

TJR'S

TWO-EVIL ENDORSEMENTS

Idiosyncratic, Well-Researched
June 5, 2018 Endorsements

For idealists, skeptics, and freaks.

I do the research so you don't have to!

PDF at bit.ly/TwoEvilsJune2018

BALLOT INITIATIVES

Politicians are buyable and full of shit;
TJR loves direct democracy
(except when she hates other people).

PROP 68 YES

Bonds for clean water and drought preparedness. TJR is a bond skeptic (tax-free interest for the rich that replaces actually taxing the rich) but supports earmarking resources for clean water, particularly to poor rural communities.

PROP 69 YES

Taxes collected from driver's license fees and gas taxes should go towards public transportation and infrastructure. The only people against this don't like buses.

PROP 70 NO

This is a trick to sneak in tax exemptions on cap-and-trade (aka pay-to-pollute) policies and require a 2/3rds vote on how to use funds (aka stall & block).

PROP 71 YES

Slight waste of time prop to make props go into effect 5 days after election results are certified to allow time for mail-in ballots to be counted.

PROP 72 YES

Incentivizes rainwater capture systems by exempting them from taxes.

CANDIDATES

Memorize their names and phone numbers because the lobbyists already have! (If your district isn't there it means I don't have a strong opinion, but call me and I'll help reason it out.)

SACRAMENTO PEOPLE

California Governor **Delaine Easton**

In a field overwhelmed by douche-bags, particularly the LATimes-Endorsed, former LA-mayor-failure turned [Herbalife spokesperson](#) Anthony Villaraigosa, on whom charter school [advocates](#) are raining money, it is wonderful to actually see a LADY with a backbone. Delaine Easton is the only candidate who supports rent control and wants to build housing for low-income POC first. She is the only candidate who wants to ban fracking. She is the only candidate who wants to de-fund prisons. She is the only candidate who supported California single payer. Did I mention she is the only candidate? Bonus points for this [supercut turned advertisement](#) of her opponents saying they agree with her.

California Lieutenant Governor **Gayle McLaughlin**

Also endorsed by Bernie's OurRevolution & DSA, as Mayor of Richmond she passed people-first policies (rent-control & raised minimum wage) and made corporations like Chevron pay their fair share after the 2008 collapse.

Secretary of State **Michael Feinstein**

The former Mayor of Santa Monica has a [wack-a-doo plan](#) for proportional representation and ranked voting for California state elections. Sure, dog!

SACRAMENTO PEOPLE (Continued)

Controller **Betty T. Yee**

TJR is a sucker for a Peace & Freedom challenger, but is sticking with the Democratic incumbent who has called out Dept of Finance mismanagement and wants to overhaul the CA tax system without lame austerity measures.

Treasurer **Vivek Viswanathan**

Wants public financing of elections, MediCAL regardless of immigration status, and to eliminate California's mortgage-interest deduction for second homes.

Attorney General **David Jone**

Xavier Becerra will prolly win for his recent anti-Trump lawsuits (#resistance), but Jones is a slight left move, and unlike Becerra, against the death penalty.

Insurance Commissioner **Ricardo Lara**

Ricardo Lara is a staunch supporter of California Medicare for all and the frontrunner with \$1.5 million in donations. Steve Poizner is trying to use "non-partisanship" as a cover for being conservative. As if Mahmood has perplexedly donated campaign \$\$ to known racist Assemblyman Ed Royce.

Member State Board of Equalization

The state board of what now? You ever hear that song "Tax Man"? Well, that's literally what's playing in the offices of the State Board of Equalization all year: they administer CA taxes on stuff like sales and property, collecting around \$56 billion a year for programs like schools, healthcare, and housing.

SACRAMENTO PEOPLE (Continued)

3rd District **Doug Kriegel**

Seems like everyone running is mired in some kind of scandal. Tony Vazquez in [conflicted-interest](#) contracts. Scott Svonkin in verbal abuse and [harassment](#). Cheryl C. Turner is a lawyer for the [Apartment Association](#) (fuck eviction docs). Ben Pak is a cop. Blessings to folk dance teacher and [Idyllwild cabin owner](#) Nancy Pearlman, but vote for Doug Kriegel, former good-70s-hair [TV newscaster](#) whose current [“Drive By Economist”](#) series has a decent understanding of inequality and plenty of aesthetic LOLs.

4th District **David Dodson**

There are four Republicans running (bye) and three Democrats. Of the Dems, Ken Lopez-Maddox was a Republican assemblyman [until last year](#) and Mike Schaefer is a “conservative” who “endorses” the rich person’s tax scam of Prop 13. Ergo, David Dodson: the least offensive choice.

STATE SENATE

District 24 **Peter Choi**

Rent control. Low-income housing. Ban fracking. Free college. \$5,200 in total donations vs. over \$1 million from firefighters and construction. (Doesn’t matter bc only two candidates mean both will make November’s ballot)

District 34 **Jestin Samson**

STATE ASSEMBLY

District 51 **Wendy Carrillo**

IMO Meh, but running unopposed.

District 45 **Ankur Patel**

District 15 **Jovanka Beckles**

WASHINGTON PEOPLE

US Senate **Kevin de Leon** (the best not-Feinstein choice)

Out of 31 choices to replace old-as-redwood, bye-bitch Dianne Feinstein, Kevin de Leon (leftish of Dem) isn't the ideal choice, but given how much I want to see that old redwood **TIMBER**, and that Feinstein is winning in the polls followed by a truly-no-go Republican with Leon close on their tails, TJR's Two-Evils-strategy-when-necessary says Leon. (Special runner up to socialist David Hildebrand tho!)

US Representative (District 34) **Kenneth Mejia**

In a three-person race, you have zero to lose by voting for this chill protest (and green party) candidate.

LOS ANGELES PEOPLE : JUDGES

These people are life-ruiners, mostly prosecutors, whose job it will be to legitimize and perpetuate the use of cages as punishment. This is where the “lesser of two- evils” in “two-evils endorsements” is most abhorrently needed. My endorsements are based on their showing some signs of life, AKA awareness of racism inherent in courts and/or criminalization of poverty and/or will for alternative sentencing and/or admission that cash bail is evil. (See: candidate Q&As with League of Women Voters.)

No. 4 A. Verónica Saucedá

Signs of Life

No. 16 ABSTAIN

Fuck these people

No. 20 Wendy Segall

Signs of Life

No. 60 Holly L. Hancock

Hancock was a public defender, but you’ll see “attorney-at-law” under her name on the ballot as legend has it voters chose prosecution over defense. More judges from defense, please (then no more judges).

No. 63 Anthony Lewis

I’m frankly suspicious of Lewis’s campaign website which is branded with photos of MLK and the hashtag “LoveWins,” but the incumbent has been on the bench for 40 years, and it’s probably time for grandpa to sit somewhere else.

LOS ANGELES PEOPLE : JUDGES (Continued)

No. 67 **Onica Valle Cole**

Specializes in protecting immigrants from scams and the only candidate to answer the question about bail reform by saying we also need to stop trumping up charges.

No. 71 **ABSTAIN**

Fuck these people

No. 113 **Javier Perez**

Fun note: this race is made of losers from previous races. Perez is the most amenable to alternative sentencing.

No. 118 **David D. Diamond**

David D. Diamond is a criminal defense attorney made famous(ish) for getting off “Bling Ring” suspects. Can’t vote for Troy Davis, who boasts he is “responsible for incarcerating hundreds.”

No. 126 **Rene Caldwell Gilbertson**

Signs of life. Love the name “Shlomo” tho!

No. 146 **ABSTAIN**

Fuck these people

LOS ANGELES PEOPLE (Continued)

School Superintendent **Hilda Solis** (unopposed)

County Assessor **Jeffrey Prang**

The Assessor decides the value of renovated, new, or newly brought properties, so they can be accurately taxed. (In 2012, the guy accepted bribes to massively undervalue property and defraud Angelenos of tons of money, yay!). Little diff between current incumbent Jeffrey Prang & his deputy trying to oust him, but I'll lean on his advantage since the other two want to lower property taxes for rich people. (Hateful nod of respect to John "Lower Taxes" Loew, who legally changed his name so it could appear on the ballot as such.)

Sheriff **Alex Villanueva** (FTP)

Voters don't elect the chief of LAPD (which, I must remind you, leads the nation in murdering civilians, gets 54% of LA's budget a year, and arrests a homeless person 1 out of every 6 times they arrest anyone). But we do elect the Sheriff, who runs county jails, handles evictions and other court "enforcements," and polices LA's unincorporated areas. Long-time LA Sheriff Lee Baca was just sentenced to three years (the irony) for leading a conspiracy to obstruct an FBI investigation into abuses in the jails he was tasked of overseeing.

Jim McDonnell is running for re-election with the support of the Police Chief Association & Chamber of Commerce (gag me). LATimes endorsed him even though two people died in his jails in two days. Bob Lindsey's whole platform is more cooperation with ICE (which McDonnell already wants). Ex-lieutenant Alex Villanueva got a Democratic Party endorsement for using buzzwords like "cleaning the corruption swamp" and "stop warehousing the mentally ill," but he also wants to add 3,000 cops and thinks body cameras are "niceties not necessities."

FURTHER RESOURCES

Find your polling place!!! lavote.net/locator

Get a personalized ballot and candidate info, including League of Women Voters judicial candidate Q&As.
tersedge.org

Round-up on governor candidates' positions on housing.
lat.ms/2rz4hyZ

I mean giant whatever to Madeleine Brand & Press Play, but she interviewed all the candidates for Governor.
kcrw.co/2k6s5Gf

I mean Larry Mantle is knives in my ears, but he interviewed the candidates for Sheriff. bit.ly/2KvQ0dG

Candidates on the Bernie bloc.
ourrevolution.com/candidates

P.S. JOIN A FUCKING GROUP. I'm serious!!!!
latenantsunion.org/en