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ACT/ADC Endorsement Ballot Results

Thursday May 3, 2018

The results of last month's endorsement ballot are below. To be endorsed a candidate or measure must receive 60% of the vote (excluding "no endorsement"). The names of endorsed candidates/measures appear in **bold**.

	ACT	ADC
Federal Offices:		
United States Senate:		
Dianne Feinstein	79 84%	56 84%
Kevin deLeon	13 14%	11 16%
No Endorsement	2 2%	0 0%
CD 27:		
Judy Chu	92 100%	66 99%
Bryan Witt	0 0%	1 1%
CD 28:		
Adam Schiff	95 100%	70 100%
Statewide Offices		
Governor:		
John Chiang	75 78%	55 80%
Delaine Eastin	7 7%	6 9%
Gavin Newsom	9 10%	5 7%
Antonio Villaraigosa...	4 4%	3 4%
No Endorsement.....	1 1%	0 0%
Lieutenant Governor:		
Eleni Kounalakis	79 88%	61 91%
Ed Hernandez.....	6 7%	6 9%
No Endorsement.....	5 5%	0 0%

Secretary of State:			
Alex Padilla	91 97%	68 100%	
Michael Feinstein.....	1 1%	0 0%	
No Endorsement.....	2 2%	0 0%	
Attorney General:			
Xavier Becerra	88 94%	64 94%	
Dave Jones.....	4 4%	4 6%	
No Endorsement.....	2 2%	0 0%	
Controller:			
Betty Yee	91 97%	67 99%	
No Endorsement.....	3 3%	1 1%	
Insurance Commissioner:			
Asif Mahmood	72 79%	52 80%	
Ricardo Lara	11 12%	11 17%	
No Endorsement.....	8 9%	2 3%	

State Treasurer:
We inadvertently left **State Treasurer** off our April ballot, so have no endorsement results for that race.
FYI the Research Committee voted to recommend the endorsement of Fiona Ma 8-0-0. The Steering Committee voted to recommend the support of Fiona Ma 22-0-0.

State Legislature

41st Assembly District:

Chris Holden	90	98%	66	100%
Kenneth Rotter	2	2%	0	0%
No Endorsement	0	0%	0	0%

Los Angeles County Offices:

Sheriff:

Alex Villanueva ...	64	72%	48	100%
Jim McDonnell	16	18%	0	0%
No Endorsement	9	10%	0	0%

Pasadena Area Community College Trustees:

District 1:

Sandra Chen Lau ..	89	96%	64	100%
Ross Selvidge.....	3	3%	0	0%
No Endorsement	1	1%	0	0%

District 3:

Berlinda Brown.....	45	57%	31	57%
Roger Martinez	4	5%	4	7%
No Endorsement	30	38%	19	35%

State Ballot Measures:

Proposition 68:

YES	90	98%	66	100%
NO	1	1%	0	0%
No Endorsement	1	1%	1	0%

Proposition 69:

YES	87	95%	63	95%
NO	0	0%	0	0%
No Endorsement	5	5%	3	5%

Pasadena City Ballot Measures:

Proposition CC:

YES	74	86%	57	91%
NO	2	2%	2	3%
No Endorsement	10	12%	4	6%

Proposition DD:

YES	75	94%	47	92%
NO	0	0%	1	2%
No Endorsement	5	6%	3	6%

Superior Court Judges Recommendations

(Ratings by LA County Bar Association, ACT Steering Committee, LA County Demo. Party)

Superior Court Judges

Office 4: A. Veronica Saucedo (endorsed by LACDP; rated Well Qualified; public interest attorney). SC 22-0-0.

Office 16: Patricia Hunter (Deputy City Attorney; Democrat; highly recommended by ACT member Michael Duran). SC 22-0-0.

Office 20: no recommendation; both are career prosecutors; Mary Ann Escalante rated as well-qualified, while Wendy Segall rated as Qualified.

Office 60: Tony Cho (endorsed by LACDP and numerous Democratic clubs; rated as Qualified). SC 13-6-3.

Office 63: Hon. Malcolm Mackey (incumbent Judge; rated Exceptionally Well Qualified; opponent rated Not Qualified). SC 22-0-0.

Office 67: Hon. Maria L. Armendariz (incumbent Judge; rated Well Qualified). SC 22-0-0.

Office 71: Danielle Gibbons (rated Well Qualified; opponent rated Not Qualified). SC 11-4-6.

Office 113: Javier Perez (rated Well Qualified; endorsed by LACDP and numerous Democratic clubs). SC 22-0-0.

Office 118: David Diamond (rated Qualified; endorsed by LACDP; private practice attorney). SC 22-0-0.

Office 126: Rene Caldwell Gilbertson (rated Qualified; endorsed by LACDP; litigates child abuse cases). SC 22-0-0.

Office 146: Armando Duron (rated Qualified; endorsed by LACDP; serves as Commissioner of the Superior Court; highly recommended by ACT member Marilee Marshall). SC 22-0-0.

Continued on next page

State Offices (not included in previous endorsement ballot)

State Treasurer: Fiona Ma

State Superintendent of Public Education:
Tony Thurmond

State Ballot Measures

Prop. 70: NO

Prop. 71: No recommendation

Prop. 72: No recommendation

Local Ballot Measures (not included in previous endorsement ballot)

Measure AA: YES (Steering Committee vote 16 – 2 – 2)

Measure BB: YES (Steering Committee vote 15 – 2 – 3)



Steering Committee Position on Consolidating Elections to Conform to California Voter Participation Act

The following measures will be on the June 5 ballot. They are crafted so that any further input we may have had into how the consolidation will be implemented may no longer be viable as the options are not being put to the voters.

Ballot Measure AA – City Council Elections

Shall the Pasadena City Charter be amended consistent with state law to: 1) change the City's primary and general election dates to coincide with statewide primary and general election dates, beginning with the November 2018 general election; 2) extend the current terms of the Mayor and Council members by 19 months on a one-time basis in order to transition to the statewide election cycle; and 3) move the Mayor's thematic budget message to February? [Yes/No]

This measure will amend the City Charter to shift the dates for City Council Elections from a March-April primary-general election in odd

years to a March-November primary-general election in even years. This is to be consistent with the California Voter Participation Rights Act (CVPR) which prohibits the holding of local elections on any date other than a statewide election date if it results in a voter turnout that is 25% less than the average of the last four statewide general elections.

The Steering Committee voted to recommend support of the “Yes” position 16-2-2.

Ballot Measure BB – PUSD Board of Education Elections

Shall the Pasadena City Charter be amended consistent with state law to: 1) change the Pasadena Unified School District's election dates to coincide with statewide general election dates, utilizing the plurality voting format, beginning with the November 2020 general election; 2) extend the current terms of Board Members by 19 months on a one-time basis in order to transition to the statewide election cycle; and 3) change the timing of the Board President's annual address to May? [Yes/No]

This measure will amend the City Charter to shift the dates for the PUSD Board from a March-April primary-general election in odd years to a single November election in even years. The measure would also change the format of PUSD Board elections from a majority voting format whereby a candidate needs 50%+1 of the vote to win to a plurality voting format whereby a candidate need only get more votes than any one of their opponents.

The Steering Committee voted to recommend support of the “Yes” position 15-2-3.

*Note: The Research Committee's detailed report on Pasadena election calendar changes was printed in the December 2017 **Phoenix** and appears again here, on page fifteen.*

Political Notes



Tuesday, May 8.

Another Tuesday, another set of primaries. Some of the results will please the President, and others suggest Democrats may be well positioned for November. Mostly, though, they remind us that remarkably important choices are being made by a stunningly small slice of the electorate, which suggests one should use considerable caution in making any predictions based on these results. (But that's never stopped us before!)

In West Virginia, which featured perhaps the marquee race of the day, the candidate President Trump did not want to win in the GOP Senate primary was decisively defeated – which, remarkably enough, is a good thing for the country. Don Blankenship was the polar opposite of a candidate from central casting: he is still on probation after one year in federal prison for negligently contributing to the death of 29 West Virginia coal miners in the collapse of a mine his company owned; he ac-

tually lives in Las Vegas; and he ran some of the most blatantly racist and offensive ads in the history of American politics, criticizing “Cocaine Mitch” (Majority Leader Sen. Mitch McConnell) for creating jobs for “China people” and taking money from his “China family”. He was referring to McConnell’s wife, Sec. of Transportation Elaine Chao, and her father, who is a billionaire shipping magnate in China. After those ads started to run, internal polls were leaked over the weekend supposedly showing Blankenship gaining a narrow lead. That led President Trump to tweet and record robocalls asking Republican voters to vote for either of the other two Republican candidates – State Attorney-General Patrick Morrisey or Congressman Evan Jenkins. Jenkins, by the way, is the one who ran a TV ad attacking Morrisey for shaking hands with Hillary Clinton, except the ad was fraudulent – the picture was Photoshopped, overlaying Clinton’s figure onto a stock photograph.

Perhaps voters heeded the President’s appeal, or perhaps AG Morrisey was ahead all along. In any case, President Trump will claim credit, and Mr. Blankenship is now happily consigned to history. Yet two things remain particularly troubling: 27,000 West Virginians, or 20% of the primary electorate, still voted for Blankenship; and virtually none of the GOP establishment, not even Sen. McConnell or President Trump, called him to task for his ineffably ugly rhetoric. How is it that none of the party leadership was willing flat out to disavow the rhetoric and the speaker? And who are those Blankenship voters? Are they, in miniature, an exemplar of the core of the rebellion on the right? What is motivating them: economic insecurity, cultural alienation, simple racism, loss of group status, all of the above?

In business schools, it is now the “in” thing to talk about disruptive technologies, or disruptive businesses. That might be a useful frame-

work to understand these voters. They seem simply to want to disrupt the system, and they support the candidates who seem most alienated from, or most opposed to, the structures of government. They seem to have internalized the swamp analogy and see everyone in DC as guilty, no matter what their party or how ardent their conservatism. Maybe this comes from years of listening to Fox and talk radio, to the Tea Party, to Trump, and failing to see any change no matter whom they send to Washington.

There is a silver lining in this cloud. The total number of votes cast in the Republican primary will total around 148,000, once all the absentees and late ballots are tallied. By comparison, in 2012, Democratic incumbent Sen. Joe Manchin received about 400,000 votes, while his Republican opponent pulled in 240,000 votes. Mitt Romney, in his Presidential race, received 417,000 votes that year. So assuming the natural GOP base is somewhere between those two numbers, less than half of all the GOP voters cast votes in the primary, and the GOP voters in total represent less than half of all voters. And of that half of a half, only 20% voted for Blankenship. Thus, Blankenship's total is only around 5% of the overall electorate. One can take some solace in how small a slice of the electorate that is, yet those people do vote and disproportionately influence the outcome of Republican primaries.

In North Carolina's 9th CD, for example, a GOP incumbent Congressman was defeated in his primary. The incumbent, Robert Pittinger, had defeated his opponent, Mark Harris by 160 votes in 2016; this time, Harris turned the tables and defeated Pittinger by 800 votes. Both are hard-core pro-Trump far right con-

servatives; Harris attacked Pittinger for voting in favor of the recent funding bill (which the President signed), and each attacked the other for lying about how supportive of the President they were. But again, the number of votes cast in this race is barely 20% of the votes cast for the GOP candidate in the 2016 general election, so a vanishingly small slice of the electorate is choosing increasingly radical conservatives. In this case, however, that might backfire; while 35,000 Reps cast ballots, over 44,000 Dems cast ballot in their primary, and the Dem. primary winner, Dan McCready,



is both well-funded and well-positioned to flip what has been rated as a "Lean GOP" district. In Indiana, the GOP had a three-way race in their Senate primary, with two far-right incumbent Congressmen, Luke Messer and Todd Rokita, running vicious campaigns against one another, and a third candidate, Mike Braun, running against both Congressmen as an outsider. Braun slipped by both Messer and Rokita, winning with 40% of the

votes. It remains a puzzle how running against Washington, when your party controls the White House and both Houses of Congress, represents a winning strategy. Once again, though, the actual number of votes cast is perhaps 40% of the votes cast for the GOP Senate candidate in 2012, and of that Braun received only 40%.

Almost all the action today was on the GOP side; the one exception was the Ohio gubernatorial race. Dennis Kucinich was trounced by Richard Cordray for the Dem's nomination. This could have been a test of the Hillary vs. Bernie wings, but Cordray had the strong support of Sen. Elizabeth Warren, having proved his bona fides in leading the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. None of the Democrat's

other Senate candidates had any significant challengers from the left, nor did any incumbent Representatives. All three incumbent Democratic Senators – Sherrod Brown of Ohio, Joe Donnelly in Indiana, and Joe Manchin in West Virginia – have strong shots at re-election, notwithstanding that President Trump carried each of those states (with huge margins in West Virginia and Indiana). Each Senator has relatively strong approval rating in their states. Donnelly and Manchin won impressive victories in 2012 while Mitt Romney was carrying their states, so they are used to running against the tide. Keeping all three seats is critical if Dems are to have a shot at taking control of the Senate next year; my guess is each one will survive, and do so handily.

Back here in California, as we await our June primary, the economic and budget news is rather hopeful. At the end of March, year-to-date revenues were running over \$3 billion ahead of Gov. Brown's January projections and expenditures were running under projections. Even more impressive, April's revenues themselves were over \$500 million ahead of projections, with that trend likely to continue in May and June. Underlying this trend is the national economy, with remarkably low rates of unemployment, solid job growth, and wages that are starting to rise (due both to economic pressures and to the increase in minimum wages).

The end result is that legislators will have close to \$5 billion in excess revenue for the 2017 – 2018 fiscal year, which they could use for one-time funding boosts to schools, to the rainy day funds, to the state pension funds, or for infrastructure projects. Additionally, projections for the 2018 – 2019 fiscal year will likely be adjusted upward somewhat, freeing even more money for ongoing support. The schools are already near the top of their required funding levels under Prop. 98, so quite

a bit of the extra revenue could be allocated to general state expenses.

The challenge will be how responsibly to allocate that additional funding, at a time when Gov. Brown is in his last months in office leaving him with less political bargaining power than in past years. Further, the June 5th primary election is right in the middle of the budget negotiation process, so candidates might be tempted to inject themselves into the process to boost their campaigns. State Sen. Kevin de Leon, for example, as State Senate Majority Leader, is typically one of the “Gang of Five” that makes the final decisions on budget bills; he could easily position himself as a champion of the left and hold up budget negotiations for free college tuition for all residents (at least until the June 5th election) to promote his Senate candidacy.

My guess is that we'll see substantial additional one-time funding for schools and colleges, with the rainy day funds being fully funded, and fully funding the K-12 local control funding formulas. Even with all that, there will be money left over, and we'll see some fairly tough fighting in the Legislature on how to allocate those funds. I wouldn't be surprised to see the Governor use his line-item veto more forcefully than he has in the last two or three years, but the Legislature might well gather the 2/3 votes in each House to override some of those vetoes.

— Jon Fuhrman



Upcoming Meeting

Our next meeting is **Thursday, June 7** at the home of Jon Fuhrman and Susan Kane, *The Prado*, 840 E. Green Street, Pasadena. (2nd Floor, Clubhouse and Theater). Two days after the June 5 primary, we will, of course, be discussing election results. Please come and bring a friend.

Bon Voyage, Ellen

Our charming and generous friend, Ellen Coles, has moved away north to Tacoma, Washington. Ellen, a stalwart Democrat, Dodger fan, and multi-decade ACT member has served as ACT Co-Chair, Membership Chair, Recording Secretary (for years) and most recently as the one who reminds Mailing Committee members of upcoming *Phoenix* mailings.

She will join daughter Betsy (recently retired from CalTech) in Betsy's fourth story condo. There she can see Mt. Rainier on days when "the Mountain is out" from the east windows and Commencement Bay from the north windows. She will also be close to her cherished granddaughter and to daughter Janet, an Olympic National Park ranger.

Ellen, your ACT friends wish you well on your Pacific Northwest adventure. We miss you already.



Marge Wyatt

We are saddened by the death of Marjorie K. Wyatt on April 16 at age 93. Marge and her late husband Joe were staunch Democrats and Charter



Members of ACT. Marge was relentless in her advocacy for the education and well-being of children. She taught kindergarten and first grade in the 1950s in Buena Park and Culver City. In Pasadena she worked for children and civil rights through her leadership in myriad community organizations.

She was elected to the Pasadena School Board in 1977. Her support of school busing and the Pasadena desegregation plan was crucial in those turbulent years. Marge was always informed, strong, determined and gracious. Her impact on our community will be felt for years.

We extend our sympathy to Marge and Joe's

children, Dan, Linn and Jonathan and their families. They suggest that any memorial donations be made to Five Acres at 5acres.org.



Kathy Rodarte

We are sorry to note the death of Kathleen Rodarte on March 16 at 70 years of age.



Kathy was a longtime ACT member and a tireless advocate for education. In her 33 years working at PCC, she worked in Counseling, Financial Aid and other student support programs – always to help PCC students. She loved the arts, nature, and travel and was devoted to her family.

We extend deepest sympathy to her son Tim, his two children, and Kathy's three brothers.



ACT Campaign Contributions

At our May meeting the Steering Committee voted to contribute \$2,000 to the PCC Board campaign of Sandra Chen Lau (20-0-2). We also voted \$1,000 to Asif Mahmood's campaign for Insurance Commissioner (21-0-1). These contributions reflect our view of the high quality of these ACT-endorsed candidates, the importance of their election, and the limits of our treasury.



Check out ACT's Webpage

Bruce Wright, our website manager, is always looking for your ideas, photos and comments. He has provided us easy access to Swing Left's Calendar for the 39th CD via the webpage. Check it out: www.ACTpasadena.org!

You will also find the current on-line edition of *The Phoenix* (in color and often with items that couldn't be fitted into the print edition).

Contact Bruce at brucewright@sbcglobal.net.

Wonderings and Wanderings

By Inman Moore



“Proud To Be Human”

I attended a most remarkable gathering on Sunday, May 6 at the Athenaeum on the Campus of Caltech. It was to celebrate the life of the late Marge Wyatt. Her son, Jonathan presided over the very large crowd. Among those on the program were Bill Bogaard, former Pasadena City Mayor; Ramon Cortines, former school superintendent; and Rev. George Van Alstine, a former school board member. The crowd included many of the progressive leaders in the San Gabriel Valley, elected and otherwise. I came away feeling like the poet who said (with some liberties taken):

“Breathes there the persons,
with souls so dead,
Who never to themselves have said,
This is my own, my native land!”

This gathering appropriately praised one who made us all proud to be an American and a true citizen of the world. She and her husband Joe personified American citizens who truly care about their country and its institutions. They always made me feel great about being an American in the best sense of that word. She wanted everyone to have a good education, a good job, and a love for people of all races and class. Marge always made us feel that we were important. And Marge, you and Joe were extremely important. We shall never forget you.

The list of progressive organizations that she belonged to is staggering. It takes up a full page.

Marge we shall miss you, but your memory will always make us want to work harder to make America a country that is well educated, and inclusive of all regardless of race, creed, or color.

Today there are forces at work in our country that isolate races, reduce educational resources, beat the drums of war, and work to keep wages low for many of the more menial jobs in America.

But Marge you were a tireless worker in your day. Thank you for providing an example of what it is like to be a caring American citizen and a sterling human being. From the grave your memory provides us the strength and courage to continue the struggle for a better world. Thank you Marge!

— Inman



UDH Space Search

Our Pasadena Area United Democratic Headquarters (UDH) is once again seeking campaign office space. In this non-presidential election year we are looking for a smaller (and cheaper) space – 1,200-1,600 square feet. A store front would be great, but office space would work too.

If you spot a likely space in Pasadena, please let us know. Contact UDH Chair Hoyt Hilsman at hoyth75@gmail.com or Bill Hackett at billhackett2002@yahoo.com.

They need the address of the space and the name and phone of the real estate agent. Any additional details you can provide will be much appreciated.



UDH Activities

I attended the April Steering Committee meeting of 'United Democratic Headquarters' (UDH) and this is my take away from that meeting. UDH plans to be involved in this year's election by working with other like-minded organizations like Swing Left to flip the two closest Republican Congressional Districts. Those districts are District 25 centered in Santa Clarita to our Northwest and

District 39 centered in Fullerton to our Southeast.

The extent to which UDH will be involved hinges on at least two factors. The first factor is funding. UDH has X number of dollars in its coffers and will be increasing that funding through donors and their traditional Oktoberfest fundraising party. The 2nd factor will be the cost of rent for X number of months between the Primary and the General Election.

The range of activities based on the above two factors are, on the lower end a small office and staff who would arrange for volunteers to be bused to the districts for canvassing and on the higher end a much larger space and staff who would coordinate canvassing, phone banking and post card writing programs.

I love the community aspect of working in the UDH office during Presidential elections and believe that this off year election may be the most important mid-term election ever. I also believe that we have hundreds of potential volunteers who like to phone bank and write post cards so in that vein I'm making a contribution to UDH and urge you to do the same.

Let's flip the House.

— Ron Garber



Split Roll Initiative

Debbie Fagan of the Pasadena Chapter, League of Women Voters speaking at the May ACT Steering Committee meeting reported the following progress on qualifying the Proposition 13 Split Roll initiative. To date about 400,000 signatures have been gathered with 580,000 required. The goal is to collect a million signatures as some will not qualify for various reasons. Volunteers will be continuing to collect signatures up until June 30 when an analysis will determine how many additional signatures are needed to qualify the initiative. At that point paid

signature gatherers will have an additional 2 months to collect the balance required.

Originally the initiative was scheduled to appear on this November's ballot but strategically it was determined that it would stand a better chance of success if it were offered on the November Presidential election ballot in 2020 when more voters are likely to participate. The initiative if successful would result in more revenue being collected from larger commercial interests and the greatest positive impact would be to Public Education K through 12 and Community Colleges. All residential property and commercial property valued at less than \$500,000 would be exempted.

— Ron Garber



Sandra Chen Lau Asks for Two Hours of Your Time!

No excuses. You can walk for two hours or phone for two hours to ensure victory for Sandra Chen Lau. Just two short hours! It can be your major good deed for May! Sandra is a Democrat running for the PCC Board of Trustees and needs your help! Come walk every Saturday morning at 9 AM. We meet at 4565 Viro Road in La Canada. You can phone every Wednesday night at 1250 Journey's End Road in La Canada from 5 pm till 8 pm. We also phone from 3576 Milton Street in Pasadena on Thursday May 24 and Thursday May 31 from 5 to 8 PM. Just bring your cell phone and charger. Please show up and help. RSVP to sandraforpcc@gmail.com, appreciated, but not required. For more info call Bill Hackett 626 705-2180.



**From
25th District
State Senator
Anthony
Portantino**



Dear ACT Members

I'm excited to continue our work on behalf of foster youth through our annual foster youth town hall coming up on May 19th at PCC. It's a nice afternoon of connecting young people with important services. The Governor will be releasing the May revised budget next week. Stay tuned, it's a good budget year but lots of unmet needs are giving us many options this year. A good but challenging problem. I'm still optimistic that our effort to raise the base funding level for the Local Control Funding Formula has a good chance to happen.

We are also heading toward the house of origin deadline for our bills. In my case, I have to get my authored bills out of the Senate and to the Assembly by the end of the month or they are dead for this legislative session. Thus far, I've been pleased about our progress. Here are some of my bills that are still active.

SB 25- Since cities and school districts are not longer able to have stand alone elections this bill is an effort to boost turnout in local elections by changing the ballot order. Local elections would be listed first followed by county, state and federal elections last. **Status: Assembly Elections Committee.**

SB 328- This bill builds on 30 years of science and requires the school day for middle schools and high schools begin no earlier than 8:30 am. Studies show that pushing back the school day sees an increase in attendance rates, grade point averages, and test scores as students get their full recommend amount of sleep.

Status: Waiting reconsideration of the Assembly Floor.

SB 354- Requires local education agencies (LEA) upon request by a parent to translate the completed Individualized Education Plan (IEP) as well as any revisions to the IEP in the native language of the parent(s) within 30 days of being requested. **Status: Passed the Senate and in the Assembly.**

SB 399- Eliminates existing statutory obstacles and requires health insurance coverage for all forms of behavioral health treatment for Californians with Autism Spectrum Disorder without diminishing consumer protections. **Status: Passed the Senate and in the Assembly.**

SB 419- Covers all related forms of harassment and explicitly applies anti-retaliation protections of the California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to legislative employees and lobbyists. **Status: Passed the Senate and is the Assembly Rules Committee.**

SB 459- Mandates that the Department of Justice conduct inspections of licensed firearms dealers at least every 3 years.

SB 502- Requires a public entity that operates a rail transit system or a commuter train system to ensure that each train has an automated external defibrillator (AED) as part of its safety equipment. **Status: Passed the Senate and in the Assembly.**

SB 746- Adds the authorization of a person who has an outstanding warrant for a felony or misdemeanor to transfer their firearms or ammunition to a licensed firearms dealer for the duration of the prohibition. Under current law it is unclear if the surrender procedures for firearms and ammunition apply to all temporary prohibitions.

SB 832- Recognizes that the film and TV tax credit programs have been very successful at

generating jobs and economic benefit for California and extends the credit through 2024-2025. **Status: In Senate Appropriations Committee.**

SB 972- Requires schools in grades 7-12 and higher education to issue on pupil identification cards a suicide prevention hotline telephone number commencing July 1, 2019. **Status: Passed the Senate and in the Assembly.**

SB 1100- Prohibits the sale or transfer of any firearm by a licensed dealer, except as specially exempted, to any person below the age of 21 years. This bill will also extend one gun a month to long guns as well as handguns.

SB 1126- Includes the Arroyo Seco as part of the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group revitalization plan. This is the Tim Brick special!!!

SB 1133- Authorize the Los Angeles Regional Water Board, to accept certain funds from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and spend them to prepare a major revision to the Basin Plan for the Los Angeles region.

SB 1154- Requires the State Department of Health Care Services to determine a per capita rate of payment to a managed care plan for services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries with HIV or AIDS.

SB 1177- Creates a partially self-funded account that would allow classified school employees to contribute a small portion of their paycheck, which will be matched 2:1 by the state for summer time financial assistance.

SB 1214- Allows teachers with preliminary credentials to claim a \$2,500 above-the-line tax deduction on their personal state income taxes for fees incurred toward the completion of an Induction Program approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing.

SB 1243- Establishes the California State Pathways in Technology (CA P-TECH) Pro-

gram as a public-private partnership for purposes of preparing California students for high-skill jobs of the future. This is an exciting high school community college program pioneered by IBM.

SB 1263- Requires the OPC, the SWRCB, and the Office of Environmental Hazard Assessment, jointly, to the extent funds are available and on or before December 31, 2024, to adopt and implement a Statewide Microplastics Strategy to address microplastic materials that pose an emerging concern for ocean health. The study is to be conducted by the University of California. The goal of the strategy is to increase the understanding of the scale and risks of microplastic materials and microfibers.

SB 1266- Tries to stem the tide of residential burglaries by placing monitoring devices on repeat burglary offenders as a condition of parole.

SB 1422- Requires water districts in California to include levels of micro plastics in their annual reports of contaminants in drinking water.

All good on the family front as part of Bella's Girl Scout Gold Award is creating a cookbook with healthy, quick and inexpensive recipes for foster youth.

Warmly, — Anthony



Volunteers Still Needed to Flip the 39th

ACT and ADC have joined with Swing Left and other groups in the campaign to turn the 39th Congressional District from Republican to Democrat.

Sign up on Swing Left's calendar via ACT's webpage, ACTpasadena.org. Your help is urgently needed. Please volunteer today.

Swing Left will provide materials and training so you can go out with a partner to talk to targeted households. Bring water, comfort-

able shoes and a fully charged smartphone.

Note: Call ADC President Bill Hackett at billhackett2002@yahoo.com or 626 705-2180 and he may be able to facilitate ride-sharing.



**From
41st District
Assemblymember
Chris Holden**



Dear ACT Friends,

We are not even halfway into the legislative session, but I'm already happy to report some recent victories that will have a direct impact on all of us living in the 41st Assembly District. Both the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension and Orange/Red Line to Gold Line Bus Connector projects were approved to receive grants from the Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program – which receives its funding through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund and Senate Bill 1.

The Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension would extend the Gold Line 12.3 miles to Montclair. The Metro Orange/Red Line to Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit Corridor is a 17.3 mile new dedicated rapid bus route that creates a key regional connection between the San Fernando Valley and San Gabriel Valley. The 41st Assembly District will greatly benefit from these projects because when we connect communities, everyone thrives. Increasing public transportation options will reduce global warming pollution, promote economic development, create healthier communities, and - for those riding the new bus and rails lines - an enjoyable commute. I am proud to have supported both of these grant funding requests.

In early April, I nominated Pasadena local Thomas D. Seifert to represent the Arroyo

Seco Tributary on the newly established Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group. This was after our State Assembly Speaker, Anthony Rendon and the Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy expanded the nomination process for the working group to include the 41st Assembly District, even though the Arroyo Seco Tributary was left out of the original legislation that created it. I'm excited for what Thomas Seifert will bring to the table and looking forward to the acceptance of his nomination. Thomas Seifert has been involved with Pasadena non-profit organizations for almost 40 years. He currently serves as board chair of the Arroyo Seco Foundation, president of the La Casita Foundation and the Stewards of Public Land, vice chair of Pasadena Heritage and a member of the Pasadena Museum of History.

In Sacramento, I participated in a press conference with a coalition of state legislators and advocates to announce a package of criminal justice reform legislation affecting employment opportunities for Californians with prior convictions. Our bill package will prohibit the majority of State agencies that provide professional licenses from using arrest or conviction records as the sole basis to deny professional licenses to Californians with non-violent offenses. This bill package will provide relief and respect to marginalized communities and support them when our system neglected them. Specifically, my legislation requires the Department of Social Services to improve their licensing procedure by decreasing bias against well-trained, qualified people that were formerly incarcerated.

My public health legislation that requires idle and abandoned oil and gas wells be tested for hydrocarbon emissions, Assembly Bill 3146, passed its first policy committee. There are over 25,000 oil and gas wells across California, many close to where people live, that can emit harmful chemicals into our air undetected and

there are no requirements for operators or the Department of Conservation's Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources to test these wells for greenhouse gases and other air pollutants. I authored this bill because we need to know how much and how often these wells are emitting pollutants in order to protect public health.

Lastly, as part of the Assembly's Annual Holocaust Remembrance Ceremony in Sacramento, it was an honor to recognize Holocaust survivor Isabelle Teresa Huber of Claremont on the Assembly Floor. As a child of the Holocaust, her story is a reminder of the power of survival in the face of atrocity. We must continue to share her story and those of survivors to remember the past and help prevent future genocides.

I look forward to keeping you up to date in the next *Phoenix*.

Sincerely, — Chris R. Holden



The Case for Villaraigosa

Of all the Democratic candidates for Governor my least favorite is Antonio Villaraigosa; however I'm going to vote for him. Here is my reasoning however convoluted it may seem.

At one point it looked like Gavin Newsom and Antonio Villaraigosa would come out of the Primary one, two but currently the former Los Angeles Mayor has slipped to number 4 in the polls behind two Republicans, however there is no doubt that the next Governor is going to be a Democrat.

There are 7 to 9 current Republican Congressional districts we need to flip. This represents in excess of 1/3 of the number we need to pick up to recapture the House of Representatives.

If two Democrats head the ballot for Governor many, not all but enough, Republicans will stay home in November which increases our

odds of capturing the targeted Congressional Districts.

Vote for whoever you want in November but a strategic vote for Villaraigosa in June could lead to a Democratic House next January.

— Ron Garber



Welcome New and Returning ACT Members:

Paul Ahrens, Los Angeles
 Carrie Alston, Altadena
 Christle Balvin, Pasadena
 William & Edith Byerly, Altadena
 Charles Dillingham & Susan Clines, Pasa.
 Elizabeth Kahn, Altadena
 Joanne Larson, Pasadena
 Rick McKnight, Pasadena
 Amy Rickards, Pasadena
 Denise Robb, Pasadena
 Andrea Totten, Pasadena
 Betsey Tyler, Altadena
 Dorothy Wilson, Altadena
 Ellen Wood, South Pasadena



Special Thanks to Our Sustaining Members

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Pasadena, Continued from page 3

Steering Committee Position on Changing Pasadena Local Elections to Conform to General Election Dates

This article is a repeat from the December Phoenix.

The Research Committee met on November 12 to consider what, if any, position we should recommend that ACT ask the City Council to take on Senate Bill 415, and the Attorney General's opinion with respect to its application to Pasadena elections. The opinion was prepared at the request of Assemblyman Chris Holden. The election date change is said to be necessary for the City to be in Compliance with the California Voter Participation Act, which would eliminate off-year elections in order to increase voter participation. This bill, signed into law on September 1, 2015, provides that effective January 1, 2018, a local political subdivision [which according to the Attorney General includes Charter cities such as Pasadena,] is prohibited from holding an election on a date other than on a statewide election date if it has previously resulted in voter turnout that was at least 25% lower than the average turnout within that political subdivision for the previous four statewide general elections. This bill authorizes a voter who resides in a political subdivision where a violation is alleged to file an action to enforce this prohibition and requires a court to implement specified remedies including a change of election dates. The Research Committee meeting was attended by Marguerite Cooper, Jon Fuhrman, Fred Register, Jeanette Mann, Marilee Marshall, George Van Alstine, Ed Washatka and Bruce Wright.

Most members of the committee were less than enthusiastic - for various reasons - about moving our local elections. However, the majority agreed that a legal challenge would be extremely expensive for Pasadena and al-

most certainly futile. Further discussion ensued about whether or not to make a recommendation as to when and how the elections should be held. The options are complicated and we took no position at this time.

The Research Committee voted 6-2 to recommend that ACT advise the City Council not to oppose the application of Senate Bill 415 or the Attorney General's Opinion with respect to Pasadena elections.

The Steering Committee voted 22-2-2 to advise the City Council not to oppose the application of Senate Bill 415 or the Attorney General's Opinion with respect to Pasadena elections.

As for the options: The first option would be a Primary and General election format for the offices of Mayor and City Council, in which the odd-year March Primary election lines up with the statewide even-year March Primary election, and the City's odd-year April General election would be moved to line up with the statewide even-year November General election.

In this option, all successful candidates must receive a fifty percent plus one majority in either the Primary election or the statewide November General election, and then current terms for the Mayor and City Council would be extended by as many as 20 months in order to line up the statewide election cycle.

In the second option, the City would decide to have plurality voting for mayoral and City Council district elections — meaning that a successful candidate must simply receive the highest number of votes, regardless of percentages — and then, determine if Mayoral and City Council district elections should consolidate with, and occur on statewide Primary election dates, or on statewide General election dates. As with the first option, current terms for the Mayor and City Council would

be extended by as many as 20 months to line up with the statewide election cycle.

In a third option, the primary and general election format for Mayoral elections would require a fifty percent plus one majority to be elected, but Council elections would be plurality-based. The City's March odd-year primary elections would move to coincide with the statewide March Primary election held in even years. The odd-year City April General election would move to coincide with statewide November General election held in even years.

In this scenario, the Council would need to determine if the City Council District elections should consolidate with, and occur on statewide Primary dates, or on statewide General dates; and then current terms for the Mayor and City Council would also be extended by as many as 20 months to facilitate the one-time transition to the statewide election cycle.

The Research Committee leaned toward recommending November elections, but decided not to make any recommendation at this time, preferring to wait for further input from other organizations, such as the League of Women Voters. The Steering Committee agreed that we should wait for further input and review possible options before the options ultimately go to the voters next year.

Marilee Marshall,
Research Committee Chair



June Phoenix Deadline

The deadline for the June *Phoenix* is Sunday evening, June 10. Please send items for publication to Editors Chuck and Sally at hains27@sbcglobal.net. Preparing *The Phoenix* for mailing will likely be on Thursday, June 14 at a location to be determined.



Calendar

- | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>May 18
Friday
9-10 a.m.</p> | <p>Progressive Discussion Group at Dupar's Restaurant, 214 S. Lake Ave., Pasadena. Message Dale Gronemeier for info at dlg@gronemeier.com. Also 6/1 and 6/15.</p> |
| <p>June 5</p> | <p>California Primary Election.</p> |
| <p>June 6
Wednesday
7 p.m</p> | <p>UDH Steering Meeting at Karen Wingard's, 737 Magnolia, Pasadena.</p> |
| <p>June 7
Thursday
7 p.m</p> | <p>ACT Steering Committee/ADC Meeting at the home of Jon Fuhrman & Susan Kane, The Prado, 840 E. Green Street, Pasa, (2nd Floor, Clubhouse and Theater). Discussion of Primary Election results. Socializing at 7 p.m.; meeting at 7:30 p.m.</p> |
| <p>July 12
Thursday</p> | <p>Traditional Summer Potluck meeting. 6:30 p.m.</p> |



Where Have You Been?

Whether you have been near or far, vacationing or otherwise, please send us a high resolution photo (of you) to Chuck for *The Phoenix* at hains27@sbcglobal.net.



P. O. Box 40074
Pasadena, California
91114-7074

Renew Your 2018 Membership

Be sure you have renewed your membership in ACT and/or the Arroyo Democratic Club. Please use the form below to send in your membership check; or join or renew on line at www.actpasadena.org.

However you do it, we deeply appreciate your continued support as we fight for progressive ideals in the Foothills area. And many thanks to those who have renewed already!



If you have any questions about you membership, contact Executive Director, Jon Fuhrman at jon.fuhrman@outlook.com

Thank you to everyone who has already renewed. Your generous response is heartwarming!

I'd like to join both groups for one low price! (Checks payable to ACT/ADC)

\$40 Single	\$70 Single Sustaining
\$25 Each additional member per household	\$90 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$150 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

I'd like to join ACT (Checks payable to ACT)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
\$20 Gift Membership (NEW!)	\$275 Benefactor

I'd like to join the Arroyo Democratic Club (Checks payable to ADC)

\$35 Single	\$60 Single Sustaining
\$20 Each additional member per household	\$85 Double Sustaining
\$15 Student or limited income	\$125 Patron
	\$275 Benefactor

Extra Contribution

\$ _____ Political Account (for endorsed candidates and issues)
 \$ _____ Operating Account (for organizational costs) \$ _____ **Total enclosed**

 Name

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 Address

Office Phone

 City

ZIP

 Email address

Mail to ACT, P. O. Box 40074, Pasadena, CA 91114-7074

Information provided will be available to other members and endorsed candidates upon request.