

**PROPOSITION  
50 AUTHORIZES TEMPORARY CHANGES TO CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
MAPS IN RESPONSE TO TEXAS' PARTISAN REDISTRICTING.  
LEGISLATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**

**OFFICIAL TITLE AND SUMMARY**

PREPARED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

The text of this measure can be found on page 18 and the Secretary of State's website at [voterguide.sos.ca.gov](http://voterguide.sos.ca.gov).

- In response to Texas' mid-decade partisan congressional redistricting, this measure temporarily requires new congressional district maps, as passed by the Legislature in August 2025, to be used in California's congressional elections through 2030.
- Retains California's independent Citizens Redistricting Commission and directs the Commission to resume enacting congressional district maps in 2031 after the 2030 census and every ten years thereafter.

- Establishes state policy supporting use of fair, independent, and nonpartisan redistricting commissions nationwide.

**SUMMARY OF LEGISLATIVE ANALYST'S ESTIMATE OF NET STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL IMPACT:**

- One-time costs to counties of up to a few million dollars statewide. County costs would be to update election materials to reflect new congressional district maps.

**FINAL VOTES CAST BY THE LEGISLATURE ON ACA 8 (PROPOSITION 50)  
(RESOLUTION CHAPTER 156, STATUTES OF 2025)**

Senate:	Ayes 30	Noes 8
Assembly:	Ayes 57	Noes 20

**ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

## BACKGROUND

### U.S. CONGRESS

**U.S. Congress.** The U.S. Congress is the part of the federal government that makes laws. Congress has two parts: the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives (House). Each of the 50 states is represented by 2 senators, with 100 senators in total. The House has 435 members. The number of representatives in the House for each state depends on how many people live in that state. Each member in the House represents an area of the state called a congressional district. California currently has 52 congressional districts. Voters who live in each congressional district elect one member of the House every two years to represent them. The next election for all 435 representatives will be in 2026.

**U.S. Census Counts States' Populations Every Ten Years.** The number of people living in an area goes up and down over time. Every ten years, the U.S. Census counts the number of people who live in the U.S. The last census was in 2020, and the next census is in 2030. This count is used to determine how many people live in each state and how many

representatives in the House each state gets for the next ten years.

### CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

**Each State Draws Congressional District Maps**

**Following the U.S. Census.** Every ten years, after the U.S. Census is completed, states draw new congressional district maps to reflect their number of House representatives and where people live. This process is called "redistricting." Each state decides what process to use to draw its new district maps. When drawing new maps, each state must follow federal laws. For example, each congressional district in the state must represent about the same number of people.

**States Typically Do Not Redistrict Sooner Than Every Ten Years.** States typically only draw

congressional district maps every ten years, unless a court orders changes to comply with the law. In August 2025, however, the Texas Legislature passed a bill to adopt new maps for the 2026 elections without a court order. Several other states also are considering changes to their maps before the 2026 elections.

## ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

**Congressional Redistricting in California.** State legislatures draw congressional district maps in most states, but some states use commissions to do this job. Before 2010, the California Legislature drew the state's congressional district maps. In 2010, California voters gave this job to an independent commission known as the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (Commission). The Commission includes 14 members:

5 Democratic members, 5 Republican members, and 4 members who are not registered with either of those political parties. When the Commission draws new congressional district maps, it must follow federal and state laws. For example, state law requires, among other things, the Commission to avoid splitting up neighborhoods or local communities of interest to the extent possible. State law also prohibits the Commission from considering political parties, current office holders, or people running for office when it draws the maps.

**Current California Congressional Districts.** The Commission drew the current maps for California's 52 congressional districts. These maps were based on the 2020 U.S. Census and have been used since the 2022 congressional elections.

## PROPOSAL

### CALIFORNIA'S CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAPS

**Use Legislatively Drawn Congressional District Maps Until After the Next Census.** Proposition 50 replaces California's current congressional district maps with new, legislatively drawn maps. (The total number of districts would not change.) Proposition 50's maps must follow federal law, but they are not required to follow the state requirements placed on the Commission. The state would use Proposition 50's maps for congressional elections starting in 2026. The state would use these maps until the Commission draws new district maps, following the 2030 U.S. Census.

### NATIONAL CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

**Call for Change in Federal Law.** Proposition 50 asks the U.S. Congress to change federal law and propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to

require redistricting be done by "fair, independent, and nonpartisan redistricting commissions nationwide." Proposition 50 expresses voter support for this idea, but does not change federal law or require any particular action of Congress or the California Legislature.

## FISCAL EFFECTS

### *Minor One-Time Costs to County and State Elections Officials.*

Counties run elections, and the state oversees them. Because most congressional districts in California would change at least some under the new maps, county and state elections officials would need to update election materials. This would result in one-time costs to counties of **up to a few million dollars** statewide and one-time costs to the state of **roughly \$200,000**. The state amount is much less than one-tenth of 1 percent (0.1 percent) of the state's roughly \$220 billion General Fund budget. (The General Fund is the account the state uses to pay for most public services, including education, health care, and prisons.)

## CURRENT AND PROPOSED CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAPS

This section shows maps of the current and proposed congressional districts (1) statewide, as shown in Figures 1 and 2; (2) in the northern part of the state, as shown in Figures 3 and 4; and (3) in the southern part of the state, as shown in Figures 5 and 6. A description of the census blocks represented by each district in the proposed maps can be found at the following website: [https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=202520260AB604](https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260AB604)

Visit [sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2025-ballot-measure-contribution-totals](https://sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/cal-access-resources/measure-contributions/2025-ballot-measure-contribution-totals) for a list of committees primarily formed to support or oppose this measure.

Visit [fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html](https://fppc.ca.gov/transparency/top-contributors.html) to access the committee's top 10 contributors.

## ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

Figure 1

## Current Congressional Districts



**ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

CONTINUED

Figure 2

**Proposed Congressional Districts**



Note: See northern and southern congressional district maps for district numbers for the Bay Area and Los Angeles regions. Map reflects data posted to the California Legislature elections committees' (Assembly Elections Committee and Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee) websites.

## ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

Figure 3

## Current Northern Congressional Districts



Note: Map reflects data posted to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission website.

**ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

CONTINUED

Figure 4

**Proposed Northern Congressional Districts**



Note: Map reflects data posted to the California Legislature elections committees' (Assembly Elections Committee and Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee) websites.

ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST

CONTINUED

Figure 5

**Current Southern Congressional Districts**



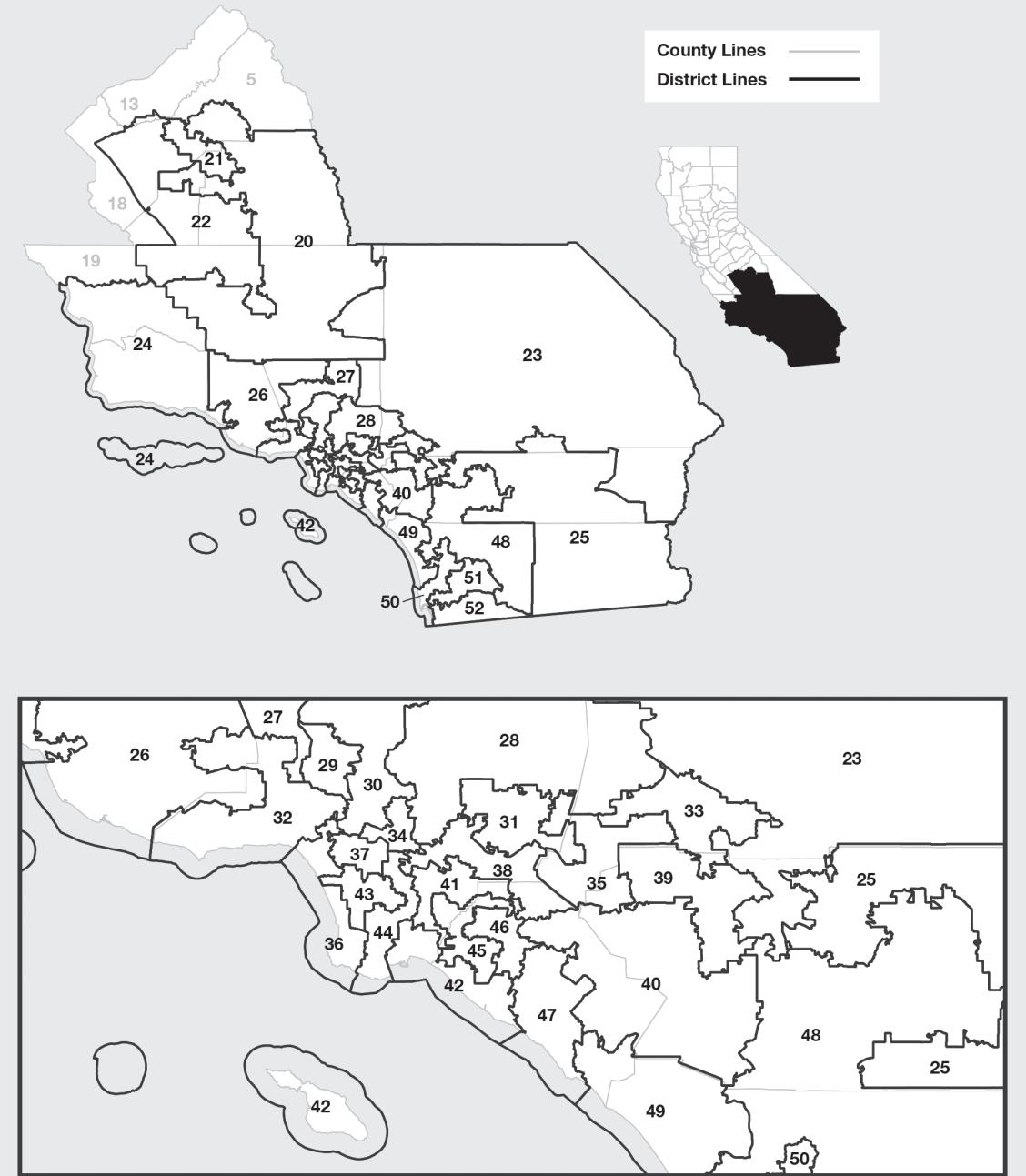
Note: Map reflects data posted to the California Citizens Redistricting Commission website.

**ANALYSIS BY THE LEGISLATIVE ANALYST**

CONTINUED

Figure 6

**Proposed Southern Congressional Districts**



Note: Map reflects data posted to the California Legislature elections committees' (Assembly Elections Committee and Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee) websites.

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★ ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 50 ★

*STOP TRUMP FROM RIGGING THE 2026 ELECTION*

Donald Trump and Texas Republicans are making an unprecedented power grab to steal congressional seats and rig the 2026 election before voting even begins.

Other Republican states are following suit. They want to steal enough seats to control Congress even if voters overwhelmingly reject their agenda.

This isn't politics as usual. It's an emergency for our democracy.

*ENSURE FAIR REPRESENTATION IN CONGRESS*

We have already seen how Trump has recklessly imposed tariffs and hurt California families, denied disaster assistance to fire victims, and ordered mass arrests without warrants. The 2026 election for Congress represents our only chance to provide an essential check and balance on Trump's dangerous agenda.

If Californians don't act now, Donald Trump will seize total power for two more years. Proposition 50, the Election Rigging Response Act, will put a stop to their anti-democratic scheme. Here's what it does.

- **LEVELS THE PLAYING FIELD.** Prop. 50 makes sure the 2026 mid-term elections are conducted on a level playing field without an unfair advantage for Republicans.
- **COMMITS TO FAIR REDISTRICTING.** Prop. 50 reaffirms California's commitment to independent redistricting and calls for a nationwide commitment to fair and impartial maps.
- **GIVES VOTERS THE POWER.** Prop. 50 puts the power in the hands of the People of California, not backroom politicians, to approve emergency congressional district maps in response to Trump's election rigging scheme.
- **IS FAIR AND PROPORTIONAL.** Prop. 50 provides emergency maps only because Republicans moved forward with their power grab.
- **IS TEMPORARY.** These maps expire in 2030. Prop. 50 preserves California's award-winning redistricting reforms and

reaffirms the California Citizens Redistricting Commission's authority to draw congressional districts after the next census. The stakes couldn't be higher. If Republicans rig the election and steal control of Congress next year, they'll continue to eliminate healthcare for millions of Americans, slash funding for schools, and cut essential services for veterans to pay for tax breaks for billionaires and big corporations.

*PROTECT DEMOCRACY IN ALL 50 STATES*

California has a duty to defend democracy. To do that, we can't unilaterally disarm or fight with both hands tied behind our backs. When Trump tries to rig elections, we must fight back with every tool available.

Prop. 50 draws fair maps that represent California's diverse communities and ensure our voices aren't silenced by partisan gerrymandering in other states.

California leads the nation in protecting voting rights and fair elections. When other states try to silence our voices and rig the system, we must respond decisively.

Join President Barack Obama, Governor Gavin Newsom, Senator Alex Padilla, Senator Adam Schiff, Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, election experts, independent redistricting commissioners, Planned Parenthood, the NAACP, California veterans, teachers, and nurses.

Vote YES on Prop. 50 to stop Trump's election rigging scheme.

Vote YES for checks and balances.

Vote YES to protect democracy in all 50 states.

**Governor Gavin Newsom**

**U.S. Senator Alex Padilla**

**U.S. Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi**

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION 50 ★

**THE WRONG PATH—NO ON PROP. 50**

We know American democracy is on fire, but accelerating gerrymandering only adds fuel! Politicians are seizing this crisis to justify a power grab.

**PROP. 50 DOES NOT DEFEND OUR DEMOCRACY**

Prop. 50 is not a magic pill to cure the nation's ills. It claims to protect democracy, yet diminishes our communities' voices and is ineffective against any overreach of presidential power. Vote NO.

California gerrymandering allowed the Legislature to draw partisan seats without transparency or citizen input, solely to protect incumbents. By 2001, the government was gridlocked, with legislators held hostage to the extremes of their parties.

Voters rose up and handed line-drawing over to citizens, resulting in:

- **Competitive Districts:** Previously safe seats now must be earned.
- **Better Representation:** Women in the Legislature doubled, Asian representation tripled, Black representation nearly doubled, and Latino seats grew by 8%.

- **Government for the People:** With more moderate representatives, the Legislature passed bipartisan legislation, working for the interests of all Californians.

**WE THE PEOPLE**

Districts do not belong to either party; they belong to the People. But, party bosses want to call the shots—again. NO to a "pay-to-play" system.

Prop. 50 says this is "temporary," yet the Legislature will bypass the independent Citizens Redistricting Commission again in 2028, 2030—and perhaps beyond. Don't be fooled.

Legislators drew this map behind closed doors for you to rubber-stamp. It is not your choice.

*Vote NO on partisan gerrymandering. Vote NO on Prop. 50.*

**Cynthia Dai**, Rotating Chair  
First Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Jeanne Raya**, Rotating Chair  
First Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Jodie Filkins Webber**, Rotating Chair  
First Citizens Redistricting Commission

★ ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 50 ★

50

**PROPOSITION 50: A POWER GRAB BY POLITICIANS**

Prop. 50 was written by politicians, for politicians. Prop. 50 dismantles constitutional safeguards that keep election maps fair. It removes requirements to keep cities, counties, and local communities together, and eliminates voter protections that ban maps designed to favor incumbents or political parties—putting politicians back in charge of drawing their own districts, or those of their friends.

A “NO” vote protects fair elections and keeps the people of California—not politicians—in charge of redistricting.

**NO ON PROP. 50: IT REPEALS LANDMARK VOTER-APPROVED ELECTION REFORMS**

For decades, Sacramento politicians drew their own district boundaries behind closed doors with no public oversight—guaranteeing their reelection, denying voters a real choice, and shutting out many women and people of color from elected office.

In 2008, California voters approved historic election reform—creating the independent California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Voters decided district lines should be drawn by a balanced panel of everyday citizens—not by politicians who stood to benefit.

Prop. 50 throws out citizen-drawn congressional maps created through a transparent public process with input from over 35,000 Californians. Instead, politicians secretly drew maps—leaving voters with NO real say.

**NO ON PROP. 50: ANOTHER SCHEME TO PERMANENTLY END INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING**

In 2008 and 2010, the Democratic Party and special interests spent millions of dollars to stop citizen redistricting. Later, the California Republican Party even sued to overturn citizen-drawn maps—and lost. Now, Sacramento politicians are scheming to regain control with Prop. 50.

Make no mistake: Prop. 50 is not temporary. For over half a decade, politicians get to impose their gerrymandered maps. Worse, it sets a dangerous precedent—opening the door for

Sacramento to keep drawing election maps beyond 2031—giving politicians permanent power to shield themselves and their allies from accountability for California’s high cost of living, skyrocketing housing costs, and rising energy bills.

**NO ON PROP. 50: DON'T BE MISLED BY POLITICAL SPIN**

The same politicians who opposed independent redistricting from the start now claim Prop. 50 will “save democracy.” In truth, Prop. 50 weakens fair representation by shutting the public out and bringing gerrymandering back to California.

Prop. 50 is not democratic; it gives voters a take-it-or-leave-it decision on the most partisan maps in California’s history—a product of politicians’ secretive backroom deals with ZERO meaningful public engagement.

Prop. 50 divides communities to benefit politicians, splitting counties 114 times and cities 141 times—far more than the citizen-drawn maps.

*“When politicians gerrymander, they divide our neighborhoods and weaken the voice of communities of color. Whatever happens in Texas, we cannot save democracy by destroying it in California. Vote NO on Prop. 50.”—Reverend Mac Shorty, Civil Rights Leader*

**NO ON PROP. 50: A MASSIVE WASTE OF TAXPAYER MONEY**

The Legislature has called a special election just to pass this politician-protecting constitutional change—costing taxpayers \$200,000,000.

With a massive budget deficit, Sacramento politicians are making painful cuts to health care, housing, education, and public safety. Instead of protecting important programs, they’re spending it on a political power grab.

Vote NO on Prop. 50.

*VotersFIRSTAct.org*

**Roberto Moncada**, Board Member  
United Latinos Action

**Faith Bautista Tamashiro**, President  
National Diversity Coalition

**Taylor Shorty**, Board Member  
Community RePower Movement

★ REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION 50 ★

**WARNING: NO ON 50 IS BACKED BY TRUMP EXTREMISTS**

Who's spending millions against Prop. 50?

An anti-choice mega-millionaire named Charles Munger Jr. who wants to help Donald Trump and Red State Republicans rig the 2026 elections and hand Trump unchecked power for two more years.

Independent redistricting commissioners, election experts, and leading civil rights organizations—from the NAACP to the National Democratic Redistricting Committee—urge you to reject the lies spread by NO on 50's phony front groups.

*Lie #1: “Prop. 50 repeals landmark voter-approved election reforms.”* This is plainly false. Prop. 50 calls on all states to end partisan gerrymandering and reaffirms the power of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission to draw the lines after the next census.

*Lie #2: “Prop. 50 removes requirements to keep cities, counties, and local communities together.”* Prop. 50 does the opposite, keeping MORE cities and counties combined, and communities together than California’s existing maps.

*Lie #3: “Prop. 50 puts politicians back in charge of drawing their own districts.”* Untrue. Prop. 50 puts power to approve emergency maps in the hands of voters, not politicians.

*Lie #4: “Prop. 50 permanently ends independent redistricting.”* Also untrue. Prop. 50 is a temporary and proportional response to Trump’s election-rigging scheme and expires in 2030.

Californians cannot allow Donald Trump and Texas Republicans to rig the 2026 election and silence our voices.

Vote YES on Prop. 50.

Protect democracy, preserve nonpartisan redistricting and ensure a fair election in all 50 states.

**Sara Sadhwani**, Commissioner  
2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission

**Jodi Hicks**, President  
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California

**Nikki Davis Milevsky**, President  
Sacramento City Teachers Association