



Presented by Carmen Murray
And Bonnie Hamlin
Date October 16, 2025

Nov. 4, 2025 CA Special Election Ballot Overview

What the League Does

OUR MISSION

Empowering Voters.
Defending Democracy.

Educate



Advocate

Advocacy

The act of pleading or arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, policy, or interest, or the active support of an idea or

Voting is not a test

How to Evaluate Measures

- Why?
- Cost?
- Unintended consequences?
- Follow the money
- Support or Oppose?

On the Ballot



- ONLY 1 Measure - **PROPOSITION 50**
 - **Votes Needed to Pass : Simple majority (50% + 1 vote)**
 - **Legislative Propositions can modify the California Constitution**

PROPOSITION 50

Should the state authorize temporary changes to congressional district maps in response to Texas' partisan redistricting?

What are Congressional Districts ?

A grouping of residents of a state who vote to select someone to represent their interests in the House of Representatives.

- There are 435 districts
- 52 of the 435 represent California voters (12% of the total.)



Who Draws Congressional District Maps in California?

- **Prior to 2008:** Legislators.
- **2008-Present:** Prop 11 approved; established a non-partisan, independent, citizen commission to draw the maps for state-level representative districts
- **2010-Present:** Prop 20 approved; Commission given authority to draw U.S. Congressional districts



The California Citizens Redistricting Commission

- Established by Article XXI of the California Constitution
- Made up of 5 Republicans, 5 Democrats, and 4 not affiliated with either of those two parties.
- Requires the district lines be drawn in conformity with strict, nonpartisan rules.



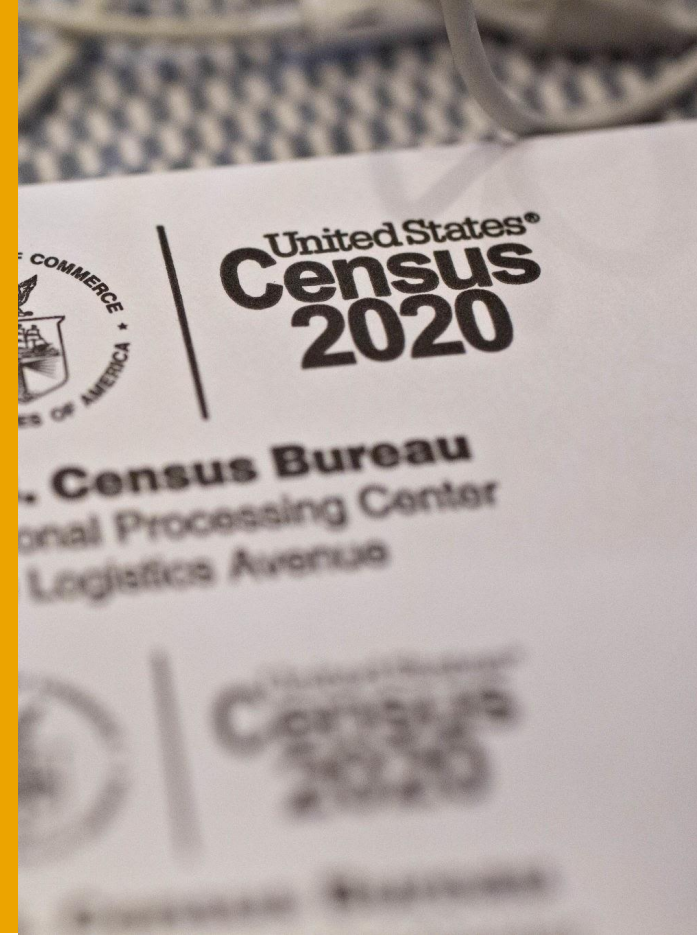


How do other states draw congressional maps?

- In most states, the legislature has primary control of the redistricting process, both for state legislative and congressional districts.
- Only California, Arizona, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Michigan, Montana, New York, and Washington use independent citizen commissions to draw congressional lines.

When are the lines drawn?

- New maps are redrawn every 10 years, after the U.S. Census is completed
- The California Citizens Redistricting Commission certified the current district maps on December 27, 2021 (after the 2020 Census).



TIMELINE to Prop 50

June/July 2025

President Trump asked Texas State Legislators to re-draw their congressional maps to improve Republicans' ability to win 5 districts now held by Democrats.

August 2025

Texas Legislature passed a bill to adopt new maps for the 2026 elections.

TIMELINE to Prop 50 (continued)

August 18, 2025

Initiated by CA State Legislators (with Governor Newsom's support), Assembly Bill 604 passes, approving new congressional maps.

November 4, 2025

CA Voters' will decide whether to approve Prop. 50 via the special election in November, which enacts the new maps of Assembly Bill 604.

What will Prop 50 do?

- Change the California Constitution allowing new maps temporarily to replace the maps drawn by the **California Citizens Redistricting Commission (CCRC)**.
- Require that these maps be used until the CCRC draws new maps using the results of the 2030 U.S. Census.
- Establish policy that supports the use of non-partisan redistricting commissions nationwide.

Prop 50 would also:

Change the percentage of registered Republicans and Democrats in 10 of the 52 districts in California so that:

- Democrats would have an advantage in five districts currently represented by Republicans
- More Democrats would be pulled into five swing districts currently represented by Democrats.



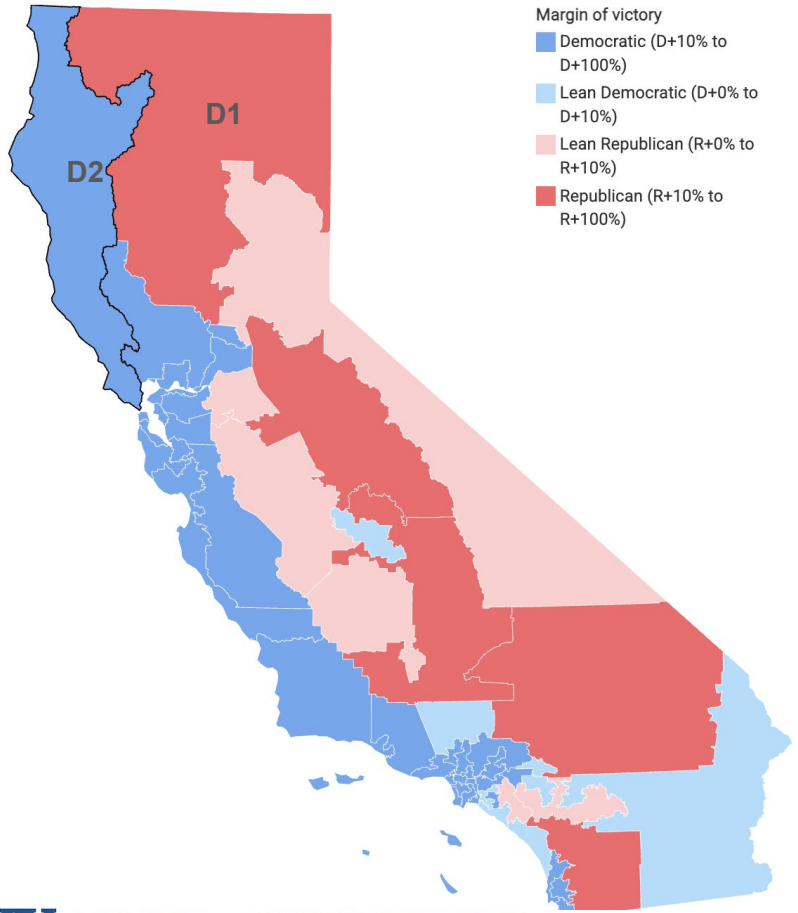
Fiscal effects

(only if Prop 50 passes):

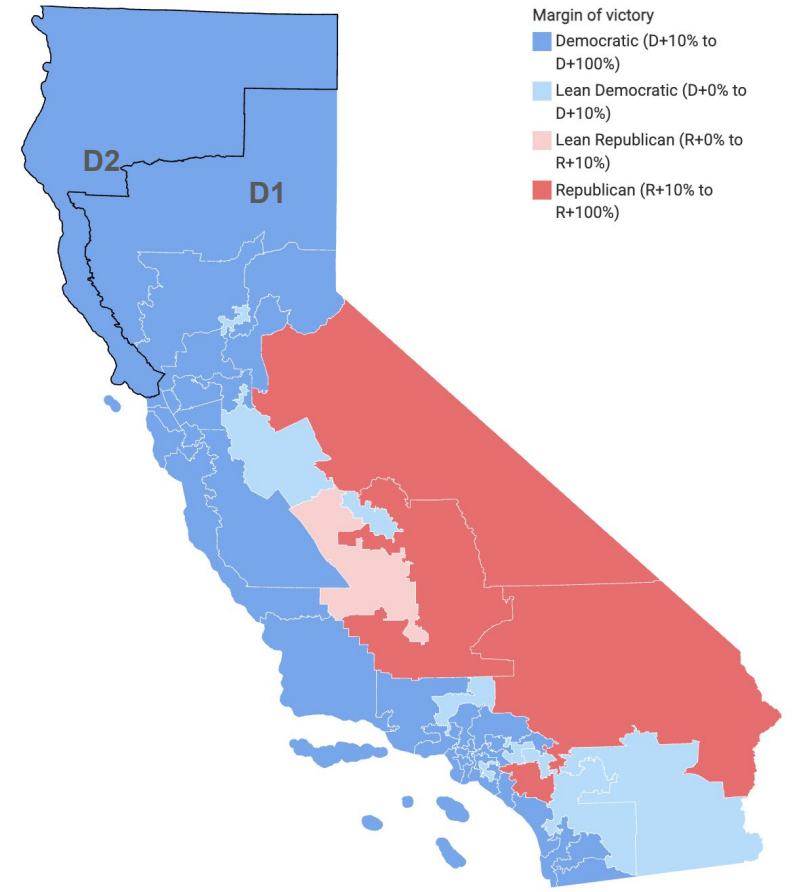
- One-time costs to counties of up to a few million dollars to update election materials.
- One-time costs to the state of \$200K.
- These numbers do not include the cost of the special election.



California's 2024 presidential election results by existing congressional districts

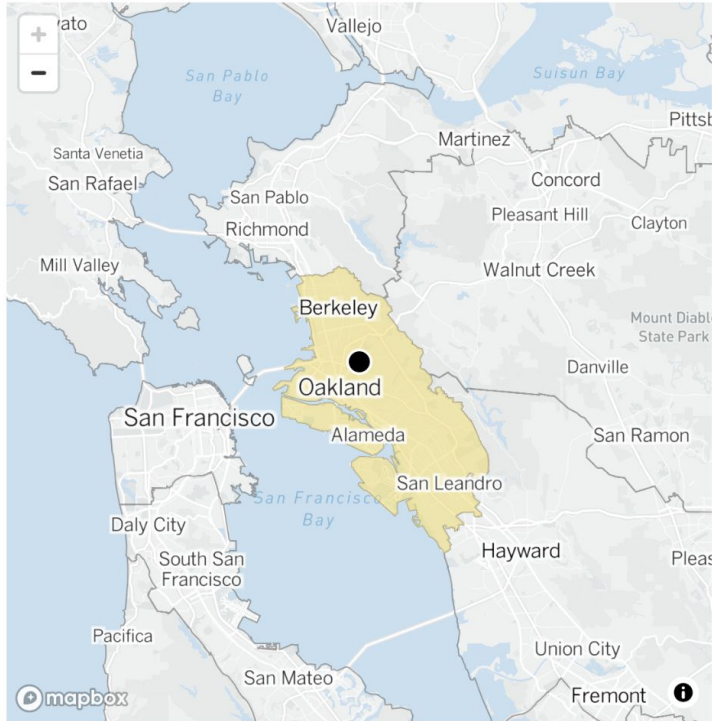


California's 2024 presidential election results by proposed congressional districts



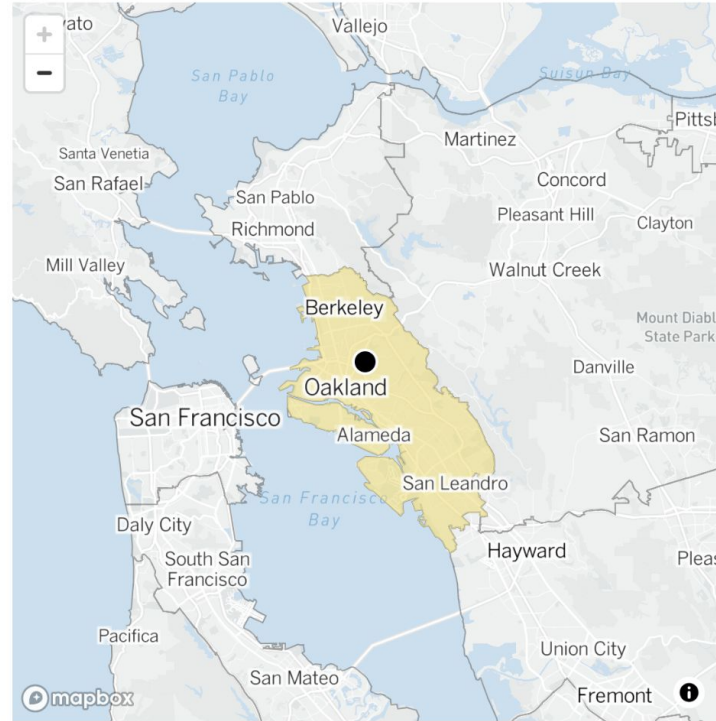
Current: CA-12

Your district is represented by **Lateefah Simon (D)**.



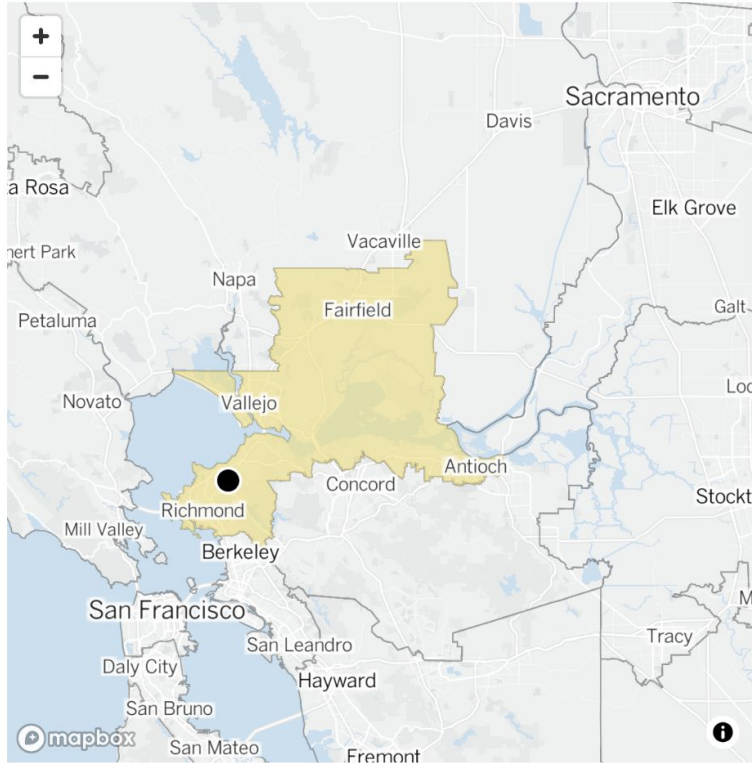
Proposed: CA-12

Your new district would include **522,733** citizens of voting age.



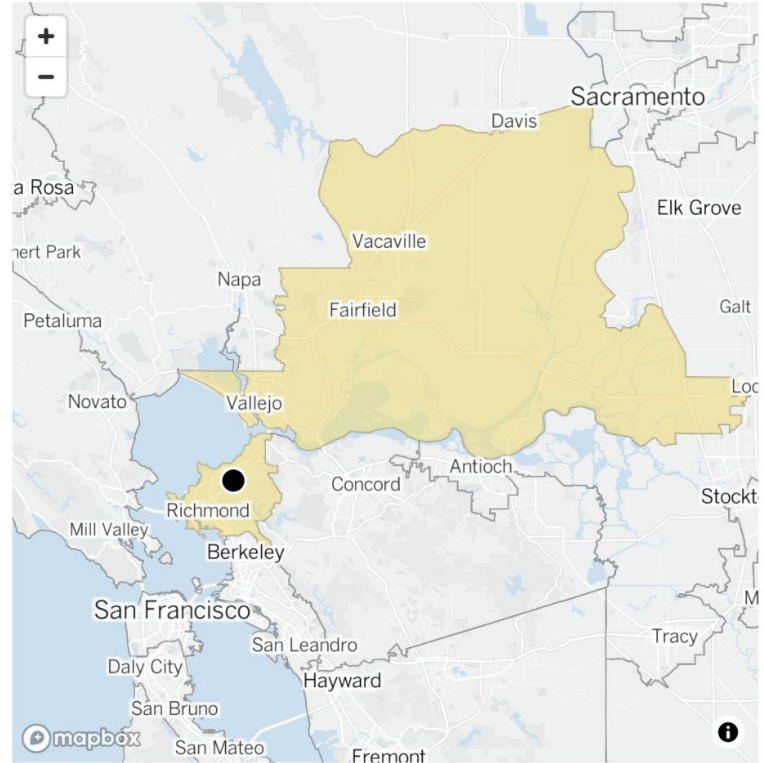
Current: CA-8

Your district is represented by **John Garamendi (D)**.



Proposed: CA-8

Your new district would include **513,705** citizens of voting age.



Current: CA-10

Your district is represented by **Mark DeSaulnier (D)**.



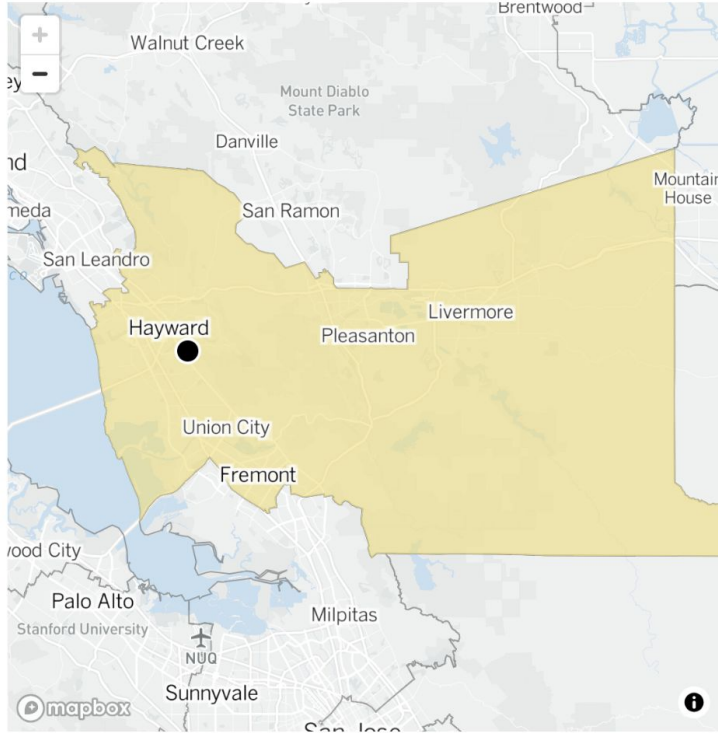
Proposed: CA-10

Your new district would include **524,308** citizens of voting age.



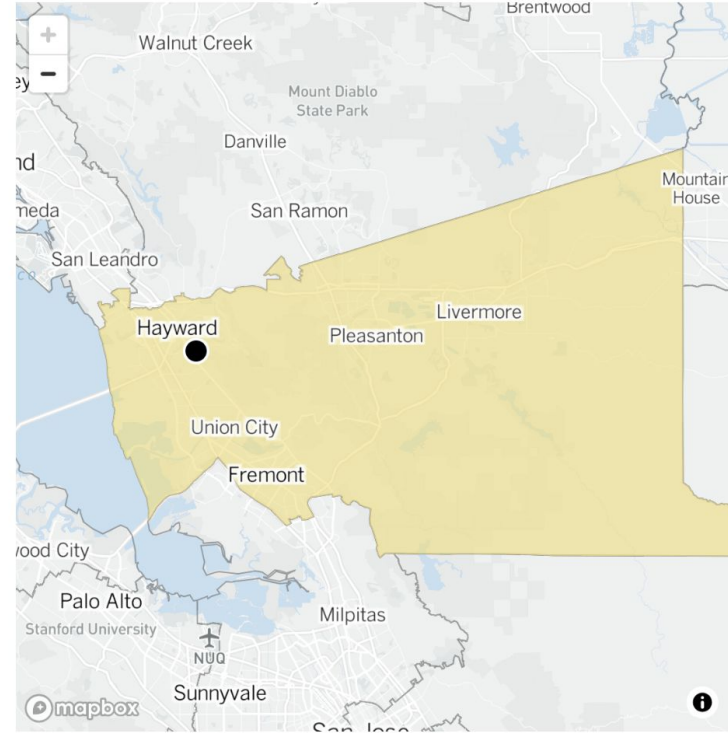
Current: CA-14

Your district is represented by **Eric Swalwell (D)**.



Proposed: CA-14

Your new district would include **464,109** citizens of voting age.



- Arguments listed on the slides come from supporters and opponents, as published in the Official Voter Information Guide.
- We cannot vouch for their accuracy.
- They do not represent the League's viewpoint.
- They reflect the supporters' and opponents' opinions and may not be based on facts.

Supporters:

- Barack Obama
- Gavin Newsom
- CA Professional Firefighters
- CA Federation of Teachers
- SEIU CA State Council
- Indivisible California
- Planned Parenthood Affiliates of CA
- CA Democratic Party

Supporters say Prop 50:

- Is a temporary emergency plan to stop attempts unfairly to rig the 2026 election.
- Requires voters' approval
- Creates fair maps that reflect California's diverse communities
- Keeps California a leader in fair elections
- Strengthens our national democracy countering an unfair advantage to conservatives in the U.S.

Opponents:

- Charles Munger Jr.
- Arnold Schwarzenegger
- Kevin McCarthy
- CA Business Roundtable
- Congressional Leadership Fund
- Republican Party of CA

Opponents say Prop 50:

- Is a power grab by politicians
- Replaces an open public process
- Hurts fair representation
- Lets politicians control district lines for years and could open the door to permanent control
- Costs taxpayers \$200 million

Funds raised as of September 22, 2025

“Yes” Total - \$121,136,775*

Fund for policy Reform	\$10,000,000
MoveOn.Org PAC	\$6,900,000
CA Teachers PAC	\$3,000,000
CCA Nurses Assoc.	\$2,600,000
Michael Moritz	\$2,500,000
Newsom for Gov. 2022 PAC	\$2,000,000

Funds raised as of September 22, 2025

"No" Total – \$35,287,130

Charles Munger Jr.

\$30,094,960

Congressional
Leadership Fund

\$5,000,000

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS

A "YES" vote supports amending the California Constitution to allow the state temporarily to use new congressional maps for 2026 through 2030.

WHAT YOUR VOTE MEANS



A "NO" vote opposes the constitutional amendment and keeps the existing congressional maps in place for use in congressional elections from 2026 through 2030.

DEADLINES

- The county elections office will begin mailing ballots by October 6, 2025.
- The last day to register to vote for this election is Oct. 20, 2025.
- Starting October 21, 2025: Conditional, same-day voter registration is available up through November 4, 2025.

Remember! Mail your ballots by October 31 or return your ballot to a drop-box or voting center by Nov. 4, 2025. Many locations are at libraries and rec centers!

Thank you for being a voter!

- More information: [LWVO Voting & Elections - League of Women Voters of Oakland](http://lwvoakland.org) lwvoakland.org
- See Your Ballot: ACVote.org
- Support democracy - Join the League: lwvoakland.org/