

MAPPING OUR WAY BEYOND THE

There's no denying we're in the midst of difficult times, and there's no clear end in sight. Who's sitting in elected office, especially in the governor's chair, won't solve all our woes, but it will make a difference in the times ahead. How we respond to the complicated, uphill road ahead will have everything to do with what kind of future we begin building. In the context of crisis, there are right ways and wrong ways to respond, and there are right and wrong ways to solve problems. The November ballot offers opportunities to choose: which roadmap do you want our state to take?

YES ON 25

Proposition 25, the **Majority Vote Budget Act**, puts the state on the right track: it will allow the legislature to pass a budget like 47 other states—with a **simple majority** rather than 2/3 approval. Now, a small minority of legislators, usually Republicans, regularly prevent the budget from passing until they can extract concessions from the majority of legislators, so the minority's agenda is accomplished. Often, the concessions they hold out for include special deals and tax cuts for corporations. Meanwhile, California is unable to conduct business, our state's credit is lowered, and the state resorts to things like considering issuing IOUs instead of payment for employees. This happens year after year as the legislature wrangles over a budget that a simple majority could have passed.

Prop 25 is a collaboration of CFT, the California Teachers Association, CSEA, AFSME, the Firefighters, and the California Nurses Association, among others.

YES ON J AND N SMART REVENUE FOR SF

Proposition J, the Hotel Fairness Initiative, raises up to \$30 million for vital services without costing San Francisco a penny. Internet hotel companies and airlines will pay hotel taxes they legally owe, and a small visitor surcharge will be added on hotel rooms for the next three years.

Proposition N, The Real Estate Transfer Tax, raises up to \$25 million per year for **vital services** when the largest downtown office buildings are sold. It imposes a one-time tax on buildings sold over \$5 million at time of sale only. It will not raise taxes for homeowners and small property owners.



RIGHT WAY

YES ON 24

We suffer two kinds of cuts under the current 2/3 budget system: cuts to education and social services, and cuts to state revenue as the minority levies revenue decreases on the state through corporate tax breaks at the very moment funding is so scarce. **Proposition 24, the Tax Fairness Act**, would reverse some of these tax reductions and close unfair corporate tax loopholes for a few big corporations worth nearly \$2 billion—a closed-door deal that was extracted in order to pass the budget in 2009. **Prop 24 will fund public education, health care, and safety** rather than giving tax breaks to less than two percent of California's wealthiest corporations.

“This is it. This is the election that matters.”
– Marty Hittelman, CFT President

NO ON MEG

Some would have us take course that **privileges corporations** and the desires of the few over the needs of others. This route, typified by **Meg Whitman**, promises to win the day for Wall Street interests while it **lays off workers** and **moves jobs** out of state. It says it will help the UC and CSU systems, but only by cutting programs that support low-income families, **scapegoating the poor**. This road would leave social services to the province of “charitable giving” alone, deny immigrant students educational opportunities, and further the privatization of public education.

NO ON 26 PROTECT SOCIAL SERVICES

The cynical Proposition 26 is **corporate California’s** attempt to block the one way the state has occasionally been able to successfully raise revenue—fees—by **raising the vote requirement to 2/3**. The list of sponsors, running a joint no-on-25/yes-on-26 campaign, says it all: they include Philip Morris, Chevron, Anheuser Busch, MillerCoors, Aera Energy (owned by Shell and Exxon Mobil), PepsiCo, and the California Chamber of Commerce.

NO ON B

San Francisco’s Prop B, put on the ballot by Public Defender Jeff Adachi, would **violate collective bargaining agreements** and ignore the \$250 million public employees have already taken in pay cuts.

Although it bills itself as pension reform, Prop B significantly impacts health care. It would force San Francisco employees, including K-12 and City College faculty, to **pay more for dependent health coverage**. The proposition doesn’t discriminate between low-wage workers and those who are highly paid and would penalize teachers, janitors, clerical staff, firefighters and their families. As Assemblymember Tom Ammiano says, “It’s the wrong direction for San Francisco.”

NO ON K

Gavin Newsom’s **Poison Pill, Prop K** is a wolf in sheep’s clothing that would **kill smart revenue** by overriding and undermining smart Prop J. It would **eliminate the Hotel Fairness Initiative** and \$30 million annually for health care, children, youth and other vital city services.

DO NOT
ENTER

WRONG
WAY