



California Voter Guide

Get informed in minutes with our Voter Guide for California's March 5 primary election. Unpack ballot measures and compare candidates in the most important races on Bay Area ballots and learn the easiest ways to cast your vote.

- [U.S. Senate primary](#) and [Proposition 1](#)
- [Bay Area races and measures](#)
- [Democratic](#) and [Republican](#) presidential primary
- [Voting tips](#)



IMPORTANT DATES

Feb. 5

Voting begins.

March 5

Election Day: Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Results will be available starting 8 p.m.

Feb. 20

[Online voter registration](#) deadline.

April 4

Last day for county elections officials to certify election results.

TOP ELECTION NEWS



Find Your Early Voting Site or Ballot Drop-Off Location for the 2024 California Primary Election



How Do I Vote in California's Presidential Primary Election as a 'No Party Preference' Voter?

[More Election News Coverage](#)

Shape California's Future

Important choices are in your hands this primary election. You can decide on a once-in-a-generation U.S. Senate race, and a proposition to overhaul California's mental health funding, along with contests for state Legislature, and a slew of regional and local races and measures.

Voting FAQ

Do I have to request a mail-in ballot?



No – every registered voter in California will automatically receive a ballot in the mail. You can use that ballot to cast your vote (see below for where to return it when you're done) or you can forget that ballot and request a fresh one at a voting location. The one that arrived in the mail will be canceled. [Read more about finding a voting location near you.](#)

I'm registered as a No Party Preference voter. Can I still vote in the March presidential primary?



Yes – but the No Party Preference ballot you'll automatically receive in early February will not include the presidential contest, [so you'll need to request a new one.](#) If you want to vote for a presidential candidate in the American Independent Party, the Democratic Party or the Libertarian Party, you can [request a cross-over ballot](#) from your county elections office, or in person when you vote. If you want to vote for a presidential candidate in the Green Party, the Peace and Freedom Party or the Republican Party, you will need to [re-register online](#) as a member of that party – and if you don't do this before Feb. 20, you can do it at your county elections office or when you vote in person. [Read more about voting in the presidential primary as a No Party Preference voter.](#)

How do I return my ballot?



Ballots can be returned through the Postal Service (the return postage is already paid) or dropped off at a voting location or in a ballot drop box. Keep in mind that the Postal Service must postmark your ballot envelope by the end of Election Day for your vote to count – and the last collection at many mailboxes is 5 p.m. If it's getting late in the day on March 5, you might consider using a county drop box instead of a USPS mailbox. [Read more about returning your ballot.](#)

What if I make a mistake on my ballot?



Some counties will provide written instructions on how to correct a mistake on your ballot, such as voting for a candidate you didn't intend to. But if you clearly mark your intended choice – say, by x-ing out your mistake – your vote can still be counted. [Read more about correcting a mistake on your ballot.](#)

What if I made a mistake with my ballot signature?



Your ballot will not be counted if the envelope is unsigned or if the signature doesn't match the signature in your voter registration file. Typically, the signature on file is the same as the signature pictured on the front of your driver's license or state ID. County election officials can reach out to you to correct a missing or mismatched signature in order to count your ballot, even after election day. [Read more about common signature mistakes.](#)

How do I track my ballot once I've returned it?

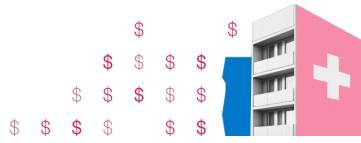


All registered voters in California can sign up for an online tool to track the status of their mail-in ballots for the November general election. "Where's My Ballot?" provides automated notifications via email, text or phone when your county elections offices have mailed out your ballot – and when your completed ballot has been received and processed. [Read more about tracking your ballot.](#)

Can I still vote in-person?



Yes. In Contra Costa, San Francisco and Solano counties, you will be assigned to a specific polling place for in-person voting, though some voting locations will be open to all voters. In Alameda, Marin, Napa, San Mateo, Santa Clara and Sonoma counties, you can cast your ballot at any vote center in the county. [Read more about where you can vote in person.](#)



Proposition 1

Should California issue bonds and change spending rules in order to build more housing for residents with behavioral health challenges?



Proposition 1 would issue \$6.38 billion in bonds to build supportive housing and residential treatment facilities. It would also amend the Mental Health Services Act (a 1% tax on personal income over \$1 million), allowing funds to also be used to help residents with substance abuse, not just those with mental illness. And it would set aside 30% of revenue generated from that tax to help house people — particularly veterans — with behavioral health conditions.

Yes Argument

California should focus its resources on supporting residents who have severe mental health and substance abuse issues and keep them from living on the streets. Proposition 1 will provide a reliable funding source to build treatment facilities and it will dedicate over \$1 billion toward supportive housing for veterans with behavioral health challenges. The current rules of the Mental Health Services Act are too restrictive and should be changed to help people struggling with serious substance abuse issues.

No Argument

Proposition 1 pulls revenue from the Mental Health Services Act in too many new directions. If you are increasing the amount of MHSA money going toward housing and residents with substance abuse issues, there will be less left for existing mental health services. Additionally, the bond money can be used to build locked facilities, which are a threat to civil liberties and will take California back to the era of involuntary treatment for severe mental illness.

Key Supporters ?

In Support

- Gavin Newsom, governor, California
- California Hospital Association
- California Medical Association
- National Alliance on Mental Illness California

In Opposition

- Disability Rights California
- Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association
- League of Women Voters of California
- Mental Health America of California

U.S. Senator



Why does this race matter?

A crowded field of candidates is running to fill the U.S. Senate seat held by the late Senator Dianne Feinstein for more than 30 years. It's a rare opportunity to represent the most populous state in the nation in the Senate. The March vote could decide a likely winner in November: If a Republican advances to the general election along with a Democrat, the Democrat would be favored to win the seat.

Why am I voting in this race twice?

When longtime California Sen. Dianne Feinstein died in September, Gov. Gavin Newsom appointed Laphonza Butler to serve the remainder of her term. Voters are now being asked to pick a senator to serve the short window from when the election is certified to when the term ends on Jan. 3, 2025, and also to pick a senator for the next full term, from January 2025 through January 2031.

Key Candidates ?



Steve Garvey
Former Professional
Baseball Player
Republican



Barbara Lee
U.S. Representative
Democrat



Katie Porter
U.S. Representative
Democrat



Adam Schiff
U.S. Representative
Democrat

Top Priorities

Steve Garvey:

- Tackling homelessness by addressing the mental health and substance abuse crises.
- Improving public schools.
- Holding criminals accountable and better fund police departments.

Barbara Lee:

- Providing health care for all through a single-payer system.
- Taking climate action, particularly in lower-income neighborhoods and communities of color.
- Protecting reproductive rights.

Katie Porter:

- Tackling corruption at corporations and in government, including by barring federal lobbyists from making campaign contributions.
- “Unrigging” the economy by investing in public services, climate action and health care and limiting corporate consolidation.
- Empowering workers through a higher minimum wage and making it easier to organize labor unions.

Adam Schiff:

- Expanding voting rights and eliminating the electoral college.
- Reforming campaign finance and ethics laws to make government more accountable.
- Reforming the Supreme Court by expanding it and imposing term limits.

Positions on Key Issues ?

Do you support a national abortion ban, national abortion limit or federal legislation codifying abortion access across the U.S.?



Garvey says he would not support a federal abortion ban or a federal law codifying abortion access, but wants to leave it up to the states as set out by the Supreme Court’s Dobbs decision. He says he’s personally opposed to abortion but wants to “honor” Californians’ overwhelming vote to maintain legal access to abortion.

Porter supports federal legislation to guarantee abortion access in all states, including the Women’s Health Protection Act. She’s voted for legislation to strengthen protections for patients who travel across state lines to access abortion care and says she’s posed questions to companies like FedEx asking how they will ensure Americans can access medication abortion through the mail.

Lee wants to end the filibuster in the Senate and codify Roe v. Wade’s protections into federal law. She speaks openly about risking her life to get a “back-alley abortion” when it was illegal and is co-chair of the Pro-Choice Caucus. She is coauthor of proposed federal legislation that would let people on government-sponsored health plans access abortion care, and wrote California’s Violence Against Women Act as a state Assembly member.

Schiff says he would “strongly and vigorously” oppose a national abortion ban or any other federal limitations and supports codifying Roe v. Wade’s protections into federal law. He says he will support the Women’s Health Protection Act, work to reform the Supreme Court in part by expanding its size and imposing term limits, and support a change in law so people on government-sponsored health plans access abortion care.

Do you support a cease-fire in the war between Israel and Hamas and do you want to see any conditions placed on U.S. aid to Israel? Do you support continuing financial and military aid to Ukraine?



Garvey says he does not support a cease-fire between Israel and Hamas and also opposes placing any conditions on aid to Israel, saying the U.S. should “unequivocally stand by Israel’s right to defend itself from terrorists.” He says the U.S. cannot fund the war in Ukraine forever and that future aid should be based on “some metric of success.”

Porter supports a “lasting bilateral cease-fire” contingent on “release of all hostages, durable security for Israel, and an end to Hamas’ control of Gaza.” She does not believe the U.S. should pledge unconditional military aid to Israel. She says any U.S. aid should be used to work toward a lasting two-state solution, and “must come with respect for U.S. and international law.” She supports continuing financial and military aid to Ukraine.

Lee was the only member of Congress to vote against authorizing the wars in both Afghanistan and Iraq after 9/11. Lee supports an “unequivocal cease-fire,” and has since fall; she also believes that further assistance to Israel must be dependent on a “fundamental shift in its military strategy” and abide by U.S. and international law. She says the U.S. must continue to support Ukraine and its democracy against Russia.

Schiff does not support a permanent cease-fire, saying it will perpetuate Hamas control over Gaza and that a two-state solution is not possible while Hamas controls the territory. He also opposes conditioning U.S. aid to Israel. He “strongly” supports additional financial and military support for Ukraine but opposes providing cluster munitions.

Would you use Community Project Funding requests (also known as earmarks) to steer funds toward California projects?



Garvey calls the current earmark system “flawed” and says it needs to be reformed to make sure projects are funded on their merits. He blames earmarks for inflation and the national debt, but says he would use it to deliver resources to California.

Lee supports earmarks as a “critical tool” to deliver results to constituents, particularly people of color and those who have low income. She touts millions of dollars in federal funding she has secured as a member of Congress for things like commercial revitalization, apprenticeship programs and mental health services.

Porter has long opposed earmarks and says she would continue to shun them as a Senator. She’s calling for reform to eliminate them entirely, saying they hurt people in low-income communities and communities of color. She believes federal spending should be decided by neutral policy experts and not be dependent on the connections of an individual politician.

Schiff supports earmarks and says elected leaders must fight for dollars to flow back to California, noting the state already sends more money to Washington, D.C., than it gets back. He says as a congressman he has brought back millions of dollars to combat homelessness and the housing crisis, strengthened wildfire prevention efforts and invested in mental health treatment for first responders.

Would you support changes to the asylum system or other immigration reform?



Garvey says the U.S.’s first priority should be strengthening the southern border but that he wants to “reward those who are seeking citizenship legally, including asylum seekers.” He is calling for an end to “chaos” at the border and for a streamlining of the immigration process.

Lee wants to abolish recent policies that have upended long-standing asylum protocols. She voted against the creation of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, or ICE, and is calling for a 50% cut to Customs and Border Patrol funding. She supports a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants already in the U.S. as well as more investments in Central and South American countries from which many immigrants in the U.S. originate.

Porter says the U.S. needs to streamline its asylum process to make it easier for those fleeing political, economic and religious persecution to legally seek refuge in America. She calls our immigration system a “mess” and blames Republicans for blocking reform.

Schiff is calling for investing more resources into the immigration court system in order to address the backlog and speed up how long it takes to adjudicate asylum petitions. He wants to see comprehensive immigration reform and supports the U.S. Citizenship Act to create a pathway to citizenship for 11 million undocumented immigrants already in the U.S.

Key Supporters

For Garvey

- N/A

For Porter

- Elizabeth Warren, U.S. senator
- California Labor Federation
- California School Employees Association

For Lee

- California Labor Federation
- Congressional Black Caucus PAC
- Reproductive Freedom for All (formerly NARAL Pro-Choice)

For Schiff

- Nancy Pelosi, U.S. representative
- California Labor Federation
- United Farm Workers

Additional Candidates



Eric Early **Attorney**

Republican. Early has previously run for Congress and Attorney General. He told KQED that he would vote for a national 15-week limit on abortions and opposes continuing financial and military aid to Ukraine.

U.S. Senator FAQ

What does a U.S. senator do?

California's two U.S. senators represent the interests of the state in the upper chamber of Congress. They write and vote on bills, pursue funding for projects and programs in the state, and decide on nominations for U.S. Supreme Court justices, federal judges, cabinet members and other federal officials.

What are the qualifications to be a senator?

Senators must be at least 30 years old, and have been U.S. citizens for at least nine years. They must also be residents of the state they're running to represent at the time of the election.

How many years do we elect a U.S. senator for?

U.S. senators are elected for six-year terms.

Supervisor, District 4



Why does this race matter?

Napa County's Board of Supervisors is seeing a major change this year, with three of the five seats on the ballot. The 4th District covers parts of the city of Napa, Silverado Country Club, Lake Berryessa, and Monticello Park. In Napa, there are no term limits for county supervisor, so the winner of this race could shape county policy for years to come.

What does a county supervisor do?

Supervisors govern county programs and departments and approve the county budget. Their largest area of spending is traditionally health care and human services. Supervisors are also responsible for local jails and elections, and they make decisions on law enforcement and housing in unincorporated areas of the county. If a supervisor candidate receives over 50% of the vote in the primary, they take office for a four-year term. Otherwise, the top two candidates face off in the November general election.

Candidates



Amber Manfree
Scientist/Editor



Pete Mott
Former City Council
Member, city of Napa

Key Supporters ?


For Manfree

- Scott Sedgley, mayor, city of Napa
- Sierra Club
- Napa County Democratic Central Committee
- SEIU Local 1021
- National Union of Healthcare Workers

For Mott

- Oscar Ortiz, sheriff, Napa County
- Dr. Barbara Nemko, superintendent of schools, Napa County
- Bernie Narvaez, City Council member, city of Napa
- CAL Fire Fighters — Local 2881
- Planned Parenthood Northern California Action Fund

Positions on Key Issues

Water conservation is a major concern in Napa County. The California Department of Water Resources has classified the Napa Valley Subbasin as a “high priority” aquifer and, according to the county in November, “eight of the last 10 years have been characterized as ‘dry’ to ‘very dry.’” How would you address this issue for both drinking water and groundwater in your position as 4th District supervisor? 

Manfree says Napa can relieve pressure on supplies by switching to reclaimed water when possible through investments in infrastructure and managing well permits. She says Napa “can start a conversation about whether a water district that encompasses a larger area might better serve users.” Manfree was a stakeholder in the development of Napa’s Groundwater Sustainability Plan as well as a former affiliate of the UC Davis Center for Watershed Studies.

Mott says implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans as required by the state is the most important step toward water reliability. Mott serves as a board member of the Napa Sanitation District, where he says he focused on infrastructure investments that have reduced the amount of water sourced from local reservoirs and groundwater resources for irrigation and landscaping.

How would you aim to reach the state’s requirements of additional housing in your tenure as 4th District supervisor? 

Manfree says there should be a mix of housing styles to both fulfill housing goals as well as the desires of organized Napa residents who want urban growth boundaries. “Thinking about the acreage we need to meet the target suggests that building ‘up’ will be the best way to retain the open green spaces around our cities,” she says. Manfree also supports making it cheaper for homeowners to add Accessory Dwelling Units to their properties.

Mott says existing programs like the County’s Workforce Proximity Program and the Napa County Affordable ADU Forgivable Loan Program need to be funded and expanded, and new ideas like community land bank financing should be developed. Mott has worked on housing plans on the city council and served as co-chair of Napa’s Joint City/County Affordable Housing Task Force.

Napa County has faced significant fires in the past decade. What do you believe your role as 4th District supervisor is in fire preparation and rebuilding for residents? 

Manfree says ensuring there is adequate staff in county agencies to direct residents to resources is critical. Manfree also says coordinating with state efforts to ensure that there will be affordable home insurance options is a priority for her. Manfree also adds “... Ideally, we will avert future structure loss at the scale seen in 2017 and 2020 with better defensible space, fire-resistant buildings, and building site choices.”

Mott wants to see additional staffing for some stations and enhanced early warning systems. Mott says the \$37.5 million grant Napa County has received only applies to new prevention work, and says he will “fight for dedicated funding in the County budget for ongoing maintenance year over year.” He adds he is committed to a smooth, efficient rebuilding process so residents are not “negatively affected by bureaucratic red tape as has happened in the past.”

Supervisor, District 5



Why does this race matter?

The 5th District covers southeast Napa County, including American Canyon, Coombsville and the Napa County Airport. Ramos defeated Aboudamous in a race for this seat in 2020. The race features a familiar Napa County dynamic of a candidate backed by organized labor (Ramos) against a candidate supported by winegrowers and agricultural groups (Aboudamous). In Napa, there are no term limits for county supervisor, so the winner of this race could shape county policy for years to come.

What does a county supervisor do?

Supervisors govern county programs and departments and approve the county budget. Their largest area of spending is traditionally health care and human services. Supervisors are also responsible for local jails and elections, and they make decisions on law enforcement and housing in unincorporated areas of the county. If a supervisor candidate receives over 50% of the vote in the primary, they take office for a four-year term. Otherwise, the top two candidates face off in the November general election.

Candidates



Mariam Aboudamous
City Council Member,
American Canyon



Belia Ramos
Supervisor, Napa
County

Key Supporters ?

For Aboudamous

- Napa Chamber of Commerce
- Napa County Farm Bureau
- Winegrowers of Napa County

For Ramos

- Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, state Assembly member
- Mike Thompson, U.S. representative
- Napa Solano Labor Council

Positions on Key Issues ?

In 2022, a sales tax measure to finance fire protection services fell short of passing. What should the county do to sustainably finance these services into the future? ^

Aboudamous says the Measure L campaign “should have done a much better job in engaging cities“ in Napa County. “Personally, I’m a huge advocate of always looking for various grant opportunities before taxing the voters,” she says, but adds that if there are no grants the county qualifies for, she would be open to the board discussing another ballot initiative similar to Measure L in the future.

Ramos acknowledges Measure L “was not approached in the right way ... it wasn’t a collaborative process.” However, she believes county residents are still interested in a long-term funding solution for fire protection services, which includes the current partnership with Cal Fire. She points to the work done by the board in recent years, including the county receiving a \$37.5 million federal grant and appointing its first fire administrator, David Shew, to help manage these funds.

It’s been almost three years since the Napa County Community Wildfire Protection Plan was released. Would you say the county is on track to implement the recommendations from the plan? What do you see as the next steps? ^

Aboudamous says that as supervisor, she wants to work on more ways the county can transmit information to residents during a wildfire, including an emergency radio station. She believes that the county should explore more strategies to further fuel reduction — one of the recommendations from the CWPP — by employing herds of goats, something American Canyon has done. As for controlled wildfires, she’s concerned about the impacts of this strategy on air quality for residents.

Ramos says that a big chunk of the funding to carry out the CWPP has come from grants. The next step, she adds, is for the county to design a long-term maintenance plan, which would include a strategy to keep funding wildfire prevention and protection work. “We now have to go back and make sure that we have an inventory and a progress schedule on how we need to come back and when,” she says.

Right now, farmworkers in Napa don’t receive hazard pay during wildfire season, and advocates argue that farmworkers risk their health when they go out into the fields when the air is smoky. Do you think the county should do more to make sure farmworkers are compensated for the risks they take during wildfire season? ^

Aboudamous says that “Napa County is leading the way in terms of farmworker protections,” but wants to hear more from both employers and workers before making a decision on farmworker hazard pay. She points to her time on the American Canyon City Council, which in 2021 approved hazard pay for grocery store workers during a COVID-19 spike, and says that she invited both employees and employers to speak on this issue.

Ramos says that “Napa County philanthropically has already done that — not as a county officially, but working with the Napa Valley Community Foundation.” The foundation has worked with the county to deliver food and cash assistance to affected families after wildfires and storms, and Ramos says the county should continue working with philanthropic and industry partners to prepare for the next wildfire season.

Last year, the county launched a program offering forgivable loans to property owners who seek to build accessory dwelling units (also known as ADUs or granny houses) in order to boost the supply of affordable housing. Should the county continue focusing on ADU development or should it take up additional housing strategies? ^

Aboudamous says that the county must focus on partnering with cities to boost the housing supply. “The cities are better equipped to continue to build more housing. If the county has a stronger relationship with the cities, then the county should continue to identify infill locations,” she says. One issue she believes must always be considered when approving housing developments: access to existing transportation options in order to reduce further sprawl and traffic congestion.

Ramos says that the ADU forgivable loan program has been “highly successful” but says there is still “a lack of [housing] supply at all levels.” She wants for the county to keep working with cities to identify infill project locations for housing projects and to protect existing housing stock. Additionally, Ramos will lead the Association of Bay Area Governments this year and says one of her priorities is to bring a regional housing bond measure to the November ballot.

State Senate, District 3



Why does this race matter?

The district stretches from Sonoma and Napa wine country, through cities like Vallejo and Concord, to the farmland of Yolo County and the Delta. Whoever succeeds termed-out state Sen. Bill Dodd will face challenges around wildfire, water, housing — and a plan by tech billionaires for a brand new city in Solano County.

What does a state senator do?

State senators represent communities at the California Legislature in Sacramento. The 40 members of the state Senate write and vote on state bills, serve on policy committees and vote on the annual state budget. The top two finishers in this primary election, regardless of party, will face off in the November election. The winner will serve a four-year term.

Key Candidates ?



Thom Bogue
City Council Member,
Dixon
Republican



Christopher Cabaldon
Former Mayor, West
Sacramento
Democrat



Jackie Elward
City Council Member,
Rohnert Park
Democrat



Rozzana Verder-Aliga
City Council Member,
Vallejo
Democrat

Key Supporters ?

For Bogue

- N/A

For Cabaldon

- Darrell Steinberg, mayor, Sacramento
- Lois Wolk, former state senator
- California Asian American & Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus
- Planned Parenthood Northern California Action Fund
- Sacramento Metro Chamber of Commerce PAC

For Elward

- Jared Huffman, U.S. representative
- Eleni Kounalakis, lieutenant governor, California
- California Federation of Teachers
- California Labor Federation
- California Legislative Black Caucus

For Verder-Aliga

- Bill Dodd, state senator
- John Garamendi, U.S. representative
- API Legislative Caucus
- California Labor Federation
- Napa-Solano Central Labor Council

Positions on Key Issues

A group of billionaires aims to build a city on 60,000 acres of Solano County farmland. Should they get an exception to the voter-approved policy favoring city-centered growth and farmland protection?

Bogue says an exception should not be made for the California Forever developers. He says California agricultural land is some of the best in the nation, and helps power the state's economy. "Urban sprawl is already consuming many, many acres of some of our best growing agricultural land," says Bogue. "We really need to rethink just how we expand — to slow, if not eliminate, urban sprawl."

Elward calls the project an "existential threat" to other communities, which will have to compete for resources. And she's uncomfortable with "the secretive nature" of the land acquisition. "If billionaires want to invest in Solano County, I wish they'd invest in the revitalization of our existing communities," she says. "We have downtowns that ... need all the support they can get [and] there is so much potential in the proud communities that already exist."

Cabaldon recently testified before the state Senate about the risks this development poses. He says freeways are already clogged, water is too scarce, and infrastructure funds for other cities are at stake. But Cabaldon says, "We can build affordable housing and protect working landscapes at the same time. I know because I've done it."

Verder-Aliga says she's worried the development has so far been planned without input from local residents, who'll have to live with the result — which will occupy more than one-tenth of the county's acreage. "It feels a bit unfair and definitely undemocratic," she says, and thinks an up-or-down vote doesn't give voters enough say. "I would prefer that growth occur under the publicly debated and formulated plans our local governments have gone through the process of creating."

In recent years massive wildfires have ravaged the district. What should the state Senate be doing to prevent such destruction and how would you ensure the insurance market continues to serve residents in fire-prone areas?

Bogue says the state is already clearing underbrush using livestock and fire crews. "It will take time for these efforts to become effective," he says. As to insurance companies: "They collect billions of dollars annually in premiums and when something catastrophically occurs, also like PG&E, the first thing they do is look for ways out to not pay." Bogue says he will research the best way for lawmakers to hold companies accountable.

Elward says fire mitigation is a top priority. She supports managing forests to remove combustible undergrowth and establishing firmer urban limit lines to prevent sprawl into high-risk areas. With the cost of covering catastrophic fire damage mounting, and private insurers leaving the market, she says, "state government is going to have to get more intensely involved." Elward would work to make the FAIR Plan insurance pool more affordable and available.

Cabaldon supports voter-approved policies like Napa's agricultural preserve and Solano's orderly growth ordinance to deter future housing in the fire-prone wildlands interface. He would protect CalFire funding. And he says, "Too many families can't get or renew home insurance policies because outdated regulations haven't been updated to account for the disastrous impact of climate change." With most Californians living with wildfire, flood or earthquake risk, he says, he'll fight to fix the insurance market.

Verder-Aliga says she would continue the work of Sen. Bill Dodd, advocating for regulating utilities to ensure they don't spark fires, and investing in fire breaks and other defenses to keep neighborhoods safe. She says she wants to see property insurance reforms that include "a reconfiguring of this market that protects homeowners, keeps premium increases to a minimum, and strengthens the marketplace to keep insurers writing policies in California."

In an era of climate change, how would you protect agriculture and the natural environment of the district? What's your position on the Delta tunnel?



Bogue says it's tough to balance the needs of Delta farmers and the demand for water from growers in other parts of the state. "I can see both sides of the equation," he says. He believes conservation measures could help with water supply. And he adds, "Instead of destroying dams we should be developing more water-retention facilities and desalination projects, along with expanding distribution canals to rural farmers from what we currently have."

Elward says agriculture is core to the district's economy and must be shielded from suburban sprawl. She says she helped lead the campaign to pass Rohnert Park's Measure B, establishing an urban limit and protecting open space and agriculture. She also opposes the Delta tunnel and the proposed Sites Reservoir in Colusa County. "[I] see most new surface water storage as at best a Band-Aid to our state's long-term water needs," she says.

Cabaldon served as Delta Protection Commissioner and a governor's appointee on the state water board, so "I know how fragile the ecosystem, agricultural economy, and hydrology of the Delta can be." He opposes the Delta tunnel, which would divert water to southern California, because it will endanger fish, area water supplies and Delta agriculture. "Family farmers cultivate not only the food we eat but also our natural environment," he says.

Verder-Aliga says she will advocate for greater investment in the California agriculture department's State Water Efficiency & Enhancement Program and Healthy Soils Program. She also wants to improve water storage, efficiency, and reuse. If elected, she says, "I will work to improve water storage and advance partnerships for groundwater recharge with farmers." She believes killing the Delta Tunnel plan is the best thing for the environment in the region, while protecting agriculture.

Recent high-profile retail thefts have led some to call for repeal of Proposition 47, which reduced sentences for some nonviolent offenses. Do you support that? And, with Vallejo's police department under state oversight for bias and excessive use of force, how would you ensure police accountability?



Bogue says he's opposed Prop. 47 since it was written, and believes it has contributed to rampant crime. He supports repealing it. As to police oversight, he says the state has a role in protecting citizens' constitutional rights. "I believe most officers pursued a career in law enforcement with an honest belief they could make a difference ... and safeguard our communities," he says. But, he believes, officers who violate the law need to be held accountable.

Elward says voters are understandably concerned about public safety, but a recent uptick in crime is about pandemic pressures, not Prop. 47. And, she emphasized, crime has decreased overall since the mid-1990s. She would invest in regional task forces to crack down on theft rings, early youth intervention and civilian mental health crisis response. Elward supports the oversight in Vallejo; as an immigrant Black woman, she says police misconduct and racism hit close to home.

Cabaldon says Vallejo is a "textbook example" of why the state must ensure accountability when a city council can't. "Too many residents live in fear, and the police department can't recruit the officers the community deserves," he says, adding that police also need tools to equitably keep communities safe. Prop. 47 shouldn't be repealed; it helped address severe overcrowding in state prisons, Cabaldon says. But he does favor serious consequences for organized, repeated smash-and-grab robberies.

Verder-Aliga believes that while some criminal justice reforms have paid off, Verder-Aliga says Prop. 47 has not, leaving residents feeling unsafe: "We must remedy the situation." As a member of the Vallejo City Council, she says she is working with state officials on reforms, including a police oversight commission, de-escalation training, and body cameras. "The quality and training of the people we hire is the most important factor for upgrading our force," she adds.

Housing affordability is a crisis across the Bay Area and beyond, and homelessness remains intractable. What is your plan to increase housing and expand affordability for renters and would-be homeowners?



Bogue says even though Gov. Newsom recently approved 56 bills to streamline housing construction, protect tenants and tackle homelessness — and has invested \$30 billion toward developing affordable housing — he has yet to see results. "We see little actual action," he says. "My plan is to hold legislators accountable for all this approval and push for action, not just talk — something we have grown accustomed to, particularly during election years."

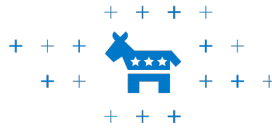
Cabaldon says residents of the district are getting squeezed out by sky-high rents and home prices. He says he worked to avoid displacement in West Sacramento by producing record amounts of workforce housing, something he calls urgent — and possible. "Like I've done locally, in the Senate I'll meet the crisis by fixing antiquated zoning laws, expanding transit, modernizing financing tools, streamlining construction, and deploying more diverse housing models," he says.

Additional Candidates



Jimih Jones
Automotive Parts
Advisor

Republican. Jones previously ran for Congress in this area in 2022, finishing sixth out of seven candidates.



Democratic Presidential Primary



How does the presidential primary work?

California will send 496 delegates to the Democratic National Convention, of which 277 delegates will be allocated by congressional district to each candidate who finishes with at least 15% of the vote in each district; 147 delegates will be divided among each candidate who finishes with at least 15% of the statewide vote; and 72 delegates will be state and party officials not pledged to a candidate through the primary vote.

Who can vote in this primary?

Voters registered as Democrats, along with voters registered as No Party Preference. No Party Preference voters will need to request a crossover ballot from their county elections office to vote in this primary.

Key Candidates ?



Joseph R. Biden Jr.
President, United States of America
Democrat



Dean Phillips
U.S. Representative
Democrat



Marianne Williamson
Author
Democrat

Key Supporters ?

For Biden

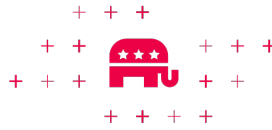
- Gavin Newsom, governor, California
- Alex Padilla, U.S. senator
- Nancy Pelosi, U.S. representative

For Williamson

- Maebe A. Girl, neighborhood councilor, Silver Lake

For Phillips

- N/A



Republican Presidential Primary



How does the GOP presidential primary work in California?

Last year, the state Republican Party changed its rules for selecting delegates. Under the new rules, if a candidate gets more than 50% of the statewide total of Republican votes cast, they get all of California's 169 Republican delegates. If no candidate manages to get a majority of the votes, delegates will be awarded in proportion to the share of the statewide vote that each candidate receives.

Who can vote in this primary?

The California Republican Party holds a "closed primary," meaning only voters registered as Republican can vote to choose the party's nominee. If you wish to vote in this primary and are not a registered Republican, you can re-register [here](#). After Feb. 20, you can change party registration, up until election day, in person at your local polling place, a vote center or your county elections office.

Key Candidates ?



Nikki Haley
Former Governor,
South Carolina/Former
Ambassador, United
Nations
Republican



Donald J. Trump
Former President,
United States of
America
Republican

Key Supporters ?

For Haley

- Lanhee Chen, fellow, Hoover Institution
- Tim Draper, Silicon Valley venture capitalist
- Jeff Gorell, supervisor, Ventura County
- Suzette Martinez Valladares, former state Assembly member

For Trump

- Shannon Grove, state senator
- Darrell Issa, U.S. representative
- Kevin McCarthy, former House speaker
- Michelle Steel, U.S. representative