

# WHAT'S NEW FOR THIS ELECTION

## Top Two Primary

### What is it?

In 2010, California voters approved Proposition 14 creating the "Top-Two Primary," which replaced the traditional party-nominated primary. Under the Top-Two Primary laws, all candidates running, regardless of their party preference, appear on a single combined ballot, and voters can vote for any candidate from any political party. The candidates who receive the highest and second-highest number of votes cast at the Primary election advance to the General election. This change applies to federal and state contests, except for President. The rules for non-partisan contests (i.e. counties, cities, school and special districts) did not change.

### For the Presidential Primary, Party Ballots Still Exist

Since the Top Two Primary rules do not affect the election of party nominee for President, party-specific ballots will be issued for this Presidential Primary Election. Only voters who are registered to vote with a specific party are allowed to vote in that party's Presidential nominee contest.

### All Other Contests Are Open to All Voters

The new rules apply to U.S. Senate, U.S. Congressional, statewide and state legislative offices. Candidates for these offices are no longer nominated by party. As a result, voters can vote for any candidate on the ballot regardless of the candidate's party preference. These contests are now referred to as "voter-nominated offices." Again, in these contests, only the two candidates who receive the highest and second-highest vote totals will be on the ballot in the November General Election.

### Party Preference and Political Party Endorsement

The term "party preference" is now used in place of the term "party affiliation". Similarly, voters who were previously known as "decline-to-state" voters (because they did not have a party affiliation) are now known as "no party preference" or "NPP" voters.

On the ballot, the political party preference, or no party preference, as indicated on the candidate's voter registration will be listed next to or below the candidate's name. The party designation is shown on the ballot for the information of the voters only and it does not constitute or imply an endorsement by the party designated. Parties may provide

a list of candidates for voter-nominated offices, who have received the official endorsement of the party for printing in this booklet.

**PARTY ENDORSEMENTS**

<b>Party</b>	<b>Contests</b>	<b>Candidate</b>
American Independent	U.S. Senate U.S. Representative, 24th State Assembly, 35th	Robert Lauten Chris Mitchum K. H. "Katcho" Achadjian
Democratic	U.S. Senate U.S. Representative, 24th State Senate, 17th	Dianne Feinstein Lois Capps Bill Monning
Peace and Freedom	U.S. Senate	Marsha Feinland
Republican	U.S. Senate State Senate, 17th State Assembly, 35th	Elizabeth Emken Larry Beaman K. H. "Katcho" Achadjian

**Write-In Candidates**

Write-in candidates are eligible to run in the Primary, and voters can cast their vote for that candidate by writing in the candidate’s name and filling in the oval next to the write-in line. If a qualified write-in candidate is one of the top two candidates, under the new rule, that candidate will advance to and have their name printed on the General election ballot.

**Changes due to Redistricting**

After the 2010 decennial census, all legislative district lines for federal, state and county offices were redrawn. These lines have been put into place and the candidates on the ballot which you are issued are determined by the district in which you reside. Voters in San Luis Obispo County remain in one state senate district (the 17<sup>th</sup>) and one assembly district (the 35<sup>th</sup>). The county is once again represented by one congressional district (the 24<sup>th</sup>). In addition, the lines designating the 5 districts represented by the Board of Supervisors were redrawn and your residence may now be located in a different district than before. Contact us if you have any questions about the district contests on your ballot.

**Contact Information on the Front Cover**

# Sample Ballot and Voter Information Pamphlet Format

To help save Taxpayers' money, the Clerk-Recorder's office has instituted some cost-savings measures with regard to the Sample Ballot and the Voter Information Pamphlet.



## Digest-Sized Booklet

The first thing you may have noticed is that the booklet is half the size of those in previous elections. This is due to recent changes which increased postage to send full-sized booklets. By reformatting our booklets to the “digest-sized” booklet, the county will be sending the sample ballot at the most efficient postage rates.



## Sample Ballot Layout

In order to accommodate the digest-sized booklet format and still be readable, the sample ballot showing all contests on your ballot is laid out across multiple pages.

The sample ballot does not look exactly like the official ballot you will be voting, but the contests are laid out in the booklet in the same order as the official ballot. The partisan contests, if applicable, will be listed first followed by contests for the Voter-Nominated and Non-Partisan contests, State Propositions and any Local Measures.



**Contact Us with Any  
Questions**



**Contact Information in the Front Cover**

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**JUNE 5, 2012 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY**  
**ELECTION**  
**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA**

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:**

To vote, fill in the oval like this:  Vote both sides of the card.

To vote for the candidate of your choice, fill in the OVAL next to the candidate's name. Do not vote for more than the number of candidates allowed (i.e. vote for no more than Two). To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, write in the candidate's full name on the Write-In line and fill in the OVAL next to it. To vote on a measure, fill in the OVAL next to the word "Yes" or the word "No". If you tear, deface or wrongly mark this ballot, return it to the Elections Official and get another.

**DEMOCRATIC PARTY**

**PARTY-NOMINATED OFFICES**

Only voters who disclosed a preference upon registering to vote for the same party as the candidate seeking the nomination of any party for the Presidency or election to a party committee may vote for that candidate at the primary election, unless the party has adopted a rule to permit non-party voters to vote in its primary elections.

**PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**  
**PRESIDENTIAL PREFERENCE**

Vote for One

**BARACK OBAMA**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in

## VOTER-NOMINATED AND NONPARTISAN OFFICES

All voters, regardless of the party preference they disclosed upon registration, or refusal to disclose a party preference, may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated or nonpartisan office. The party preference, if any, designated by a candidate for a voter-nominated office is selected by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party or that the party approves of the candidate. The party preference, if any, of a candidate for a nonpartisan office does not appear on the ballot.

## UNITED STATES SENATOR

### UNITED STATES SENATOR

Vote for One

- DONALD KRAMPE** Party Preference: Republican  
Retired Administration Director
- MIKE STRIMLING** Party Preference: Democratic  
Consumer Rights Attorney
- DIANE STEWART** Party Preference: Democratic  
Businesswoman/Finance Manager
- NAK SHAH** Party Preference: Democratic  
Environmental Health Consultant
- NACHUM SHIFREN** Party Preference: Republican  
Educator/Author/Businessman
- DENNIS JACKSON** Party Preference: Republican  
Aerospace General Manager
- DAN HUGHES** Party Preference: Republican  
Small Business Owner
- GREG CONLON** Party Preference: Republican  
Businessman/CPA
- JOHN BORUFF** Party Preference: Republican  
Businessman
- OSCAR ALEJANDRO BRAUN** Party Preference: Republican  
Businessman/Rancher
- MARSHA FEINLAND** Party Preference: Peace and Freedom  
Retired Teacher
- DIANNE FEINSTEIN** Party Preference: Democratic  
United States Senator
- COLLEEN SHEA FERNALD** Party Preference: Democratic  
Mother/Consultant/Artist
- ELIZABETH EMKEN** Party Preference: Republican  
Businesswoman/Nonprofit Executive
- KABIRUDDIN KARIM ALI** Party Preference: Peace and Freedom  
Businessman
- RICK WILLIAMS** Party Preference: Republican  
Business Attorney
- ROGELIO T. GLORIA** Party Preference: Republican  
Graduate Student/Businessman
- DON J. GRUNDMANN** Party Preference: American Independent  
Doctor of Chiropractic
- ROBERT LAUTEN** Party Preference: Republican
- GAIL K. LIGHTFOOT** Party Preference: Libertarian  
Retired Nurse
- DAVID ALEX LEVITT** Party Preference: Democratic  
Computer Scientist/Engineer
- ORLY TAITZ** Party Preference: Republican  
Doctor/Attorney/Businesswoman
- AL RAMIREZ** Party Preference: Republican  
Businessman
- DIRK ALLEN KONOPIK** Party Preference: Republican  
MBA Student
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in

## VOTER-NOMINATED AND NONPARTISAN OFFICES

All voters, regardless of the party preference they disclosed upon registration, or refusal to disclose a party preference, may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated or nonpartisan office. The party preference, if any, designated by a candidate for a voter-nominated office is selected by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party or that the party approves of the candidate. The party preference, if any, of a candidate for a nonpartisan office does not appear on the ballot.

### UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE

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##### 24th District

Vote for One

- ABEL MALDONADO** Party Preference: Republican  
Farmer/Business Owner
- CHRIS MITCHUM** Party Preference: Republican  
Actor/Writer/Businessman
- LOIS CAPPS** Party Preference: Democratic  
Congresswoman/Nurse
- MATT BOUTTÉ** Party Preference: None  
Law Student
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in

### STATE SENATOR

#### STATE SENATOR

##### 17th District

Vote for One

- LARRY BEAMAN** Party Preference: Republican  
School Board Member
- BILL MONNING** Party Preference: Democratic  
Assemblymember
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in

### MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY

#### MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY

##### 35th District

Vote for One

- K.H. "KATCHO" ACHADJIAN** Party Preference: Republican  
Small Businessman/Assemblyman
- GERALD "GERRY" MANATA** Party Preference: Democratic  
City Transportation Employee
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in

### COUNTY

#### COUNTY SUPERVISOR

##### 5th District

Vote for One

- DEBBIE ARNOLD**  
Businesswoman/Rancher
- JAMES R. PATTERSON**  
County Supervisor, 5th District
- \_\_\_\_\_  
Write-in

## MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS

### STATE

#### **PROPOSITION 28 - LIMITS ON LEGISLATORS' TERMS IN OFFICE. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.**

Reduces total amount of time a person may serve in the state legislature from 14 years to 12 years. Allows 12 years' service in one house. Applies only to legislators first elected after measure is passed. Fiscal Impact: No direct fiscal effect on state or local governments.

YES

NO

#### **PROPOSITION 29 - IMPOSES ADDITIONAL TAX ON CIGARETTES FOR CANCER RESEARCH. INITIATIVE STATUTE.**

Imposes additional \$1.00 per pack tax on cigarettes and an equivalent tax increase on other tobacco products. Revenues fund research for cancer and tobacco-related diseases. Fiscal Impact: Net increase in cigarette excise tax revenues of about \$735 million annually by 2013-14 for certain research and tobacco prevention and cessation programs. Other state and local revenue increases amounting to tens of millions of dollars annually.

YES

NO

# VOTER'S PAMPHLET INFORMATION SECTION

The Following Pages Contain Voter Information Applicable to your Ballot Which May Include Any/All of the Following Items:

- Candidates' Statements
- Ballot Measures
- Analyses
- Arguments, Pro & Con

This pamphlet section may not contain a statement for each candidate. A complete list of candidates appears on your Sample Ballot. Each candidate's statement in this pamphlet is volunteered by the candidate and is printed at his or her expense. Each candidate's statement is printed in uniform format as submitted by the candidate.

Please note that all the statements printed in Spanish, at the candidates' request, follow the English statements for that same contest.

Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors

## **Campaign Finance Reform**

Among all state legislative candidates appearing on the ballot in San Luis Obispo County, only the candidates listed below have pledged to abide by campaign spending limits as specified in the California Government Code. Candidates agreeing to the campaign spending limits also have the opportunity to have a Statement of Qualifications printed in the local sample ballot booklet, at their own expense.

### **35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District Candidates**

K. H. "Katcho" Achadjian  
Gerald "Gerry" Manata

### **17<sup>th</sup> Senate District Candidates**

Larry Beaman  
Bill Monning



**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 24<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

**ABEL MALDONADO**

**Age: 44**

**Occupation:** Farmer, Business Owner

**Education and Qualifications:** Washington's failed economic policies and \$1 trillion budget deficits hurt all of us. To get our country back on track, we need leaders who will help fix Congress and do what's right for the people.

As a business owner, I helped turn a half-acre plot of land into a family farm that employs 250 people. I know how to create jobs and how to repair mistakes made in Washington that caused the economic meltdown. I'm a fiscal conservative who opposes the irresponsible deficit spending that created a \$15 trillion national debt and slows economic recovery. Count on me to oppose bank bailouts, corrupt pork barrel spending and other government waste. By repealing policies that chase jobs to China, I'll help rebuild America's economic engine. I'll push for tax credits for employers who create new jobs. I'll fight to reduce the price of gasoline by making the US energy independent.

As a public servant, I have exposed corrupt public officials, refused pay raises and wrote a new law to outlaw pay increases for politicians when the state had a budget deficit. The California Taxpayers Association gave me repeated 100% ratings for opposing billions in new taxes on working families. I also opposed efforts to raise tuition on U.C. and Cal-State students.

In Congress, I'll renew my efforts to stand tall against corruption, waste, fraud and excessive government spending - because that's what it will take to fix Congress and get America back on track.

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**DECLARACIÓN DEL CANDIDATO A  
DIPUTADO DE EE. UU., 24.º DISTRITO ELECTORAL**

**ABEL MALDONADO**

**Edad: 44 años**

**Ocupación:** Agricultor, propietario de empresa

**Educación y competencia:** Las políticas económicas de Washington y los déficits presupuestarios de \$1 billón nos hacen daño a todos. Para que nuestro país se recupere, necesitamos líderes que ayuden a arreglar el Congreso y a hacer lo correcto por la gente.

Como propietario de una empresa, ayudé a convertir un terreno de aproximadamente 2020 metros cuadrados en una granja familiar que emplea a 250 personas. Sé cómo crear empleos y reparar los errores de Washington que causaron el colapso económico. Soy conservador en cuestiones de economía; me opongo al gasto irresponsable que provoca déficits, el cual originó la deuda nacional de \$15 billones y disminuye la velocidad de la recuperación económica. Cuento con mi oposición a los rescates bancarios, al gasto corrupto en proselitismo electoral y demás derroches del gobierno. Al revocar las políticas que cazan empleos en China, ayudaré a reconstruir el motor económico de Estados Unidos. Presionaré por que se den créditos tributarios a los empleadores que generen nuevos empleos. Lucharé para reducir el precio de la gasolina al volver independiente la energía de Estados Unidos.

Como servidor público, he expuesto a funcionarios públicos corruptos, he rechazado aumentos y escribí una nueva ley para prohibir aumentos en el sueldo de los políticos si el estado tiene un déficit presupuestario. La Asociación de Contribuyentes de California me dio calificaciones del 100% en repetidas ocasiones por oponerme a nuevos impuestos de miles de millones para las familias trabajadoras. También me opuse a los esfuerzos por aumentar las colegiaturas de los estudiantes de la Universidad de California y la Universidad Estatal de California.

En el Congreso, renovaré mis esfuerzos para mantenerme firme contra la corrupción, el derroche, el fraude y los gastos excesivos del gobierno, porque eso es lo que se necesita para arreglar el Congreso y para que Estados Unidos se recupere.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR  
STATE SENATOR, 17<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**

**BILL MONNING**

**Age: 60**

**Occupation:** Assemblymember

**Education and Qualifications:** Since 2008, when I was elected to the Assembly, I've used my skills in conflict resolution and mediation to tackle our state's challenges.

As an Assemblymember, I can tell you – as bad as things seem in Sacramento – we're turning a corner. That's why I'm asking you to send me to the State Senate.

In 2012, you have the chance to make a difference by being part of the solution. It would be an honor to represent the people of San Luis Obispo County.

In the past three years, under both Republican and Democratic Governors, I've had 26 bills signed into law. As Chair of the Assembly Committee on Health, I've fought to promote healthy lifestyles, battle the scourge of child obesity, and protect our most vulnerable, including people with mental health issues and the disabled living in long-term care facilities.

I'll continue to focus on job growth by supporting agriculture, tourism, and small businesses, including the many wineries critical to the County's economic health. I'll make sure we're providing our schools, colleges, and universities the funding to allow our kids to thrive. And, I'll fight to give our first responders the support they need to keep our communities safe.

I'm asking for your vote to allow me to represent you in the 17th State Senate District. Together, we can preserve what's special about San Luis Obispo County and keep our State moving forward.

Please visit [www.billmonning.org](http://www.billmonning.org). I'd be honored to receive your vote on June 5th. Thank you.

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**DECLARACIÓN DEL CANDIDATO A  
SENADOR ESTATAL, 17.º DISTRITO**

**BILL MONNING**

**Edad: 60 años**

**Ocupación:** Miembro de la Asamblea

**Educación y competencia:** Desde 2008, cuando me eligieron para la Asamblea, he usado mis habilidades de resolución de conflictos para enfrentar los retos de nuestro estado.

Como miembro de la Asamblea, puedo decirle que, a pesar de lo mal que parecen estar las cosas en Sacramento, estamos superando una etapa. Es por eso que le pido que me envíe al Senado Estatal.

En 2012, usted tiene la oportunidad de hacer la diferencia y ser parte de la solución. Sería un honor representar a la gente del condado de San Luis Obispo.

Durante los últimos tres años, en periodos de gobernadores tanto republicanos como demócratas, he logrado que se aprueben 26 proyectos de ley. Como presidente del Comité de Salud de la Asamblea, he luchado por promover estilos de vida saludables, frenar el flagelo de la obesidad infantil y proteger a la gente más vulnerable, incluidas las personas con problemas de salud mental y con discapacidades que viven en establecimientos de cuidado a largo plazo.

Seguiré concentrándome en el crecimiento de empleos mediante el apoyo a la agricultura, al turismo y a los pequeños negocios, incluidas las diversas bodegas que son fundamentales en la salud económica del condado. Me aseguraré de que nuestras escuelas y universidades cuenten con los fondos para que nuestros hijos salgan adelante. Y lucharé para dar a nuestros socorristas el apoyo que necesitan para mantener nuestras comunidades a salvo.

Le pido su voto para que me permita representarlo en el 17.º Distrito del Senado Estatal. Juntos podemos conservar lo que hace especial al condado de San Luis Obispo y hacer que nuestro estado siga progresando.

Visite [www.billmonning.org](http://www.billmonning.org). Sería un honor para mí recibir su voto el 5 de junio. Gracias.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**

**DEBBIE ARNOLD**

**Age: 57**

**Occupation:** Businesswoman, Rancher

**Education and Qualifications:** In 1973, I moved to San Luis Obispo County and attended Cal Poly. I spent one season working for the U.S. Forest Service in wilderness management. Later, with a degree in Early Childhood Education from Cuesta College, I founded Small Wonders Preschool in Atascadero. In the seventeen years that followed, I worked with more than 1,000 families. I later worked for the County Board of Supervisors, the State Assembly and the State Senate, helping constituents navigate various levels of government. Today, I am involved with the daily operation of our family farm, winery and tasting room. This diverse work experience will help me as I strive to make government more accountable to the families living here.

We all share common goals for SLO County: the need to protect our rural character, the desire for a healthy business climate, plentiful job opportunities and the ability to fund schools and public safety.

To restore a vibrant economy and bring back permanent jobs, we need to scale back overreaching regulation and restore common sense to SLO County government.

I humbly ask for your vote for County Supervisor. Please call me with any questions you might have at (805) 471-1994.

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**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT**

**JAMES PATTERSON**

**Age: 62**

**Occupation:** Incumbent County Supervisor, 5<sup>th</sup> District

**Education and Qualifications:** The past few years have been some of the toughest and challenging in our lifetimes. As a county supervisor, I've had to make hard decisions on how to reduce the size and cost of government while maintaining essential services.

I'm proud to say that we've been successful in balancing our budget without painful layoffs, we've stimulated economic development and we've enacted sound fiscal policies and pension reforms that will generate savings far into the future.

Making government smaller and more efficient has been one of my top priorities. My background and experience in business, farming and water conservation helps me understand and address our major challenges.

A Cal Poly graduate and 37-year Atascadero resident, I appreciate the diverse needs of District 5. I've worked to bring important infrastructure projects and services to the communities I represent. I've helped protect agricultural lands and open space while creating hundreds of new jobs in the county.

Together, we can protect and enhance our quality of life, now and in the future.

With your vote, I will continue to work with you to ensure that SLO County remains a great place to live, work, and raise our families.

Visit [www.WinWithJim.org](http://www.WinWithJim.org) Thank you.

**DECLARACIÓN DEL CANDIDATO PARA  
LA JUNTA DE SUPERVISORES, 5.º DISTRITO**

**JAMES PATTERSON**

**Edad: 62 años**

**Ocupación:** Supervisor titular del condado, 5.º Distrito

**Educación y competencia:** Los últimos años han sido de los más difíciles y desafiantes de nuestras vidas. Como supervisor del condado, he tenido que tomar decisiones difíciles sobre cómo reducir el tamaño y el costo del gobierno y conservar los servicios esenciales a la vez.

Me enorgullece decir que hemos tenido éxito en equilibrar nuestro presupuesto sin despidos dolorosos, hemos estimulado el desarrollo económico y hemos promulgado políticas fiscales y sólidas reformas a las pensiones que generarán ahorros en el futuro.

Disminuir el tamaño del gobierno y hacerlo más eficiente ha sido una de mis principales prioridades. Mis antecedentes y experiencia en los negocios, el cultivo y la conservación del agua me ayudan a comprender y a afrontar nuestros desafíos principales.

Como egresado de Cal Poly y residente de Atascadero por 37 años, comprendo las diversas necesidades del 5.º Distrito. He trabajado para brindar proyectos y servicios de infraestructura importantes a las comunidades que represento. He ayudado a proteger las tierras agrícolas y los espacios abiertos y generar cientos de nuevos empleos en el condado a la vez.

Juntos podemos proteger y mejorar nuestra calidad de vida, en la actualidad y en el futuro.

Con su voto, seguiré trabajando con usted para asegurar que el condado de SLO siga siendo un gran lugar para vivir, trabajar y criar a nuestras familias.

Visite [www.WinWithJim.org](http://www.WinWithJim.org) Gracias.

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JULIE L. RODEWALD  
COUNTY CLERK -RECORDER

# HELPFUL HINTS MAKE ELECTION DAY EASIER!

Your precinct workers are citizens like you. They sincerely want to make voting easy while protecting your voting rights and ensuring that all election laws are followed. Here are some ideas for you to make Election Day easier for all.

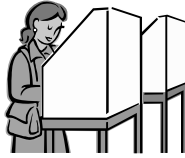
- Your polling place is listed on the back page of this Sample Ballot booklet. It may have changed since the last election.
- If you are not planning on voting by mail, check to make sure you know where your polling place is located. If you are not sure how to locate your polling place, go to our polling place look-up on the web ([www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk)) or contact us before Election Day, if possible.
- Go to the polls prepared. Read and mark the contests prior to Election Day and take this Sample Ballot booklet with you to refer to while you are in the voting booth. This is especially helpful with a lengthy ballot and can also help the precinct workers locate your name and address on the voter roster.
- If you are a first time voter, be prepared to show identification, see below.

## NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST TIME VOTERS

The Help America Vote Act requires first time voters to show identification when voting. If you registered to vote by mail after January 1, 2003 and have not previously voted in San Luis Obispo County you will be required to show your current valid photo I.D. or a copy of one of the following that shows your name and address when you go to the polls on election day: Current Utility Bill, Bank Statement, Government Check, Government Paycheck or a Government Document. The same requirement applies if you request to vote by absentee ballot. You will be required to send a copy of one of the above with your voted vote-by-mail ballot. If you have questions about your status as a First Time Voter, contact us.

## Contact Information on the Front Cover

# Develop your Personal Voting Plan



The San Luis Obispo County Clerk-Recorder wants to help you create a voting plan that works for you. See your options below!

- 1. Vote at the Polls** – Polling places are open from 7 am – 8 pm on Election Day. We recommend that you bring your completed sample ballot to help you save time. The information on the back cover can also help the precinct workers find your name and address in the voting roster.
  - You can find your polling place on your sample ballot or our website at [www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk)
- 2. Vote by Mail** – Sign up by completing the application in your sample ballot, or by sending a request. Return the application well before the election so you have time to complete and return your ballot. Mail your ballot in early, or drop it off at any polling place to be received by 8 pm on Election Day.
  - You can also request to **permanently vote by mail**, and you will receive a mail-in ballot automatically for each election.



## Assistance for Voters with Special Needs



San Luis Obispo offers voters with disabilities options that provide a private and independent voting environment.

- Check the accessibility of your polling place or the status of your vote-by-mail ballot at [www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk)
- AutoMARK Ballot Marking Machines are available in every polling place on Election Day and at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office 22 days prior to the election for early voting.
- Curbside voting is also available. If you arrive at your polling place and cannot get to the voting area, ask for assistance.

### Other Assistance for Visually, Hearing or Speech Impaired:

The Secretary of State's Office has a TDD (Telecommunications Device for the Deaf) to provide elections information: **1-800-833-8683 (1-800-TDD-VOTE)**. Audio tapes and large print format of the state ballot measures and audio tapes of local measures and candidates are available from the Clerk-Recorder's Department.

**Contact us for additional information.  
Contact Information on the Front Cover**



# Help Save Taxpayers' Money and Go Green



## Sample Ballot Opt Out

Voters can now “Opt Out” of receiving a sample ballot, voter pamphlet (information guide), notice of polling place, and associated materials by mail, and instead obtain them electronically on the County’s Website.

By opting out you will reduce the number of booklets to be printed and mailed (about 50-70 cents each) and be sensitive to the environment

About a month prior to Election Day, the Clerk-Recorder will directly email to voters, as well as post announcements on the Clerk-Recorder’s Twitter and Facebook accounts, that this information is available online.

### Two ways to “Opt Out” of receiving these materials in the mail:

- 1) Check the box on the attached postcard (be sure to sign the form and furnish an email) and return it to the Clerk-Recorder’s office.
- 2) Send a message by emailing the Clerk-Recorder’s office requesting to Opt Out of receiving the Sample Ballot in the mail. You must provide your name as it appears on the voter rolls, residence address, and either California driver’s license or ID number or last four numbers of your Social Security Number in your request (as required by law).

If you decide later that you would like to resume receiving these materials by mail for future elections, you may “Opt In” by contacting the Clerk-Recorder’s office.

## Contact Information on the Front Cover

## **REQUESTING A VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT**

If you find that for any reason you will be unable to vote in person on Election Day, promptly complete and sign the application for a vote by mail ballot printed on the reverse side of this page, detach the post card, apply postage and mail. Your application must reach the office of the **Clerk-Recorder** not less than 7 days before the day of election. The deadline for the Clerk-Recorder to receive Vote By Mail applications is May 29, 2012.

## **PERMANENT VOTE BY MAIL QUALIFICATION**

State law now allows any voter, upon written request, to be a Permanent Vote By Mail Voter. If you check the Permanent Vote By Mail box on the Application for Vote By Mail Ballot, a vote by mail ballot will automatically be sent to you for future elections. Failure to vote in four consecutive statewide general elections may cancel your Permanent Vote By Mail Status and you will need to reapply.

## **RETURNING YOUR VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT**

Voters may return only their own voted vote by mail ballot, in person or by mail, to the Clerk-Recorder's Office. On Election Day the ballot can be returned to any polling place in the County. To be counted, a ballot must be received no later than the close of the polls at 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. However, a voter who is unable to return his/her ballot because of illness or other physical disability, may designate his/her spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling or a person residing in the same household as the voter to return the ballot to the Clerk-Recorder or any election day polling place in San Luis Obispo County.

## **VOTE BY MAIL BALLOT LOOK-UP ON THE WEB**

Check the status of your returned VBM ballot on the Internet at [www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/clerk)

## **FOR QUESTIONS, CONTACT US**

**Contact Information on the Front Cover**