



**SUNRISE  
FRESNO**



# VOTER GUIDE 2020



# DSA Fresno & Sunrise Fresno

## Voter Guide

This voter guide is the product of the collaboration between the electoral working groups of DSA Fresno and Sunrise Fresno. Please keep in mind that the following recommendations are simply recommendations. We strongly encourage the readers of this guide to do their own research and simply use this voter guide as a starting point. **When considering positions on each proposition or candidate, we considered the effects they would have on the health of our environment, the size and power of the prison industrial complex, the advancement of working class interests, and the future that we will all share.** Some of these decisions were easier to make than others. If there was considerable debate or any uncertainty when taking a position, we have made that clear by highlighting it in orange and adding two asterisks \*\* at the end. We hope that this voter guide helps you make a more informed decision when filling out your ballot. If all you're looking for is a quick cheat sheet, scroll down to the bottom!

Solidarity from your neighbors at Sunrise Fresno & DSA Fresno ☺

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## Presidential Race

We denounce the current presidential administration.

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## Congressional Races

Vote against Republicans. We will not recommend for you to vote for any of the Democrats running in these races as we believe that they do not

represent and fight for the working class. Furthermore, they refuse to openly support Medicare For All or the Green New Deal, two key pieces of legislation that we believe should be the bare minimum for a congressional candidate. That being said, local Republicans like Devin Nunes are much worse and need to be voted out. They are helping the current presidential administration continue to rob the working class of their rights and their wealth so that the stock market can continue to rise.

We need better candidates the next time around. We need candidates who we can trust to fight for the working class. Join Sunrise Fresno and DSA Fresno; organize with us to fight against the climate crisis while ensuring a better future for the working class.

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## Propositions

### **Proposition 14: Stem Cell Research Institute Bond Initiative**

**NO**

*Prop 14 would provide \$7.8 billion in state funding to the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine (CIRM) for medical research. We support stem cell research, but this is a bad investment for California, especially during a pandemic. CIRM has access to other sources of funding including previously unavailable federal money, and as a measure, this will cost taxpayers \$260 million per year over 30 years. There is very little legislative oversight or accountability for conflicts of interest within CIRM's governing board.*

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**Proposition 15: Tax on Commercial and Industrial Properties for Education and Local Government Funding Initiative**

**YES**

*Prop 15 increases funding for community colleges, K-12 schools, and local governments by requiring wealthy corporations to pay their fair share of property tax based on current market value. This legislation exempts residential properties; agricultural land; and owners of commercial and industrial properties with combined value of \$3 million or less.*

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**Proposition 16: Repeal Proposition 209 Affirmative Action Amendment**

**YES**

*Voting “yes” on prop 16 eliminates the ban on affirmative action that California passed in the 1990s. We believe affirmative action is an important tool to address the historic gender and racial inequalities in society by allowing those factors to be considered in public education, public employment, and public contracting.*

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**Proposition 17: Voting Rights Restoration for Persons on Parole Amendment**

**YES**

*Currently in California, people on parole for felony convictions can’t vote. This disproportionately disenfranchises people of color due to the racial bias in our criminal justice system. A “yes” vote on Prop 17 will restore their right to vote. We believe that the right to vote is important, and a past felony conviction should not change that.*

*Taking away a parolee's right to vote is a form of voter suppression that unjustly extends their sentence & is a barrier for reintegration to society.*

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### **Proposition 18: Primary Voting for 17-Year-Olds Amendment**

**YES**

*This is straightforward. If you will be 18 years of age by the time of the general election, you will now be able to vote in the primary for that election. We should be encouraging young people to vote. There are no credible arguments against this.*

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### **Proposition 19: Property Tax Transfers, Exemptions, and Revenue for Wildfire Agencies and Counties Amendment**

**NO**

*This initiative will further deepen the generational wealth gap, making homeownership for younger buyers more out of reach, and will continue to erode local tax bases. Currently, seniors, the disabled, and disaster victims can transfer tax benefits on their under-assessed properties once within the same county. This initiative would allow such transfers up to 3 times anywhere in the state even on properties of greater value, giving an unfair advantage over first-time buyers. This will facilitate a lot of buying and selling which is why the real estate industry has spent over \$36 million on this campaign.*

*This initiative is very similar to one that voters overwhelmingly defeated in 2018. While the new version does cap benefits on inherited properties that family members don't live in, this isn't an acceptable tradeoff.*

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## **Proposition 20: Criminal Sentencing, Parole, and DNA Collection Initiative**

**NO**

*This prop seeks to undo the progress of police reform efforts in the last 15 years by imposing harsh sentences (reclassifying misdemeanors as felonies) and DNA collection for non-violent crimes, like shoplifting, and attacking alternatives to incarceration. Voting “no” on this proposition will prevent the police state from increasing its power.*

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## **Proposition 21: Local Rent Control Initiative**

**YES**

*Voting “yes” will allow cities to vote on rent control measures for almost all rental housing, as long as it’s more than 15 years old; landlords with up to two properties are exempt from this. **This will support local communities against gentrification and eviction.** This is absolutely necessary to address California’s affordability crisis and preserve cultural and socioeconomic diversity.*

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## **Proposition 22: App-Based Drivers as Contractors and Labor Policies Initiative**

**NO**

*Last year, California passed AB 5, which forced ride-sharing companies like Uber and Lyft to classify their drivers as employees instead of independent contractors. This meant that drivers should be provided with fair wages, healthcare, paid time off, unemployment benefits, etc. that independent contractors are not given.*

*Prop 22 is an attempt by the gig economy industry to overturn AB 5 and*

*continue increasing their profits while refusing to give their employees the basic rights that they deserve. Uber, Lyft, DoorDash, InstaCart, and Postmates have spent a whopping \$180 million supporting Prop 22. A “no” vote on Prop 22 is a win for labor rights in the gig economy.*

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## **Proposition 23: Dialysis Clinic Requirements Initiative**

**YES**

*We support Prop 23 because it:*

- 1. Requires at least one licensed physician on site during treatment at dialysis clinics*
- 2. Prohibits clinics from refusing to treat patients based on source of payment for care.*
- 3. Most importantly, this prohibits clinics from closing or reducing services without state approval - despite opposition fearmongering, they can't just shut down clinics.*

*Prop 23 is a proposition brought forth by the SEIU-UHW(United Health Care Workers) Union, a union representing healthcare workers, patients, and healthcare consumers. The main opponents of Prop 23 are 2 private for-profit companies, [Davita, Inc. and Fresenius Medical Care](#), who control nearly 72% of the licensed dialysis clinics in California, and generate billions in annual profits. Davita and Fresenius have contributed a combined \$85 million out of the total \$93 million contributions to fight Prop 23. These corporations generate enough profits to ensure that healthcare workers are given the financial resources to care for their patients and provide for their families at home.*

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## Proposition 24: Consumer Personal Information Law and Agency Initiative\*\*

**NO**

*We must improve the CCPA and fight for data privacy rights, but this proposition is not convincing enough to support as it is written. There is no consensus among the top privacy advocate orgs on this prop, either. While it does seem to advance some privacy rights like creating an independent agency to enforce data privacy law, it doesn't do enough to address issues found in the California Consumer Privacy Act (which Prop 24 aims to "fix") such as the fact that it would be possible for "privacy-for-pay" schemes to exist. Although the prop would mandate that Californians have a right to ask any organization to delete any data that may have been collected about them, there is a clause that allows organizations to decline the request if they believe that keeping the data will "help ensure security and integrity."*

*In the end, we decided to suggest a "no" vote on Prop 24 for two big reasons. If this is passed as a prop, it will be very difficult to make changes to it if it has unintended consequences. Also, we believe that privacy should be a right, not a luxury or commodity. **We recommend a "no" vote on Prop 24, but not without some hesitation.***

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## **Proposition 25: Replace Cash Bail with Risk Assessments Referendum**

**NO**

*As prison abolitionists, we support ending the discriminatory cash bail system, but this isn't the way to do it. Don't be fooled, **Prop 25** replaces the predatory bail industry with something that could be far worse:*

- (1) automated racial profiling through risk-assessment algorithms*
- (2) unchecked power to judges, and*
- (3) increased power and funding for probation departments to provide 'pre-trial services'.*

*By that, they mean mandated surveillance and probation check-ins for arrestees that haven't yet been convicted of a crime. Advocates of ending cash bail like the ACLU and public defenders have pulled back their support for the original legislation (SB 10) this initiative seeks to uphold because they understand the dangers it presents to low-income communities of color.*

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# Local Races

## State Center Community College District Trustee Area 3

### **DARY REZVANI**

*Dary Rezvani has time and time again shown that he sticks up for the working class. As a vocal supporter of the Green New Deal, we are certain that Dary would consider the environment in every decision he makes as SCCCD Trustee.*

*For more info, or to donate to and volunteer for Dary, [click here!](#)*

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## Fresno Unified Board of Education Trustee Area 5

### **DAVID PAREDES**

*David Paredes is a local community organizer and Southwest Fresno advocate. As co-chair of DSA Fresno, David helped put a mutual aid network together that focused on providing resources for those affected by COVID. We are confident that David will do a great job fighting for working class families if elected.*

*For more info, or to donate to and volunteer for David, [click here!](#)*

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## Central Unified Board of Education Trustee Area 6

### **STACY WILLIAMS**

*Stacy Williams is a true social justice advocate. Her emphasis on restorative justice solutions and environmental sustainability make her the perfect candidate for this position. Stacy will fight for the changes we desperately need.*

*For more info, or to donate to and volunteer for Stacy, [click here!](#)*

<b>PROPOSITION / ELECTED OFFICE</b>	<b>POSITION</b>
<b>PRESIDENTIAL RACE</b>	<b>FDT</b>
<b>CONGRESSIONAL RACES</b>	<b>VOTE AGAINST REPUBLICANS</b>
<b>PROP 14</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>PROP 15</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>PROP 16</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>PROP 17</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>PROP 18</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>PROP 19</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>PROP 20</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>PROP 21</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>PROP 22</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>PROP 23</b>	<b>YES</b>
<b>PROP 24</b>	<b>SOFT NO</b>
<b>PROP 25</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT TRUSTEE AREA 3</b>	<b>DARY REZVANI</b>
<b>FRESNO UNIFIED BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEE AREA 5</b>	<b>DAVID PAREDES</b>
<b>CENTRAL UNIFIED BOARD OF EDUCATION TRUSTEE AREA 6</b>	<b>STACY WILLIAMS</b>