

Easy Voter Guide

www.easyvoterguide.org

LWW LEAGUE OF
WOMEN VOTERS®
OF CALIFORNIA
EDUCATION FUND



YOUR VOTE.

YOUR VOICE.

JUNE 7, 2016 California Primary Election

- How will we choose our next President?
- What is the state proposition?

**ARE YOU
SIGNED UP
TO VOTE?**

May 23, 2016

Last day to register to vote in this election.

May 31, 2016

Last day to request a "vote by mail" ballot.

June 7, 2016

ELECTION DAY

Your polling place is open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Esta guía también está disponible en español ■ 本指南也有中文版

Bản hướng dẫn này cũng có bằng tiếng Việt ■ 또한 이 안내서는 한국어로도 제공됩니다

Visit www.easyvoterguide.org to order copies or
download this guide in English, Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean.

This guide is a collaboration of the League of Women Voters® of California Education Fund and the California State Library

★ About the June 7, 2016 Primary Election

In this “primary” election, voters will choose candidates to run against each other in the November election. In this election you can vote for:

- President
- Representatives in U.S. Congress and the California State Legislature
- A proposed law for California, Proposition 50
- Other candidates and proposed laws depending on where you live

You do not have to vote on everything! Whatever you choose to vote on, your vote will count.

Signing up to Vote

You must register to vote to get on the list of voters for the June election. The deadline to register for this election is May 23. See the back cover for details.

When you sign up to vote, you decide if you want to choose a “political party.” There are six political parties in California. Or you can register without choosing a political party.

Voting for President

The political party you choose will determine which candidates for President appear on your ballot.

If you register without choosing a political party, there is still a way you can vote for a candidate for President:

- Three of the political parties, American Independent, Democratic, and Libertarian, will allow voters with “no party preference” to ask for their ballots in the June 7 election.
- **But** if you want to vote on presidential candidates for the Green, Peace & Freedom, or Republican Party then you **must** re-register and select that party. Just make sure you re-register by the May 23 deadline.

	HOW WE ELECT The President	HOW WE ELECT
JUNE PRIMARY ELECTION	Voters will have candidates for President from their political party on their ballot in June.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ U.S. Senator▪ U.S. Representative▪ California State Senator▪ California State Assembly Member Voters will have all candidates for these offices on their ballot and can vote for any candidate from any party in June.
NOVEMBER GENERAL ELECTION	The winner from each political party will run against the winners from other parties in November.	<p>The top two candidates with the most votes will run against each other in November.</p> <p>It is possible that these two candidates could be from the same political party.</p>

Your county elections office will mail you a Sample Ballot that lists everything that you can vote on, including candidates for local government offices.

Visit www.votersedge.org/ca to see what will be on your ballot. It's easy. Just enter your home address.

PROPOSITIONS
are proposed
laws presented
to California
voters.



They become law
if over half of voters
vote **YES**.

There is **one**
proposition
in this election.



It was placed on the ballot by state lawmakers and
would change the state **Constitution**. Changes to the
state **Constitution** require voter approval.

50

Suspension of Legislators.

Legislative Constitutional Amendment

The way it is now:

In 2014, three California state Senators were accused of felonies and their fellow state Senators voted to suspend them. The state Constitution has rules for how to remove (expel) a state lawmaker for wrongdoing but no rules to suspend them for a limited period of time. The accused lawmakers were not allowed to vote on laws, but still received their salaries and benefits.

What Prop 50 would do if it passes:

Add rules to the state Constitution about how to suspend state lawmakers, not just how to expel them. Suspension would require a 2/3 vote of fellow lawmakers, and the suspended lawmaker's salary and benefits could be taken away during the period of the suspension.

Effect on the state budget:

Suspension is not expected to happen very often, so in most years there would be no effect on the budget. If there is a suspension in the future, the state could save a small amount of money.

YES

**People for
Prop 50 say:**

Accused lawmakers should not be expelled until proven guilty. But it does make sense to suspend them with the option of taking away their salary and benefits.

NO

**People against
Prop 50 say:**

When lawmakers are suspended, they are not able to do their job for the people they represent. Accused lawmakers should be expelled instead of suspended.

For more nonpartisan information about this election, visit these websites:

www.easyvoterguide.org

Order copies or download this guide in five languages.

www.votersedge.org/ca

Look up your personal ballot and polling place.

www.sos.ca.gov/elections

In-depth Voter Information Guide in different languages.

Voting is as easy as 1-2-3!

CALIFORNIA PRIMARY ELECTION
TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2016

1

SIGN UP



- You are eligible to vote if you are a U.S. citizen, 18 years or older.
- You must register to get on the official list of voters in your county. The deadline to register is May 23 to vote in the June 7 election.
- You can pick up a voter registration form at your library or post office, have a registration form mailed to you by calling 1-800-345-8683, or fill out the form online at www.registertovote.ca.gov.
- It is important to fill out the form completely. You will be asked to include your driver license number or other identification.
- Once you are on the list, you only need to re-register if you change your address, change your name, want to change your political party, or because you are no longer in prison or on parole for a felony.

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GET READY



- Before you vote, it helps to learn about what you will be voting on.
- All registered voters receive two things in the mail:
 - 1) a Sample Ballot that lists everything that will be on your ballot along with where you vote (your "polling place")
 - 2) an Official Voter Information Guide about statewide candidates and measures
- In addition to this *Easy Voter Guide*, you can visit the *Voter's Edge California* website at www.votersedge.org/ca for more information about everything on your ballot plus a handy way to find your polling place.

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VOTE!



- You choose whether to vote at your polling place or use a "vote by mail" ballot.
- For voting in person, the polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. You may also be able to vote before election day at your county elections office. If you registered and your name is not on the list of voters at your assigned polling place, you can vote using a "provisional ballot."
- To vote by mail, use the form in your Sample Ballot to request a "vote by mail" ballot to be sent to you. The deadline to ask for one is May 31. When your "vote by mail" ballot comes, fill it out and mail it back so that it is postmarked no later than election day. You may also drop it off at any polling place in your county on election day. You can sign up to get a "vote by mail" ballot for every election.

ABOUT THE EASY VOTER GUIDE

The *Easy Voter Guide* has been providing new voters and busy voters with nonpartisan information for statewide elections in California since 1994. Community reviewers help ensure the guide is easy to read and understand. The proposition explanations in this guide are based on information from the nonpartisan Legislative Analyst's Office. The arguments for and against each proposition are taken from the arguments in the Secretary of State's Official Voter Information Guide and other sources.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy and completeness of the information presented in the *Easy Voter Guide*. Additional information made available after the guide is printed and any other corrections are posted at www.easyvoterguide.org. Please send questions or suggestions about this guide to easyvoter@lwc.org.

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The League of Women Voters® of California Education Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and works to increase understanding of major public policy issues. For more information, go to www.cavotes.org.