



**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF PALOS VERDES PENINSULA**

**OCTOBER 2012**

**Voter**

**EDITOR:**  
Toni Lubofsky  
310-547-2656  
[LWVoter-PVPSP@cox.net](mailto:LWVoter-PVPSP@cox.net)

PRESIDENT NANCY MAHR 310-377-0735 [nlmahr@verizon.net](mailto:nlmahr@verizon.net)  
LWV 310-784-7787 [www.lwvpvp.org](http://www.lwvpvp.org)

**CALENDAR 2012**

**Wed, Oct 10** 12 noon  
**Wed, Oct 10** 6:30 - 7:45 pm  
**Sat, Oct 13** 1:00 pm  
  
**Thurs, Nov 1** 12 noon  
**Tues, Nov 6** 7am-8pm  
**Wed, Nov 14** 12 noon  
**Fri, Nov 16** 7:30 pm  
**Sat, Dec 1** 10:00 - 12:30

**Board Meeting**, Joan Hogan's home  
**Candidate Forum, Co-Sponsor AAUW**, Hesse Park  
**Ballot Measure Pros & Cons, Co-Sponsored with San Pedro Friends of the Library**, San Pedro Library  
**Initiative & Referendum Study meeting**, Nell Mirels', brown bag  
**ELECTION DAY!**  
**Board Meeting**, Joan Hogan's home  
**Elected Officials Party**, Pt. Vicente Interpretive Center  
**"Coffee & Conversation" Is Your Vote for Sale? Effects of spending on election outcomes**, Malaga Cove Library

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**Page 1** Calendar  
**Page 2** Smart Voter Launch  
Vote with the League  
**Insert** Pros and Cons  
**Page 3** Vote with the League  
**Page 4** LWV/PVP website

***Need a ride to a League meeting?***

There are some interesting League meetings coming up. I hope more of our members will participate. If you need a ride to one of the meetings, give me a call or send an email message. We have members who would be happy to give you a ride. Nancy, 310-377-0735, [<nlmahr@verizon.net>](mailto:nlmahr@verizon.net)

SAVE THE DATE:

NOVEMBER 16 AT 7:30 PM

**ELECTED OFFICIALS PARTY!!**

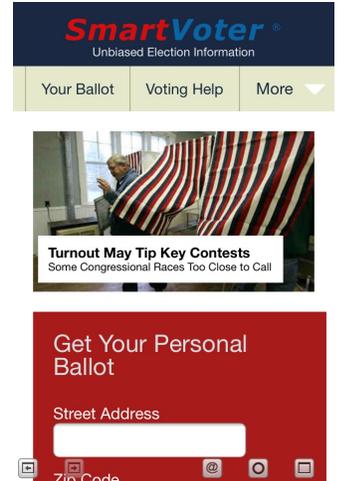
PT. VICENTE INTERPRETIVE CENTER

**DRAMATIC NEW “NEXT GENERATION” DESIGN FOR SMART VOTER DEBUTS**

**Smart Voter**® A revolutionary experience is waiting for you at Smart Voter’s brand new Next Generation website! You can go to the special web address of [m.smartvoter.org](http://m.smartvoter.org) right now to check it out. This cutting-edge update of the League’s award-winning service sports a new streamlined look and an array of feature stories that changes every day. The many enhanced features are especially helpful for the quick information needs and small touch screens of smartphone and tablet owners -- but promise to be fun and interesting for desktop and laptop computer users as well. Get together with your friends and compare the appearance of the Next Generation site – its exact layout will depend on the size of the screen and type of device each of you is using.

Announced at last year’s state League Convention in Ventura and years in planning, the Next Generation site addresses dramatic changes in the way that the public now accesses and uses information on the Internet. According to national market analyses and surveys, a majority of the computer devices now being purchased are smartphones and tablets rather than desktop or laptop computers, and a rapidly-increasing proportion of voters are relying primarily on such mobile devices to get information on politics and elections.

For this November’s election, Smart Voter will be available to California voters in both its traditional format and the new Next Generation design which will have most of its new capabilities functioning already. For future elections the state League will expand the capabilities, features and innovative content of the versatile Next Generation site. If you have questions, comments or suggestions regarding it, please email [ca-director@smartvoter.org](mailto:ca-director@smartvoter.org). And click the “More” button on the new site to sign up for the Smart Voter newsletter, like us on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#) and receive our latest updates.



**VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE!**  
**BALLOT MEASURE RECOMMENDATIONS FROM LWVCA**

**PROP 30 SCHOOLS AND LOCAL PUBLIC SAFETY PROTECTION ACT YES**

Proposition 30 begins to move California toward financial stability and adequate funding for all the services we want from our government; we can’t continue to cut vital public services like schools and public safety. This measure will provide some much needed income from a temporary increase in income tax rates for the wealthy and a modest temporary sales tax increase. The plan is part of a balanced approach to eliminating our deficit that includes \$8 billion in cuts, \$6 billion in new revenues, and \$2.5 billion in loans, deferrals, etc., this year. Proposition 30 also guarantees a stable source of funding for counties to pay for their new public safety responsibilities such as housing low-level prisoners and providing substance abuse treatment.

**PROP 31 GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT NO**

Proposition 31 is based on good intentions and has some pieces that, taken alone, the League could support. However, Prop 31 has several significant flaws. There are questions about whether or not the provisions allow local governments to suspend state environmental requirements. What is clear is that there will be significant legal uncertainty, & years of litigation. In addition, the measure prescribes the specific manner of state and local government budgeting & puts this process into the state constitution. Prop 31 has other questionable provisions, such as establishing a significant shift of power over appropriations to the governor at times of fiscal emergency.

***VOTE WITH THE LEAGUE, continued***

**PROP 32 SPECIAL EXEMPTIONS ACT NO**

This measure is not the campaign finance reform measure its proponents say it is. Proposition 32 promises “political reform” but is really designed by special interests to help themselves and harm their opponents. It looks like a campaign finance reform measure but unfairly targets one set of large campaign donors while giving other donors unlimited power. Its ban on payroll deductions for political giving will affect unions but not corporations, and even the restriction it places on contributions to candidates by corporations is full of loophole exemptions. It does not fix the problem of money in politics; Super PACs and independent expenditure committees will continue to spend without limitation.

**PROP 34 SAFE CALIFORNIA ACT YES**

The SAFE California Act will replace the death penalty in California with a sentence of life in prison without the possibility of parole. Convicted killers will stay in prison for the rest of their lives, eliminating the possibility of executing an innocent person in California. This will save over \$100 million every year—because the court and incarceration costs are so much higher for prisoners at risk for a death penalty. \$100 million of these savings will be allocated over the next four years to pay for increased investigation of unsolved rape and murder cases. Convicted killers will be required to work and pay restitution into a victims’ compensation fund.

**PROP 40 REFERENDUM ON REDISTRICTING YES**

We strongly urge a “YES” vote on this referendum on the state Senate maps drawn by the independent Citizens Redistricting Commission. The question on a referendum is not intuitive; it asks if you want to retain the new law, or in this case, the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission. So vote YES to affirm the maps drawn by the Citizens Redistricting Commission, YES—in support of the Commission, YES—to validate the open, transparent process, YES—to retain fair districts.

\*\*\*\*\*

*Adequate revenue to provide for the public good is critically needed. The League supports Prop 30 on this ballot as the best way to provide some relief from the endless cutting of vital government services. We see some merit in the following two measures, Props 38 and 39, but have taken a neutral position on them because of their earmarking of revenues.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**PROP 38 TAX FOR EDUCATION & EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAMS NEUTRAL**

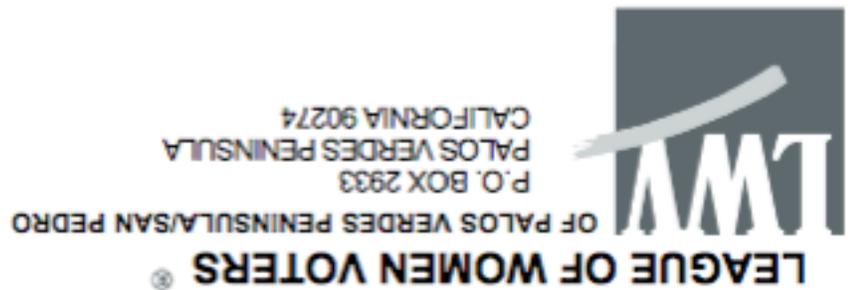
We are neutral on Our Children, Our Future, the measure supported by the California State PTA and activist Molly Munger. It provides significant funding for education and early childhood programs. In addition, for the first four years, this measure provides money to help the other underfunded government services. However, in the longer term, it earmarks essentially all the new money for education and early childhood programs. These programs definitely deserve to be adequately funded, but so do all of the government programs we support, from mental health programs to the court system to childcare.

**PROP 39 TAX TREATMENT FOR MULTISTATE BUSINESSES NEUTRAL**

This measure will close a tax loophole for multistate businesses, generating revenues of about \$1 billion per year—a good thing. However, it earmarks about half the new revenue for the first five years, so that portion can only be used for energy efficiency and alternative energy projects. We are neutral on this proposition because we believe new revenue for the state should be available for all of the programs funded by state revenue—schools, law enforcement, health care, jobs programs, the judiciary system.

\*\*\*\*\*

*The League has not studied the issues in the following measures, and so has **no recommendation on Proposition 33 (Auto Insurance Rates), Proposition 35 (Human Trafficking), Proposition 36 (Three Strikes Reform), and Proposition 37 (Genetically Engineered Foods).***



\* LWV/PVP/SP \*

has an excellent, informative website:  
[www.lwvpvp.org](http://www.lwvpvp.org)  
thanks to BETTY RIEDMAN  
& PALOS VERDES ON THE NET  
for providing & hosting this web site as  
a public service to our community  
*Please visit our website for more information*