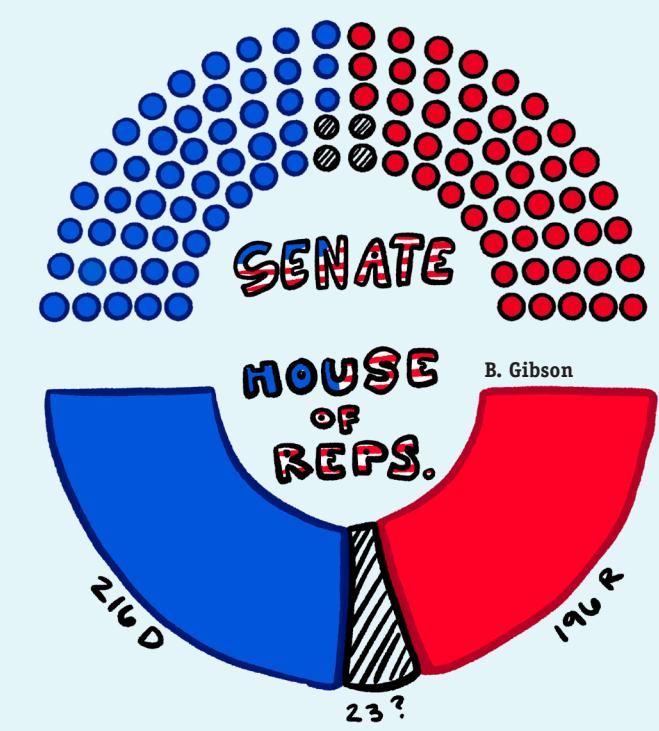
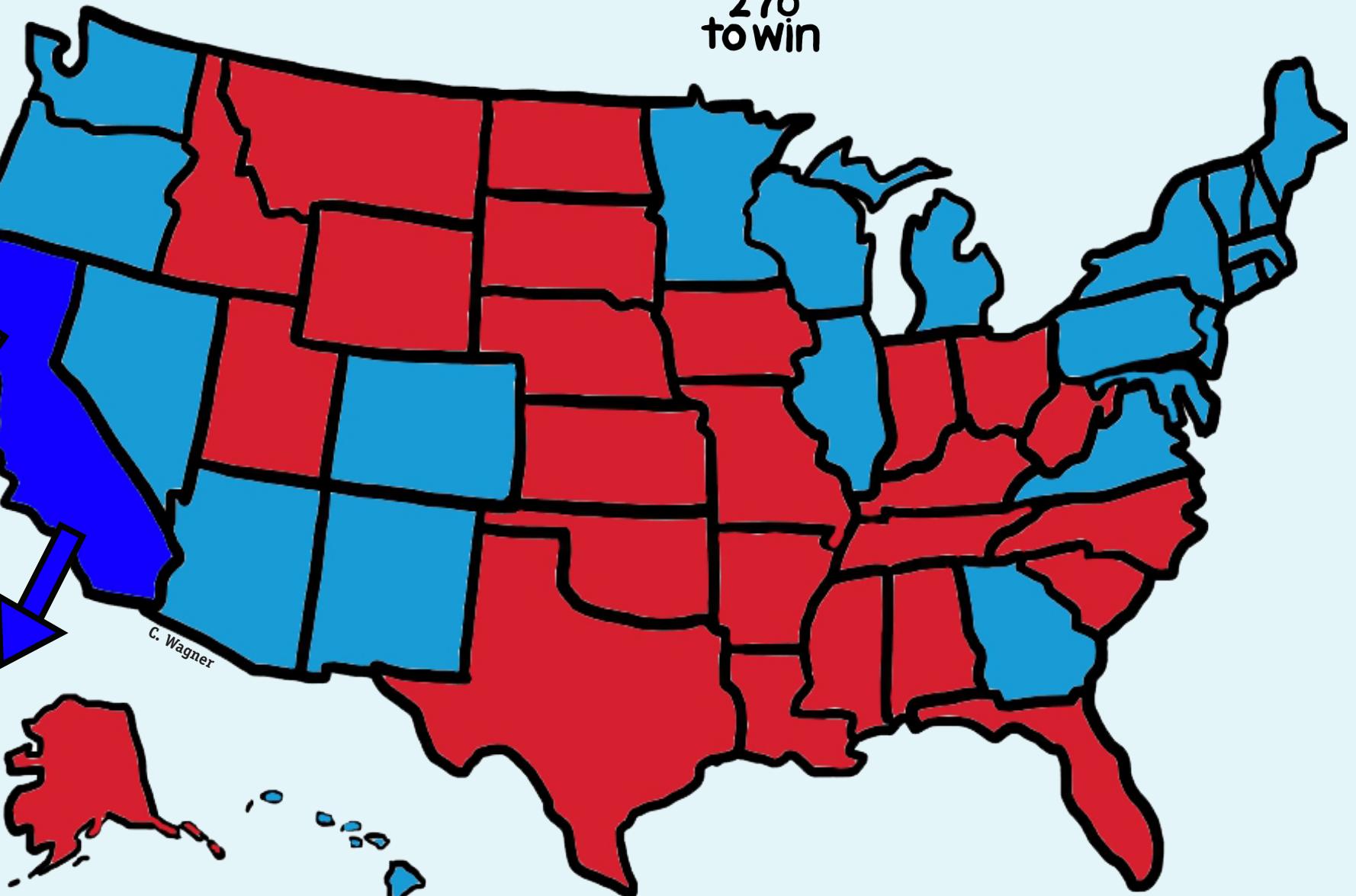
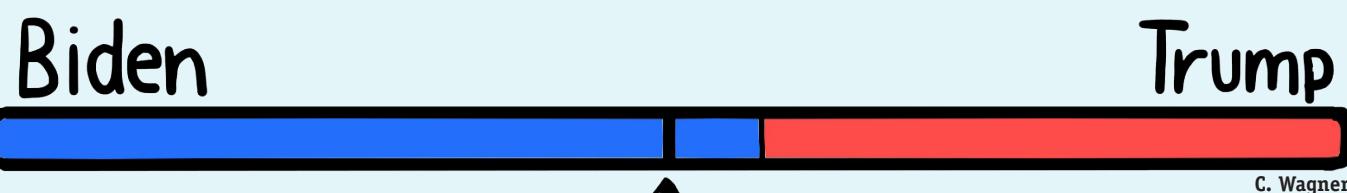
(Source: KQED)

- Georgia Kaufman, Humor Editor

**23**  
Proposition 23 did not pass. It would have required all dialysis clinics in California to have a doctor on site any time a patient would have received dialysis treatment. Since fifty-seven percent of dialysis patients are African American or Latino, minority health groups advocated for this measure due to the disproportionate effect on communities of color. Opponents believed that the proposition was unnecessary, and adding additional physicians would increase the costs for clinics and provide higher time constraints for doctors.

(Source: KQED)

- Raphael Pelayo, Media Production Editor



**25**  
California voters rejected Proposition 25. This measure would have replaced the current cash bail system with a new system based on public safety and flight risk. The new proposition would have allowed judges to assess the risk of a defendant based on the seriousness of the crime, the defendant's prior criminal record, and the likelihood of the defendant appearing in court. Prop. 25 would have increased federal and state costs, while decreasing county and jail costs. However, some argue that the new system would give judges unlimited discretion to make racially biased assessments.

(Sources: LA Times, Ballotpedia)

- Caroline Wagner, Graphics Designer