

## **Analysis: The battleground between California Republicans and Democrats in this election year**

Talon Marks: Cerritos College

November 3, 2020 Tuesday

University Wire

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**Section:** NEWS; Pg. 1

**Length:** 568 words

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### **Body**

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The 2020 Presidential Election is today. The Republican and Democratic parties are trying to sway last-minute voters in Southern California by spreading their message about where they stand on **props** and candidates.

Here are the parties stances on some of these issues:

#### **Prop** 15

The Democratic party says to vote yes on Proposition 15. It will increase funding for public schools, community colleges, and local governments by taxing industrial property to the current market value. Residential and agricultural properties are exempt from the change.

Republicans claim that **Prop** 15 is an \$11.5 billion tax increase and would result in higher rents for small businesses.

California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Julian Canete says **Prop** 15 is the state's largest tax increase in history.

"(**Prop** 15) will devastate minority-owned small businesses and hurt thousands of workers who rely on these jobs to feed their families."

Nurse Jennifer Esteen says **Prop** 15 would close corporate loopholes and give back to the community.

"**Prop** 15 invests in schools, health care and public safety," she says.

#### **Prop** 16

Republicans are against **Prop** 16, saying that it would repeal constitutional protections that ensure equal treatment, while activating government quotas for employment.

Democrats endorse **Prop** 16, saying it repeals **Prop** 209. **Prop** 209 banned the use of affirmative action in race and sex-based preferences.

"**Prop** 16, a giant step backward, would hurt the very students we want to help," says public school teacher, Kali Fontanilla. "There is no need to lower standards! I love teaching, but **Prop** 16 would totally disrupt K-12."

**Prop** 16 co-General Consultant Courtnei Pugh stated that "California voters are not blind to the ways discrimination hurts our families and our communities. They believe in a level playing field for women and people of color."

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**Prop 20**

Republicans favor **Prop 20** because they say it will strengthen criminal penalties.

Democrats say that **Prop 20** would in fact place restrictions on parole programs for minor offenders who have served their time.

"Crime victims and law enforcement leaders oppose **Prop 20** because it wastes tens of millions of taxpayer dollars on prisons while cutting the rehabilitation programs we know work - that makes us all less safe," says San Diego Police Chief William Lansdowne.

"These laws disregard prior criminal histories when it comes to early release, doesn't hold offenders accountable for their crimes and have allowed numerous so-called nonviolent offenders to be released back into our communities," says Los Angeles Airport Peace Officers Association President Marshall McClain.

**38th District**

Democrats are endorsing Linda Sanchez to represent California's 38th congressional district. The 38th district includes Norwalk, La Mirada, Cerritos, Whittier, Montebello, Bellflower, Lakewood, Santa Fe Springs, Pico Rivera and South El Monte.

She is running without a Republican opponent.

**President**

Democrats are endorsing Former Vice President Joe Biden for President, to defeat incumbent Republican President Donald Trump.

Biden promises to listen to scientists on issues such as the Coronavirus and climate change.

Trump promises to cut taxes and get the country back to normal after the Coronavirus pandemic.

Talon Marks newspaper has endorsed several propositions, including **Props 15, 16, 17, 18 and 23**, and opposed **Props 20 and 22**. They are undecided on support 24.

**Load-Date:** November 4, 2020