



# VOTER GUIDE

*An analysis of California Proposition 50 for Los Angeles County voters*

**THIS ISN'T ABOUT POLITICS.  
IT'S ABOUT PROTECTING  
DEMOCRACY.**



On **November 4th**, California voters can approve emergency congressional district maps that **defend democracy, represent our diverse communities,** and **ensure our voices aren't silenced.**

For more information, including summaries translated into AAPI languages, visit:

[aapiequityalliance.org/yes-on-50](https://aapiequityalliance.org/yes-on-50)



Paid for by AAPI Equity Alliance



# YES ON PROPOSITION 50: AUTHORIZES TEMPORARY CHANGES TO CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT MAPS IN RESPONSE TO TEXAS' PARTISAN REDISTRICTING.



Analysis by Hoang Nguyen and Jennifer Chou, AAPI Equity Alliance

## BACKGROUND & SUMMARY

California currently has 52 congressional districts, each represented by a member of the House of Representatives, elected by the people of that district. Maps that determine what geographic boundaries make up a congressional district are redrawn every ten years after the U.S. Census is completed. This process is called redistricting. Each state has its own process to determine how those maps are drawn. Before 2010, the California State Legislature was responsible for drawing our state maps, in a process frequently criticized for “gerrymandering,” or the political manipulation of congressional district lines to advantage one group over another. While the Supreme Court struck down the practice of gerrymandering along racial lines as a violation of the federal Voting Rights Act,<sup>1</sup> it has also allowed states to continue gerrymandering congressional districts along party lines.<sup>2</sup>

After 2010, voters decided to remove the power of redistricting from the legislature and give it to an independent commission of citizens. This process is referred to as independent redistricting, and is widely considered a baseline reform necessary for good governance because it removes politicians from the process.

In states like Texas, however, congressional district maps are still being drawn by state legislatures. At the direction of President Trump, on August 22, 2025, Texas lawmakers passed an unprecedented, mid-decade redistricting process that would use partisan gerrymandering to produce new congressional maps to explicitly “improve Republican political performance” in the 2026 House of Representatives election.<sup>3</sup> These new maps would turn five existing Democratic-leaning congressional seats into Republican-majority seats.

In response, the California State Legislature and Governor Gavin Newsom are asking California voters in November to temporarily suspend our state’s independent redistricting process and approve new maps drawn by the California Legislature to counterbalance Texas’s redrawn maps. The new maps would only be used in the 2026, 2028, 2030 elections. After 2030, the state would revert back to having the independent redistricting commission draw new congressional district boundaries.

According to an analysis of the proposed maps by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, AAPI voters in California would see their voting power increase in a number of congressional districts.<sup>4</sup> Another analysis by AAPI Equity staff found that many proposed districts increase the voting population of communities of color over the current district’s racial make-up. Also, in some cases where one racial group in a congressional district lost voters under the proposed lines by more than 2%, another racial minority group receives a near-equivalent or a larger increase in voters.

<sup>1</sup> *Cooper v. Harris*, 581 U.S. 285 (2017)

<sup>2</sup> *Rucho v. Common Cause*, 588 U.S. 684 (2019)

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.npr.org/2025/08/21/nx-s1-5496659/texas-congressional-redistricting-trump>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.aasc.ucla.edu/resources/policyreports/SpecialElectionsNovember2025.pdf>



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## ANALYSIS

Supporters, including Governor Gavin Newsom, numerous labor unions, nonprofit organizations and Democratic elected officials, argue that democracy is on the line. While they do not generally support partisan gerrymandering, supporters of this ballot measure say that California cannot tie its own hands while Texas and other states move forward to “rig the election” in one party’s favor. They argue that this is a temporary response to an unprecedented crisis of democracy, with a safeguard to revert back to the independent redistricting commission in 2030.

Opponents, including the Republican Party of California, former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Republican elected officials, argue that we should not set aside our system of independent redistricting, even temporarily, and that “two wrongs don’t make a right.”

We recommend supporting Proposition 50. While AAPI Equity Alliance and California voters unequivocally support independent redistricting, extraordinary times call for extraordinary measures. The reality is that we would not be having this conversation if Texas did not move first to manipulate the results of the 2026 election. This is a matter of preserving democracy, not party lines. Allowing one party to unilaterally change the outcome of an election more than a year before voting even begins virtually guarantees the political capture of one entire branch of federal government for the foreseeable future – no matter what voters do. No political party should be able to rig the game in their favor without facing a fight.



# LEARN MORE

For voters in Los Angeles County

## KEY DATES TO KNOW

**VOTE  
VOTE  
VOTE**

**Monday, Oct 6**

Vote-by-mail  
ballots are mailed  
to voters

**Saturday, Oct 25**

First day of in-  
person voting

Look up your  
vote center at  
[lavote.gov](https://lavote.gov)

**Tuesday, Nov 4**

Election Day!

Last day to mail  
your mail-in ballot  
or turn it in at a  
vote center



If you missed the deadline to register to vote,  
you can still register up until and on Election Day!

More information at

- [registertovote.ca.gov](https://registertovote.ca.gov)
- [sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg](https://sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/same-day-reg)

## VOTING IN ANOTHER LANGUAGE

LA County is required to provide help to voters in languages other than English, including in Bengali, Burmese, Cambodian/Khmer, Chinese, Farsi, Gujarati, Hindi, Indonesian, Japanese, Korean, Mongolian, Spanish, Tagalog/Filipino, Telugu, Thai, and Vietnamese.

- \* Call 1-800-815-2666, option 3, to request translated materials to be mailed to you.
- \* Receive help in one of these languages on Election Day at most vote centers, including on the voting machine.
- \* Find translated election materials online at [lavote.gov](https://lavote.gov).

## STILL HAVE QUESTIONS? NEED TO REPORT A PROBLEM?

If you are a voter in the Los Angeles and Orange County areas with questions about voting, such as how to vote or where to vote, or if you want to report an issue with voting, you can contact Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California.

### Telephone:

- Chinese: 800-520-2356
- English: 888-349-9695
- Hindi: 855-971-2552
- Khmer: 800-867-3126
- Korean: 800-867-3640
- Tagalog: 855-300-2552
- Thai: 800-914-9583
- Vietnamese: 714-477-2958

### Social Media:

- DM on X (Twitter): @ajsocal\_
- DM on IG: @advancingjusticesocal
- DM on TikTok: @advancingjusticesocal
- DM on Facebook: @advancingjusticesocal
- Also on WeChat, Red, Kakao Talk, Missy USA, and Vietnamese-language social media

**Website:** [ajsocal.org/votingrights/](https://ajsocal.org/votingrights/)

**Text:** 213-241-0250

**Email:** [voter@ajsocal.org](mailto:voter@ajsocal.org)