



Voter Guide

The Chronicle urges all eligible voters to take part in the Nov. 8 election. For your consideration before you fill out your ballot, here are the recommendations of The Chronicle Editorial Board.

U.S. President

A long and contentious presidential primary season has revealed plenty about the policy command, temperament and discipline of the major-party nominees. The contrast could not be more profound. One candidate is fit for the presidency. The other is not.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS



Hillary Clinton

U.S. Senate

This is the first all-Democratic race for statewide office since California voters approved a system that allows the top two finishers to advance to the general election regardless of party affiliation.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Kamala Harris

State Senate District 11

The Senate district, taking in all of the San Francisco and northern San Mateo County, demands a leader who can step in without an extended learning curve.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Scott Wiener

State Assembly District 16

The California Democratic Party seems to have concluded that it can't defeat Assemblywoman Catharine Baker, R-San Ramon, on the merits.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Catharine Baker

Prop. 51

Would provide \$9 billion in bond money to renovate aging classrooms and build new teaching facilities for the state's shifting population.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 51

Prop. 52

Would make permanent a fee that hospitals pay so the state can meet a matching requirement for federal health funds.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 52

Prop. 53

Calls for a state vote on any revenue bond measure larger than \$2 billion.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on Prop. 53

Prop. 54

Would require each bill to be in print and posted online for 72 hours before it could pass out of either house.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 54

Prop. 55

Would extend a "temporary tax" approved in 2012 on upper incomes to 2030.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on Prop. 55

Prop. 56

Would raise the tax on cigarettes by \$2 a pack.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 56

Prop. 57

Would encourage nonviolent offenders to use their prison time to improve themselves and also the decision of whether to try a juvenile as an adult in the hands of a judge.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 57

Prop. 58

Would remove the bureaucratic barriers to allowing school districts to offer dual-language immersion programs for native and non-native English speakers.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 58

Prop. 59

Calls on elected officials to use “all of their constitutional authority” to help overturn the U.S. Supreme Court’s 2010 Citizens United decision.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 59

Prop. 60

Would require porn actors to use condoms while at work.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on Prop. 60

Prop. 61

Would prohibit state agencies from paying more for prescription drugs than prices negotiated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on Prop. 61

Prop. 62

Offers a straightforward and certain solution to the death penalty debate: abolish and replace it with a punishment of life without the possibility of parole.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 62

Prop. 63

Would tighten a set of gun-control laws recently signed by Gov. Jerry Brown and enact others that state legislators have failed to pass.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 63

Prop. 64

Would control the cultivation and sale of marijuana in California.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 64

Prop. 65

Would require proceeds from a 10-cent paper bag fee go toward environmental causes. Several environmental groups have shunned the proposition, which is being pushed largely by the plastic bag industry.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on Prop. 65

Prop. 66

Proposes a highly complex, probably very expensive and constitutionally questionable scheme for streamlining the death penalty appeals process in hopes of shaving years off the timeline between conviction and execution.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on Prop. 66

Prop. 67

A referendum on the law passed two years ago banning plastic shopping bags. That move is on hold due to the well-funded interest of a handful of bag makers.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Prop. 67

Measure RR

A \$3.5 billion bond program to repair, replace and redesign BART's infrastructure.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on Measure RR

S.F. Prop. A

A 20-year public school spending plan totaling \$744 million that builds on three earlier bond measures stretching back a decade.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. A

S.F. Prop. B

A parcel tax increase to help City College of San Francisco.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. B

S.F. Prop. C

Relabels a seismic safety bond package and directs it toward housing.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. C

S.F. Prop. D

Would forbid someone appointed as an interim member of the Board of Supervisors from running for a full term.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. D

S.F. Prop. E

Would create a permanent maintenance fund in the city budget to take care of street tree maintenance.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. E

S.F. Prop. F

Would allow young San Franciscans to vote in local and school board elections starting at the age of 16.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. F

S.F. Prop. G

Gives an existing outside review panel more independence and power in keeping tabs on police officer conduct.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. G

S.F. Prop. H

Would set up an elected public advocate, with a staff of up to 26 and budget from \$800,000 to \$3.5 million per year, to survey any and all issues.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. H

S.F. Prop. I

Would reserve a \$38 million portion of the budget for programs for seniors and disabled adults.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. I

S.F. Prop. J

Would set policy on how to divvy up a sales tax increase contained in Prop. K for homeless services and public transportation.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. J

S.F. Prop. K

Would set up a sales tax increase of 3/4 of a percent.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. K

S.F. Prop. L

Would let the supervisors name three of the seven members of the Municipal Transportation Agency instead of giving all of the picks to the mayor.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. L

S.F. Prop. M

Would create a new panel to set the city's economic development course.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. M

S.F. Prop. N

Would allow noncitizens to vote in San Francisco school board elections.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. N

S.F. Prop. P

Would oblige the city to seek three bids when offering city land to affordable housing builders.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. P

S.F. Prop. Q

Would take aim at sidewalk tent campers by giving residents a 24 hour notice to leave and move to a shelter.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. Q

S.F. Prop. R

Would direct that 3 percent of the police force — some 60 officers — be delegated to neighborhood crime, nothing else.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. R

S.F. Prop. T

Proposes string of requirements to control lobbying activities.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. T

S.F. Prop. U

Would change the amount of income that people could have and still qualify for subsidized housing.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. U

S.F. Prop. V

Would place a one-cent per ounce tax on sugary drinks.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Yes on S.F. Prop. V

S.F. Prop. W

Real estate transfer tax on high-end homes

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. W

S.F. Prop. X

Would require replacement space in new projects in the South of Market and Mission neighborhoods for small businesses and arts groups.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
No on S.F. Prop. X

S.F. Board of Supervisors District One

The Richmond District race has the largest field and fewest angry voices.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Marjan Philhour

S.F. Board of Supervisors District Three

Once an unabashed provocateur, Supervisor Aaron Peskin now is all about fiscal restraint, housing preservation and policy reform.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Aaron Peskin

S.F. Board of Supervisors District Five

There's no sharper contrast between an incumbent and challenger than this district race taking in the Western Addition and Haight-Ashbury.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
London Breed

S.F. Board of Supervisors District Seven

This West of Twin Peaks district may not want change, but it's coming. A third of the city's new housing will be built there.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Joel Engardio

S.F. Board of Supervisors District Nine

The Mission District offers San Francisco's deepest problems and most promising solutions.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Joshua Arce

S.F. Board of Supervisors District 11

This Outer Mission District has the city's highest number of families and homeowners and a deep sense that City Hall neglects its working-class needs.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Ahsha Safaí

S.F. Board of Education

San Francisco's public schools face no end of challenges, but these incumbents are willing to work together on significant problems.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS
Stevon Cook, Matt Haney, Rachel Norton, Jill Wynn

S.F. Community College Board

San Francisco's City College has spent the past several years climbing out of a deep hole, and the ascent's not over yet.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Rafael Mandelman, Amy Bacharach,
Alex Randolph, Shanell Williams

S.F. Superior Court Judge

The three-way race for an open seat on San Francisco Superior Court has three impressive candidates.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Victor Hwang

Contra Costa Measure X

Measure X calls for a half-cent sales tax increase that would run for 30 years and would be used for transportation improvements.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Yes on Contra Costa Measure X

Santa Clara Measure B

A half-cent sales tax projected to raise more than \$6 billion over the next 30 years for public transit.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Yes on Santa Clara Measure B

Berkeley Measure T1

A \$100 million general obligation bond for Berkeley's infrastructure.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Yes on Berkeley Measure T1

Albany Measure 01

A penny an ounce tax on sugary drinks.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Yes on Albany Measure 01

Oakland Measure HH

A penny an ounce tax on sugary drinks.

THE CHRONICLE RECOMMENDS

Yes on Oakland Measure HH