

Coalition LA wants you to be counted in the February 5, 2008 Primary Election

A primary election is your chance to tell your party which candidate best represents you and your concerns. So Coalition LA encourages you to read the candidates' statements in your state-issue voter guide and in the literature that the candidates themselves send you and match them up against the issues that matter to you such as affordable housing, better schools, improved transportation, healthcare for all, and more jobs. Even if you checked "decline to state" for your party, the Democratic and American Independent parties will allow you to vote in their primaries. Simply tell your poll worker that you would like a ballot for the party in whose primary you would like to vote.

Coalition LA's Positions on the Ballot Propositions

Proposition 91: NO

Proposition 91 is no longer needed since we already voted in the last election to earmark gas taxes for transportation spending. Even 91's proponents say to vote NO on this one.

Proposition 92: NO Proposition 92 sounds good since it would cut community college tuition by \$5 per unit, but we at Coalition LA are concerned that, if passed, Prop. 92 would lock California's constitution into a huge new spending mandate with no way to pay for it. This could mean cuts for K-12 schools, other colleges, health care programs for the disabled and public safety. Also, the fee reduction would have no direct impact on needy students because fees are already waived for all students with a demonstrated financial need.

Proposition 93: YES

Proposition 93 would allow a state assembly member or a state senator to stay in one or the other office for a total of 12 years rather than just 6 years in the assembly or 8 years in the senate. Whether or not this proposition serves the interests of the politicians that put it on the ballot, Coalition LA believes that the benefits of this term-limit change outweigh the problems with it. Our legislators simply do not have enough time to accomplish what we sent them to Sacramento to do. Prop 93 strikes a reasonable balance between the need to elect new people with fresh ideas and the need for experienced legislators to do the work of the people.

Propositions 94 – 97: NO

Passage of these 4 propositions would mean that four tribes would not have to adhere to certain labor and environmental standards that are currently part of Indian Gaming legislation. In addition, the deals between these four tribes and the state concentrate a third of the state's Indian gaming revenue in the hands of just four of 108 tribes and it is unclear how much money any of this would bring to the state since these propositions would leave it up to the tribes themselves to report their revenues.

LA Measure S: YES

Measure S, to be voted on in the city of Los Angeles only, would keep the city from losing \$270 million for essential city services such as libraries, public parks and recreation programs, fire stations and street maintenance and would mean a 1% decrease in what we already pay. It would simply make up on a local level what we were paying in the past on the state level and it completely exempts low-income seniors and persons with disabilities from paying the tax. Measure S would also close a loophole that allows many corporations to not pay because they use private networks.