



## **June 5, 2018 Primary Election - Statewide Slate Walk Piece**

### **Talking Points**

#### **General Information**

- The candidates on the California Democratic Party (CDP) 2018 Primary Election Statewide Slate walk piece were endorsed at the 2018 CDP State Convention with at least 60% of the state delegate votes cast, the threshold required for endorsement. No candidate in any other statewide offices received the requisite votes to receive CDP endorsement.
- The proposition positions on the Statewide Slate walk piece were considered by the CDP Resolutions Committee, each receiving unanimous recommendation. Those recommendations were then adopted without objection by the full Convention.

#### **Superintendent of Public Instruction - Tony Thurmond**

- Tony Thurmond is committed to ensure that every child can receive a free, high quality, public education that prepares them for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century future.
- Thurmond is fighting to provide more money for pre-school and is a strong advocate for expanding mental health services.
- Tony Thurmond has been endorsed by our classroom teachers, the working men and women of the California Labor Federation, classified school employees, the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Sacramento Bee*; both newspapers endorsed his opponent last time his opponent ran in 2014.
- Prior to serving in the State Assembly, Thurmond served as a School Board Member, Social Worker and City Councilmember in the City of Richmond.
- The Superintendent's race is non-partisan and can be won outright in the Primary Election if a candidate receives 50% plus one of the votes.

#### **Insurance Commissioner - Ricardo Lara**

- As California's Insurance Commissioner, Ricardo Lara will work tirelessly to represent the great people of California, not the insurance companies, corporations, the billionaire class, or the pharmaceutical industry. He will always be first and foremost an advocate for consumers, patients, working families, and the most vulnerable communities in our Golden State.
- As State Senator, Lara has authored important legislation to expand access to affordable healthcare, and is committed to environmental justice, criminal justice reform, and economic opportunities for all Californians.
- Ricardo Lara is endorsed by the working people of the California Labor Federation, the California Nurses Association, and U.S. Senator Kamala Harris.
- Lara would become the first openly gay Constitutional Officer in California history.



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#### **State Treasurer - Fiona Ma**

- Fiona Ma is a Certified Public Tax Accountant and currently serves on the California State Board of Equalization, where she has worked to protect the rights for taxpayers and ensure that California collects its fair share of tax revenues.
- As a member of the Assembly, Ma was a skilled legislator and outspoken advocate for children, victims of domestic violence, and victims of human trafficking.
- As Chair of the Board of Equalization, Ma worked tirelessly to uphold the highest level of integrity in government and fought to increase accessibility, accountability, and transparency.
- As a member of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, Ma wrote legislation that became the model for California's first-in-the-nation law making every worker eligible for paid sick leave.

#### **State Controller - Betty Yee (Incumbent)**

- As State Controller, Betty Yee has served as California's fiscal watchdog to help ensure the Legislature and Governor do their job and pass four consecutive, on-time balanced budgets.
- As Controller, Yee has helped expand the Earned Income Tax Credit to help working families get a real tax benefit. She has been an outspoken advocate for progressive policies and a champion of grassroots Democratic activists.
- Yee's commitment to service and her experience working in her family's business inspired her to enter public service so she can do her part to ensure the doors of opportunity remain open to all Californians and their families to succeed and thrive.

#### **Secretary of State - Alex Padilla (Incumbent)**

- Secretary of State Alex Padilla has aggressively promoted online voter registration, which resulted in two million new voters being added to the voting rolls since he took office.
- In 2015, Secretary Padilla sponsored the California New Motor Voter Act, which automatically registers voters through the Department of Motor Vehicles. Scheduled to launch in April of 2018, this will add millions of eligible Californians to the voter rolls in the coming years.
- Padilla believes it is his duty as Secretary of State to defend and expand voting rights because the right to vote defines the American Dream, and he received wide national praise for his opposition to Trump's phony voter fraud commission.



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#### **Yes on Proposition 68**

- Voting Yes on Prop. 68 is a vote to support the California Clean Water and Safe Parks Act, a \$4 billion investment in the coming years to protect California's own unique natural resources and ensure every Californian has access to clean drinking water and safe parks.
- Prop. 68 is endorsed by Sierra Club, California Labor Federation, Heal the Bay, and Environmental Defense Fund.
- Prop. 68 will specifically help low- and middle-income communities by providing priority funding for disadvantaged and park-poor neighborhoods – a unique and long-overdue investment – while also ensuring these communities have access to clean, safe drinking water. While the measure does have a unique focus on these communities, the benefits of the bond are wide reaching and should touch all segments of California.
- Prop. 68 was Senate Bill 5, authored by Senate President pro Tem Emeritus Kevin de León.

#### **Yes on Proposition 69**

- Prop. 69 will prohibit the state Legislature from borrowing or diverting these revenues for non-transportation purposes. This will ensure that all revenues from SB 1 can only be used for transportation improvement purposes.
- Voting Yes on Prop. 69 will extend constitutional protections to the revenues generated by SB 1 that aren't currently protected and will ensure these funds can only be used for transportation improvement purposes.
- Proposition 69 will protect existing taxes and fees we are already paying. It does not raise taxes.
- Prop. 69 is endorsed by the California Labor Federation, California State Conference NAACP, Congress of California Seniors, and the State Building and Construction Trades Council.



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#### **No on Proposition 70**

- Prop. 70 is a corporate-led attack on climate action in California. If passed, it would seize funding that is currently used to fight pollution and improve community health. It would subject this funding to a two-thirds vote in 2024, and by doing so, it would hold these climate investments hostage to the lobbying of corporate interests.
- Prop. 70 would lead to budget gridlock, undermine California's progress on climate change and clean air, and increase the power of corporate interests.
- Big Oil is trying to undo voter-approved reforms and return us to the days of gridlock and chronically late budgets. Prop. 70 would enable powerful lobbyists to block good climate programs and to fund wasteful projects that only benefit corporate interests.
- Opposition to Prop. 70 is led by Climate Hawks Vote, Asian Pacific Environmental Network, NextGen America, SEIU California, and Mi Familia Vota.

#### **Yes on Proposition 71**

- Prop. 71 will ensure that voter-approved ballot initiatives take effect as soon as possible, instead of the weeks or months they can take now. This is a common-sense measure, ensuring clarity about what is – and is not – California law.
- Prop. 71 was approved on a unanimous, bipartisan majority in the Legislature.

#### **Yes on Proposition 72**

- Prop. 72 encourages more water conservation by allowing an exclusion from additional property taxes for construction or installation of rain water capture systems. These systems capture, store and use otherwise wasted rain water for landscape irrigation and similar uses, saving more conventional water for personal use. With traditional water sources becoming less dependable, this is one more way we can diversify sources of usable water.
- Yes on Proposition 72 is supported by environmental groups throughout California, including Save The Bay, Planning and Conservation League, and Trout Unlimited. Water conservation and environmentally sensitive water storage are important elements of our anti-drought response.