



California Initiative Editorial Scorecard

October 3, 2022

Endorsements from the Top 22 California Papers

Publication	1 Abortion	26 Gaming	27 Gaming	28 Education	29 Dialysis	30 Taxes	31 Tobacco
Los Angeles Times	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	YES
Mercury News*	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
Sacramento Bee**	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO		
Orange County Register***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
East Bay Times*	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	YES
San Francisco Chronicle	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES
Fresno Bee**	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO		
San Diego Union-Tribune							
La Opinion			NO		NO	YES	
The Press-Enterprise***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
The Record - Stockton							
San Gabriel Tribune***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
The Daily Breeze***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
Modesto Bee**	YES			YES	NO		
Los Angeles Daily News***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
The Santa Rosa Press Democrat	YES	NO	NO		NO	NO	YES
Long Beach Press-Telegram***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
Inland Valley Daily Bulletin***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
San Bernardino Sun***		NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	NO
The Desert Sun					NO		
Chico Enterprise-Record							
Bakersfield Californian	YES			NO	NO	NO	YES

*The Mercury News and East Bay Times share a common editorial board

**The Sacramento Bee, Fresno Bee, and Modesto Bee share a common editorial board

***The Orange County Register, the Press-Enterprise, the San Gabriel Tribune, The Daily Breeze, the Los Angeles Daily News, the Long Beach Press-Telegram, the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, and San Bernardino Sun share a common editorial board

Editorial Endorsements (pro or con) have been a leading indicator of success at the ballot.

- **Of the 10 measures on the 2016 ballot** with a majority of editorials in favor, only one failed to pass (Prop 62, repeal death penalty); out of the seven measures with a majority of editorials against, only three passed.
- **Of the 11 initiatives on the 2018 ballot**, each of the four measures endorsed by a majority of leading newspapers was approved by voters. Of the seven initiatives opposed by most leading newspapers, only two were approved by California voters. The remaining five were defeated.
- **Of the 12 measures on the 2020 ballot**, voters were aligned with the majority of newspaper endorsements seven times. Of the four initiatives endorsed by most leading newspapers, only two were approved by voters. Five of the eight measures with a majority of editorials against were defeated.

Contacts: Chris Tapio, Partner, I Street Public Affairs | 916.551.2525 chris@istreetpa.com
 Joe Rodota, CEO & Founder, Forward Observer | 916.444.0088 joe@fwdobserver.com