

#	Measure	Summary	Sample Catholic Teachings
51	School Bonds	Proposition 51 would authorize the state to sell \$9 billion of general obligation bonds—\$7 billion for K-12 school facilities and \$2 billion for community college facilities.	"All men of every race, condition and age, since they enjoy the dignity of a human being, have an inalienable right to an education that is in keeping with their ultimate goal, their ability, their sex, and the culture and tradition of their country, and also in harmony with their fraternal association with other peoples in the fostering of true unity and peace on earth. For a true education aims at the formation of the human person in the pursuit of his ultimate end and of the good of the societies of which, as man, he is a member, and in whose obligations, as an adult, he will share." Gravissimum Educationis (Declaration on Christian Education), Vatican II (1965).
52	State Fees on Hospitals	If Proposition 52 is approved by the state's voters, it will add language to the California Constitution to require voter approval of changes to the hospital fee program to ensure that California uses these funds for the intended purpose of supporting hospital care to Medi-Cal patients and to help pay for healthcare for low-income children.	"We must speak of man's rights. Man has the right to live. He has the right to bodily integrity and to the means necessary for the proper development of life, particularly food, clothing, shelter, medical care, rest, and, finally, the necessary social services." Pacem in Terris, St. John Paul II
53	Voter Approval of Revenue Bonds	Proposition 53 would require statewide voter approval for revenue bonds for projects that meet certain conditions.	The Magisterium recognizes the validity of the principle concerning the division of powers in a State: "it is preferable that each power be balanced by other powers and by other spheres of responsibility which keep it within proper bounds. This is the principle of the 'rule of law', in which the law is sovereign, and not the arbitrary will of individuals".[840] In the democratic system, political authority is accountable to the people. Representative bodies must be subjected to effective social control. This control can be carried out above all in free elections which allow the selection and change of representatives. The obligation on the part of those elected to give an accounting of their work — which is guaranteed by respecting electoral terms — is a constitutive element of democratic representation. Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church [408]
54	Legislative Proceedings	Proposition 54 would make three changes to Legislative rules and responsibilities. First, it requires the Legislature to ensure audiovisual recordings of all public proceedings are publicly accessible on the Internet within 24 hours and archived for at least 20 years thereafter. Second, the proposition prohibits the Legislature from voting on a bill until it has been published online in its final form for at least 72 hours. This prohibition includes exceptions for emergencies, such as natural disasters. Third, the proposition allows the recordings of public proceedings to be used for any legitimate purpose.	"Building a world of respect for human life and dignity, where justice and peace prevail, requires more than just political commitment. Individuals, families, businesses, community organizations, and governments all have a role to play. Participation in political life in light of fundamental moral principles is an essential duty for every Catholic and all people of good will." <i>Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States</i> , United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, no. 57.

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55	Extension of Proposition 30 Tax Increases	<p>In 2012, California voters approved Proposition 30, which temporarily raised two types of California taxes. First, Proposition 30 increased the state sales tax by one-quarter cent. This tax increase expires in 2016. Second, Proposition 30 increased the marginal income tax rates by roughly 1 percent on the tax filers with the highest incomes (\$250,000 for single filers and \$500,000 for joint filers). These income tax increases are in effect from 2012 through 2018. In the current fiscal year, the Proposition 30 income tax increases are anticipated to raise between \$6 billion and \$8 billion in additional revenue.</p> <p>Proposition 55 would extend the Proposition 30 income tax increases, meaning they would not expire at the end of 2018. Proposition 55 would extend those income tax increases through 2030.</p>	<p>"The tax system should be continually evaluated in terms of its impact on the poor. This evaluation should be guided by three principles. First, the tax system should raise adequate revenues to pay for the public needs of society, especially to meet the basic needs of the poor. Secondly, the tax system should be structured according to the principle of progressivity, so that those with relatively greater financial resources pay a higher rate of taxation. The inclusion of such a principle in tax policies is an important means of reducing the severe inequalities of income and wealth in the nation. Action should be taken to reduce or offset the fact that most sales taxes and payroll taxes place a disproportionate burden on those with lower incomes. Thirdly, families below the official poverty line should not be required to pay income taxes. Such families are, by definition, without sufficient resources to purchase the basic necessities of life. They should not be forced to bear the additional burden of paying income taxes." <i>Economic Justice for All: Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy</i>, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (1986).</p>
56	Cigarette Tax	<p>Proposition 56 would increase—effective April 1, 2017—the existing state excise tax on cigarettes by \$2 per pack. As a result, the total state excise tax, would be \$2.87 per pack. Proposition 56 also creates a one-time “floor tax” on cigarettes that are stored by businesses at the time the new excise tax is levied.</p>	<p>"Life and physical health are precious gifts entrusted to us by God. We must take reasonable care of them, taking into account the needs of others and the common good." <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i>, no. 2288..</p>
57	Criminal Sentences The California Catholic Conference SUPPORTS this Measure	<p>Proposition 57, also known as the Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016, would make various changes to California's criminal sentencing laws to increase opportunities for parole for felons convicted of non-violent crimes and provide them additional opportunities to earn credits for good behavior.</p>	<p>[A] Catholic vision of crime and criminal justice can offer some alternatives. It recognizes that root causes and personal choices can both be factors in crime by understanding the need for responsibility on the part of the offender and an opportunity for their rehabilitation. A Catholic approach leads us to encourage models of restorative justice that seek to address crime in terms of the harm done to victims and communities, not simply as a violation of law. [Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective On Crime And Criminal Justice, A Statement by the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2000]</p>
58	English Language Education	<p>Proposition 58 would repeal the requirements of Proposition 227 that all children be taught English by being taught <i>in</i> English and instead allows school districts and county offices of education, in consultation with language experts in the field and parents, to determine the best language instruction methods and language acquisition programs to implement.</p>	<p>The growth of inequality and poverty undermines inclusive and participatory democracy at risk which always presupposes an economy and an equitable and nonexclusive market. It is a question, therefore, of overcoming the structural causes of inequality and poverty. In the Apostolic Exhortation <i>Evangelii Gaudium</i>, I wished to point out three fundamental instruments for the social inclusion of the most needy: education, access to health care and employment for all (cf. n. 192). <i>Angelus, Oct. 21, 2014, St. Peter's Square</i></p>
59	Advisory Measure – Citizens United Decision	<p>Proposition 59 is an advisory measure regarding amending the United States Constitution to overturn the United States Supreme Court's 2010 <i>Citizens United</i> decision, which dealt with campaign finance law.</p>	<p>As a nation, we share many blessings and strengths, including a tradition of religious freedom and political participation. However, as a people, we face serious challenges that are both political and moral. This has always been so and as Catholics we are called to participate in public life in a manner consistent with the mission of our Lord, a mission that he has called us to share." <i>Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States</i>, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (November 2015).</p>

Visit www.cacatholic.org for a comprehensive analysis of the propositions and information on Faithful Citizenship.

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60	Adult Films	Proposition 60 would require adult film performers to wear condoms when making an adult film. The proposition would also allow third parties to bring litigation against adult film producers, talent agents, and distributors for violations of the proposed statute. Proposition 60 would also require adult film producers to apply for a two-year license from Cal/OSHA in order to be able to produce adult films, and comply with other specified recordkeeping requirements.	"There are many victims of pornography. Every person portrayed in it is beloved by God our Father and is someone's daughter or son. Their dignity is abused as they are used for others' pleasure and profit. Pornography has connections to sex trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation worldwide, an evil that we, as bishops, have condemned strenuously. Many sex trafficking victims (mostly women and girls) are forced into prostitution, which may include pornography as "training" or as their "product." All child pornography is automatically trafficking and a crime, because it involves the sexual exploitation of a minor for commercial gain and it is against the child's will due to the inability to give consent. The actors in pornographic films also face serious risks, such as contracting a sexually transmitted infection (STI) and high rates of drug and alcohol abuse." <i>Create In Me A Clean Heart: A Pastoral Response to Pornography</i> http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/pornography/index.cfm
61	Prescription Drug Pricing	Proposition 61 would prohibit state entities from paying more for any prescription drug than the lowest price paid by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for the same drug. The proposition applies both to direct purchases by the state and where the state is the ultimate payer of the drug.	Those <i>responsible for business enterprises</i> are responsible to society for the economic and ecological effects of their operations. They have an obligation to consider the good of persons and not only the increase of <i>profits</i> . Profits are necessary, however. They make possible the investments that ensure the future of a business and they guarantee employment. <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , no. 2432
62	Death Penalty Repeal The California Catholic Conference SUPPORTS this Measure	Proposition 62 is an initiative that, if approved by the voters, would repeal the death penalty for persons found guilty of murder and would replace it with life imprisonment without the possibility of parole. The Bishops of California have agreed to support Proposition 62 and oppose Proposition 66 (which would speed up death penalty appeals).	The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that "the traditional teaching of the Church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor. If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means" (CCC, 2267). The test of whether the death penalty can be used is not the gravity of the offense, but whether it is absolutely necessary to protect society. The Catechism adds that today "the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity 'are very rare, if not practically nonexistent'" (CCC, 2267).
63	Firearms – Ammunition Sales	The proposition would regulate all ammunition sales in a manner similar to firearm sales. Vendors of ammunition would be required to obtain a one-year license from the state Department of Justice (DOJ) in order to sell more than 500 rounds of ammunition in a 30-day period. In addition, individuals wishing to purchase ammunition would have to obtain a 4-year authorization from the DOJ. Proposition 63 would also require ammunition vendors to collect and submit specified information—such as the date of the transaction, the purchasers' identification information, and the type of ammunition purchased—to DOJ for retention in a centralized database for law enforcement purposes. (The initiative has many other provisions. See www.cacatholic.org for a comprehensive analysis.)	"All of us must do more to end violence in the home and to find ways to help victims break out of the pattern of abuse. As bishops, we support measures that control the sale and use of firearms and make them safer (especially efforts that prevent their unsupervised use by children or anyone other than the owner), and we reiterate our call for sensible regulation of handguns." United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, <i>Responsibility, Rehabilitation, and Restoration: A Catholic Perspective on Crime and Criminal Justice (2000)</i>

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64	Legalization of Marijuana	Proposition 64 would legalize the possession, cultivation, and sale of marijuana. Specifically, individuals age 21 or over could legally possess, use, sell, transport, process, and cultivate marijuana under state law. However, certain marijuana-related activities would remain illegal. For example, it would remain unlawful for individuals to operate a motor vehicle while under the impairment of marijuana or provide marijuana to individuals under the age of 21.	"The use of drugs inflicts very grave damage on human health and life. Their use, except on strictly therapeutic grounds, is a grave offense. Clandestine production of and trafficking in drugs are scandalous practices. They constitute direct co-operation in evil, since they encourage people to practices gravely contrary to the moral law." <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , no. 2291.
65	Plastic Bag Fees	Proposition 65 changes where the revenue from the sale of carryout bags would be deposited. Rather than being retained by the retailers, such revenue would be allocated for specified environmental purposes. Specifically, under Proposition 65 the revenue would be deposited into a new state fund to be administered by the state Wildlife Conservation Board. Revenue in the fund would be used to support (1) grants for programs and projects related to drought mitigation; (2) recycling; (3) clean drinking water supplies; (4) state, regional, and local parks; (5) beach cleanup; (6) litter removal; and (7) wildlife habitat restoration. (See also Proposition 67 which asks voters if plastic bags should be banned.)	"Account must also be taken of the pollution produced by residue, including dangerous waste present in different areas. Each year hundreds of millions of tons of waste are generated, much of it non-biodegradable, highly toxic and radioactive, from homes and businesses, from construction and demolition sites, from clinical, electronic and industrial sources. The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth...These problems are closely linked to a throwaway culture which affects the excluded just as it quickly reduces things to rubbish." Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter <i>Laudato Si : On Care for our Common Home</i> (May 2015).
66	Death Penalty Appeals The California Catholic Conference OPPOSES this Measure	Proposition 66 is an initiative that, if approved by the voters, would amend state law in an attempt to speed up the judicial review of death penalty cases. The Bishops of California have agreed to oppose Proposition 66 and support Proposition 62 (which would repeal the death penalty).	The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that "the traditional teaching of the Church does not exclude recourse to the death penalty, if this is the only possible way of effectively defending human lives against the unjust aggressor. If, however, non-lethal means are sufficient to defend and protect people's safety from the aggressor, authority will limit itself to such means" (CCC, 2267). The test of whether the death penalty can be used is not the gravity of the offense, but whether it is absolutely necessary to protect society. The Catechism adds that today "the cases in which the execution of the offender is an absolute necessity 'are very rare, if not practically nonexistent'" (CCC, 2267).
67	Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags	Proposition 67 is a referendum that asks voters if they wish to uphold or overturn the law passed by the Legislature that outlaws plastic bags. A "yes" vote on Proposition 67 means the statewide ban on plastic bags will go into effect. A "no" vote on Proposition 67 means the statewide ban on plastic bags will not become law.	"Account must also be taken of the pollution produced by residue, including dangerous waste present in different areas. Each year hundreds of millions of tons of waste are generated, much of it non-biodegradable, highly toxic and radioactive, from homes and businesses, from construction and demolition sites, from clinical, electronic and industrial sources. The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth...These problems are closely linked to a throwaway culture which affects the excluded just as it quickly reduces things to rubbish." Pope Francis, Encyclical Letter <i>Laudato Si : On Care for our Common Home</i> (May 2015).