

CALIFORNIA BALLOT INITIATIVES NOVEMBER 2005



Concerned Women for America of California (CWA) supports Props 73, 74 and 75 (see below). However, to provide a sample of the viewpoints on all the ballot measures, we have provided this table indicating the positions of the California Republican Party (REP), California Democratic Party (DEM) and two other pro-family organizations, Capitol Resource Institute (CRI) and California Family Alliance (CFA).

PROP	SUMMARY	REP	DEM	CRI	CFA
73	Requires that a parent be notified 48 hours before a minor can undergo an abortion procedure. Measure provides for judicial bypass and has an emergency exception.	YES	NO	YES	YES
74	Extends probationary period for teachers from two to five years and allows for more streamlined dismissal of poor performing teachers.	YES	NO	YES	YES
75	Requires annual written consent from union employees before dues for political purposes can be deducted from their paychecks.	YES	NO	YES	YES
76	Provides budgetary reforms, including placing limitations on state spending and allowing midyear budget corrections. Prop 76 is a constitutional amendment.	YES	NO	YES	YES
77	Changes the redistricting process to make legislative districts more compact and, in some cases, more competitive. The goal is better representation for Californians overall. Prop 77 is a constitutional amendment.	YES	NO	YES	YES
78	Provides discounts for prescription drugs through a program enabling low and moderate income Californians to purchase drugs at reduced rates. Prop 78 is a voluntary approach to high drug prices supported by the pharmaceutical industry.	YES	NO	NO	NO
79	Similar to Prop 78, but requires the California Department of Health Services to negotiate prices with the drug companies and includes penalties for companies who fail to offer discounts. Prop 79 is opposed by the pharmaceutical industry and supported by trial lawyers.	NO	YES	NO	NO
80	Re-regulates electricity in the state, undoing the deregulation of the 1990s and bringing all providers under the control of the Public Utilities Commission. Restricts consumer ability to change providers.	NO	YES	NO	NO POSITION

(NOTE: CWA is a non-partisan, non-profit organization. Positions and opinions by outside organizations are for informational purposes only, and do not imply an endorsement by CWA.)

CWA Supports Several Key Ballot Measures

Prop 73 – The “Parents Right to Know” initiative is a constitutional amendment requiring a parent to be notified 48 hours before an abortion is performed on a minor. There is a provision for judicial bypass and an exception for emergency situations. A child cannot receive an aspirin or go on a field trip without parental consent, yet our legislators have seen to it that a girl can receive an abortion, a major medical procedure, without so much as parental notification. It is worth noting that these same legislators just reenacted a ban on most body piercing for minors without parental consent, but they refuse to place the same safeguard on abortion. Not surprisingly, Planned Parenthood is fighting Prop 73, with various affiliates throughout the state contributing over \$948,000 to date to the “No on 73” campaign.

Abortion can have long-lasting emotional and physical consequences, including infertility, infection and even death. A pregnant girl needs her parents to help assess the dangers and look at the alternatives to protect her life and that of her unborn child. **CWA supports Prop 73.**

Prop 74 – The Teacher Tenure initiative is part of an education reform plan. Once teachers become permanent, removing bad teachers for “unsatisfactory performance” becomes a very lengthy and costly process, partly because that term has never been properly defined. Prop 74 extends the probationary period for new teachers before they become “permanent” employees and defines dismissal of tenured teachers based on performance as two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations. **CWA supports Prop 74.**

Prop 75 – The Paycheck Protection initiative strikes at the heart of union political fundraising. California labor unions have contributed over \$58 million to fight the governor’s initiatives on the November ballot, with the California Teacher’s Association (CTA) in the lead at about \$45 million. How did they come up with all this money? From teachers, service employees and other public employees who belong to unions and who, in many cases, have no idea that the portion of dues deducted from their paychecks for political purposes goes toward supporting abortion, the promotion of pro-homosexual policies in our schools and other such activities. Those dues also support primarily Democrat candidates for office. In fact, the CTA recently raised its members’ dues \$60 per year for the next three years just to fight the governor’s ballot initiatives. Some teachers have filed a lawsuit against this latest money grab.

Prop 75 simply requires the unions to obtain written consent from union members each year before they can deduct political purpose dues (Collective bargaining dues are not involved.). Regardless of union members’ social or political views, their hard-earned dollars deserve this safeguard. **CWA supports Prop 75.**

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