



County of San Luis Obispo

026

November 5, 2024,
General Election


VOTER INFORMATION GUIDE


Your **OFFICIAL VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT** is included with this Voter Information Guide and is accompanied by a postage-paid return envelope. This will be your only official mailing from the County.

THE VOTE-BY-MAIL PERIOD BEGINS NOW. As soon as you are ready, return your VBM ballot and **MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD EARLY!**

Return your Vote-by-Mail ballot during the voting period of October 7th through **8:00 pm** on November 5th.

You can return your ballot by:

 **Mail.** Be sure it is post-marked **on or before Election Day.** No postage necessary.

 **In person** at any **Elections Office, Vote Center, Polling Place, or Official VBM Ballot Drop Box** located in the State of California. The location of drop boxes in San Luis Obispo County can be found on the Vote-by-Mail instructions included with your guide or at www.slovote.com.

Prefer to vote at your designated **polling location** between 7:00 am and 8:00 pm on Election Day?

To do that, please **bring your un-voted Vote-by-Mail ballot AND its return envelope** with you to surrender at your polling place.

The location of your polling place is listed at the top of your Vote-by-Mail ballot.

Questions?

SLO County Elections Office



(805) 781-5228



elections@co.slo.ca.us



www.slovote.com



[slocountyclerkrec](https://www.facebook.com/slocountyclerkrec)



[slovote](https://www.instagram.com/slovote)



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VBMFC

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SL 026-001

IMPORTANT TO KNOW BEFORE YOU VOTE

The office of California U.S. Senator has TWO separate contests on the November 5, 2024, General Election ballot. You may vote on both. The first contest is the regular election for the full 6-year term of office beginning on January 3, 2025 (the full term).

The second contest is a special vacancy election, since the current officeholder is temporarily filling the vacancy. This contest is for the remainder of the term ending on January 3, 2025 (the partial/unexpired term).

TOP TWO CANDIDATES

The Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act requires that all candidates for a voter-nominated office be listed on the same ballot. Voter-nominated offices include state legislative offices, U.S. congressional offices, and state constitutional offices.

In both the open primary and general elections, you can vote for any candidate regardless of what party preference you indicated on your voter registration form. In the primary election, the two candidates receiving the most votes—regardless of party preference—move on to the general election. If a candidate receives a majority of the vote (at least 50 percent + 1), a general election still

must be held. California's open primary system doesn't apply to candidates running for U.S. President, county central committee, or local offices.

In a direct primary, voters directly select their preferred candidate for a particular political party to run in the general election. This means that each voter can vote for their chosen candidate, and the one with the most votes becomes the party's nominee.

On the other hand, voting for electors, such as in the presidential election in CA, involves voters choosing *electors* who are pledged to a specific candidate. Each state, including CA, has a specific number of electors based on its representation in Congress (the sum of its Senators and Representatives).

ELECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA

VOTER-NOMINATED OFFICES

Political parties are not entitled to formally nominate candidates for voter-nominated offices at the primary election. A candidate nominated for a voter-nominated office at the primary election is the nominee of the people and not the official nominee of any party at the general election.

A candidate for nomination to a voter-nominated office shall have their qualified party preference, or lack of qualified party preference, stated on the ballot, but the party preference designation is selected solely by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not mean the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party designated, or that there is an affiliation between the party and candidate, and no candidate nominated by the voters shall be deemed to be the officially nominated candidate of any political party.

The parties may submit a list of the candidates for voter-nominated offices who have received the party's official endorsement (see the Political Party Endorsements page).

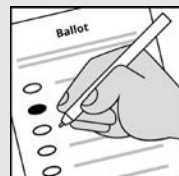
NON-PARTISAN OFFICES

Political parties are not entitled to nominate candidates for nonpartisan offices at the primary election, and a candidate at the primary election is not the official nominee of any party for the specific office at the general election.

A candidate for nomination to a nonpartisan office may not designate their party preference, or lack of party preference, on the ballot. The top two vote-getters at the primary election move on to the general election for the nonpartisan office.

Any candidate for a nonpartisan office who receives a majority of the vote (at least 50 percent + 1) in the primary election will be elected to that office and the contest will not appear on the ballot for the general election.

Any voter may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated office, if they meet the other qualifications required to vote for that office. The top two vote-getters at the primary election move on to the general election for the voter-nominated office, even if both candidates have specified the same party preference designation.



ELECTIONS IN CALIFORNIA

REQUIREMENTS FOR FIRST-TIME VOTERS

The Help America Vote Act (HAVA) requires first-time federal voters to show identification prior to voting.

Unless you already provided it, you will be required to show your current valid photo I.D. and/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.

You will be required to send a copy of one of the above documents with your voted Vote-by-Mail ballot. If you have questions about your status as a first-time voter, please contact the Elections Office.

WHY YOUR BALLOT WOULD NOT BE COUNTED

Your voice is important. The Elections Office makes every effort to ensure that each vote cast is counted. That said, the following are reasons that a ballot would NOT be counted:

1. The ballot is not postmarked by November 5 and/or does not arrive within 7 days after Election Day.

2. The VBM return envelope is not signed.

3. The signature on the VBM return envelope does not match any signature in the voter's record.



4. The ballot is returned without the VBM return envelope.

5. There are multiple ballots in one VBM return envelope.

VBM CURE PROCESS

The law requires the Elections Office to send a letter and verification form to voters who forgot to sign their return envelope or whose signature did not match their signatures on file.

In order for these ballots to be counted, voters must sign and return their form prior to the deadline, which is two days before the election is certified.

WHY VOTE NOW?

Because VBM ballots received before Election Day are counted and included in the Election Night results

But don't worry: Every VBM ballot postmarked correctly and received within 7 days of the election will be counted

POLITICAL PARTY ENDORSEMENTS

Parties may provide a list of candidates who have received the official endorsement of the party for printing in this booklet.

Contest	American Independent	Democratic	Republican
President and Vice President of the United States	No endorsement	Kamala D. Harris and Tim Walz	No endorsement
U.S. Senator, full term	No endorsement	Adam B. Schiff	No endorsement
U.S. Senator, partial term	No endorsement	Adam B. Schiff	No endorsement
U.S. Representative, 19th District	Jason Michael Anderson	Jimmy Panetta	Jason Michael Anderson
U.S. Representative, 24th District	Thomas Cole	Salud Carbajal	Thomas Cole
State Senator, 17th District	No endorsement	John Laird	Tony Virrueta
State Senator, 21st District	Elijah Mack	S. Monique Limón	Elijah Mack
State Assembly, 30th District	Dalila Epperson	Dawn Addis	Dalila Epperson
State Assembly, 37th District	Sari M. Domingues	Gregg Hart	Sari M. Domingues



My voter registration changed, even though I didn't make an update. What's going on?

We sometimes hear this question from people who don't realize that their voter registration can be updated as part of DMV processes. So, if you find your registration is different from what you remember, it may have been updated during a DMV transaction. If you give us a call, we can look it up and verify that for you.

ELECTION SAFETY AND SECURITY

California's election systems are extremely safe and secure, and all 58 counties have a proven track record of conducting accessible and accurate elections. The California Secretary of State's Office makes this possible by overseeing one of the most extensive voting system testing and certification programs in the nation.

Unfortunately, misinformation about elections is widespread, and it continues to confuse voters and lead to distrust in the process.

The fact remains that the Elections Office in San Luis Obispo County carefully follows statewide elections code and takes many steps to ensure election security locally, including making the processing and counting of ballots publicly observable.

Remember that your Elections Office is your best source for timely, accurate, and trustworthy election information. You can find us anytime at slovote.com, where we have a #TrustedInfo2024 page, or feel free to reach out to us at (805) 781-5228 or elections@co.slo.ca.us.

Have misinformation to report? Contact the Secretary of State at votensure@sos.ca.gov.

CALIFORNIA ELECTION SECURITY SAFEGUARDS

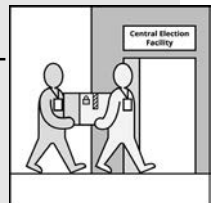
There are a number of steps that we take to ensure your vote is safe and secure throughout the election. Here are a few examples:

- County voting systems are not connected to the Internet, and all ballots are paper.
- Only authorized staff have access to systems relevant to their role.
- We conduct routine threat monitoring, vulnerability scanning, and security assessments in collaboration with our state and federal partners.

CHECK YOUR VOTER STATUS ONLINE

VoterStatus.sos.ca.gov

- VoteCal is a centralized statewide voter registration database. VoteCal checks against official records and is regularly updated.
- Ballot drop boxes are secured and monitored.
- Signatures are verified on all Vote-by-Mail envelopes.
- Ballots remain in dual (two-person) custody at all times.



HOW YOUR VOTE IS COUNTED

Polling places close at 8:00 pm on Election Night, but it can take a few hours for all locations to report results, and weeks before the final totals are known. Ever wondered why? Here's a quick look at what happens to your ballot after you cast it.

ELECTION NIGHT

The first results are posted shortly after 8:00 pm—these are the Vote-by-Mail ballots that were returned and processed early, prior to Election Day.

After that, we must wait for the first of the polling places across the county to complete their paperwork, pack up their supplies, and return the ballots; this can take more than an hour.

As polling places report in, their results are tabulated and compiled into countywide results. The posted results are updated periodically throughout the night at www.slovote.com.

When all polling places have reported, the Election Night counting is done; however, there are still more ballots to count and a lot more work to do before the results become official (see below).

BALLOTS COUNTED AFTER ELECTION DAY

Vote-by-Mail Ballots Received After the First Weekend in November: Vote-by-Mail ballots that arrive the

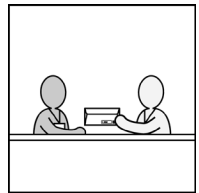
day before or on Election Day (either by mail, returned at a polling place, or deposited in an official ballot drop box) are processed and counted in the days after Election Day and therefore are **not** included in the Election Night results posted.

Postmarked Vote-by-Mail Ballots:

Under California law, ballots may be counted even if they arrive after Election Day, as long as they are received by mail no later than 7 days after the election and are postmarked on/before Election Day.

Missing or Mismatched Signature:

A voter's signature on the returned Vote-by-Mail identification envelope **must** compare with the signature(s) in the voter's registration record. If the voter did not sign the ballot envelope, or if the Elections Official has determined that the signature on the envelope does not match with the signature(s) of the voter in the voter's record, the Elections Office will provide the voter with the appropriate form to correct the missing or mismatched signature. This notice must be returned to the Elections Office no later than 2 days prior to the certification of the election.



Provisional

Ballots: These are the last ballots counted because they must be researched and verified. It may take a few weeks, but every valid vote will be counted.

TRACK YOUR BALLOT

and get updates from
WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov

WARNING: CORRUPTING THE VOTING PROCESS IS PROHIBITED

VIOLATIONS CAN LEAD TO FINES AND/OR IMPRISONMENT

IT IS PROHIBITED TO ENGAGE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

- DO NOT commit or attempt to commit election fraud.
- DO NOT bribe or provide any sort of compensation to, in any fashion, or by any means induce or attempt to induce, a person to vote or refrain from voting.
- DO NOT illegally vote.
- DO NOT attempt to vote or aid another to vote when not entitled to vote.
- DO NOT engage in electioneering; photograph or record a voter entering or exiting a polling place; or obstruct the entrance, exit, or parking.
- DO NOT challenge a person's right to vote or prevent voters from voting; delay the process of voting; or fraudulently advise any person that he or she is not eligible to vote or is not registered to vote.
- DO NOT attempt to ascertain how a voter voted their ballot.
- DO NOT possess or arrange for someone to possess a firearm in the immediate

vicinity of a polling place, with some exceptions per Elections Code 18544(b).

- DO NOT appear or arrange for someone to appear in the uniform of a peace officer, guard, or security personnel in the immediate vicinity of a polling place, with some exceptions per Elections Code 18544(b).
- DO NOT tamper or interfere with any component of a voting system.

The corruption of voting prohibitions summarized here are set forth in Articles 2, 3, and 4 of Chapter 6 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

- DO NOT forge, counterfeit, or tamper with the returns of an election.
- DO NOT alter the returns of an election.
- DO NOT tamper with, destroy, or alter any polling list, official ballot, or ballot container.
- DO NOT display any unofficial ballot collection container that may deceive a voter into believing it is an official collection box.

(continued on next page)

- DO NOT coerce or deceive a person who cannot read or an elder into voting for or against a candidate or measure contrary to their intent.
- DO NOT act as an election officer when you are not one.

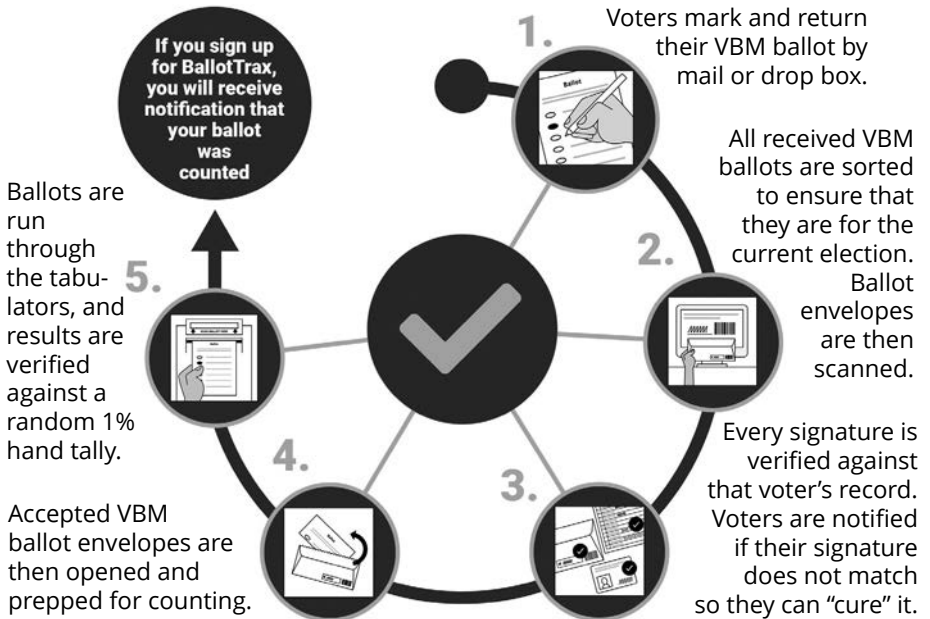
TRACK YOUR BALLOT
 through BallotTrax:
WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov

EMPLOYERS cannot require or ask their employee to bring their Vote-by-Mail ballot to work or ask their employee to vote their ballot at work. At the time of payment of salary or wages, employers cannot enclose materials that attempt to influence the political opinions or actions of their employees.

POLL WORKERS cannot attempt to determine how a voter voted their ballot or, if that information is discovered, disclose how a voter voted their ballot.

The prohibitions on activity related to corruption of the voting process summarized here are set forth in Chapter 6 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

A VOTE-BY-MAIL (VBM) BALLOT FROM VOTE TO TABULATION



ELECTIONEERING IS PROHIBITED

VIOLATIONS CAN LEAD TO FINES AND/OR IMPRISONMENT

WARNING: The following activities are prohibited within the immediate vicinity of a person in line to cast their ballot OR within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place, curbside voting, or official ballot drop box.

- DO NOT ask a person to vote for or against any candidate or ballot measure.
- DO NOT display a candidate's name, image, or logo.
- DO NOT block access to or loiter near any ballot drop boxes.
- DO NOT provide any material or audible information for or against any candidate or ballot measure near any polling place or official ballot drop box.
- DO NOT circulate any petitions, including for initiatives, referenda, recall, or candidate nominations.
- DO NOT distribute, display, or wear any clothing (hats, shirts, signs, buttons, stickers) that includes a candidate's name, image and/or logo, or that supports or opposes any candidate or ballot measure.
- DO NOT display information or speak to a voter about the voter's eligibility to vote.

The electioneering prohibitions summarized here are set forth in Article 7 of Chapter 4 of Division 18 of the California Elections Code.

OBSERVING ELECTIONS

The public is invited to participate as a poll watcher or election observer. Both roles provide important insight into the process.

Rules for conduct are outlined in the California Elections Code, and more information can be found online at www.slovote.com.

Poll watchers observe operations at polling locations on Election Day, while election observers check in at the County Elections Office and are then able to observe various steps in the ballot processing and tabulation process. In both cases, there may be space limitations that impact how many can participate.

LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE

As required by law, the County of San Luis Obispo offers facsimile ballots in the following languages and only for the precincts listed below:

Spanish

All Precincts

All Polling Places

Tagalog

Consolidated Precincts
304, 305, 306, and 408

To determine your Consolidated Precinct, please refer to the top left corner of your Vote-By-Mail ballot, which contains your precinct information (e.g., CON 403). Facsimile ballots and instructions will be provided upon request.

You can request to view the facsimile ballot for the language that is available at a polling place listed on your Voting Instructions included with your guide.

You can request a facsimile ballot in one of the languages available:

By Phone: 1-805-781-5228

By E-Mail:

elections@co.slo.ca.us

By Mail: 1055 Monterey Street,
Suite D120, San Luis Obispo, CA
93408

In Person: At the Clerk-Recorder's
Office at

1055 Monterey Street, D120, San
Luis Obispo or

6565 Capistrano Avenue (2nd
floor), Atascadero

Online: [www.slocounty.ca.gov/
LanguageAssistance](http://www.slocounty.ca.gov/LanguageAssistance)

SPANISH-LANGUAGE BALLOT TECHNOLOGY

Accessible ballot-marking technology (ICX voting machines) provide a Spanish-language voting experience and are available at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office beginning October 7th, and at all polling places on Election Day, November 5th.

ASISTENCIA DE IDIOMA

Conforme lo exige la ley, el Condado de San Luis Obispo ofrece boletas electorales facsímiles en los siguientes idiomas y solo para los distritos electorales que se detallan a continuación:

Español

Todos los precintos
Todos los lugares de votación

Tagalo

Precintos consolidados 304, 305, 306, y 408

Para determinar cuál es su distrito precinto consolidado, consulte la esquina superior a la izquierda de su boleta electoral de voto por correo, que contiene la información de su precinto electoral (por ejemplo, CON 403). Se suministrarán, a petición, boletas electorales e instrucciones facsímiles. Puede solicitar ver la boleta electoral facsímil del idioma que se encuentre disponible en el lugar de votación que esta incluida en la página con instrucciones para el voto.

Puede solicitar una boleta electoral facsímil en uno de los idiomas disponibles:

Por teléfono:
1-805-781-5228

Por correo electrónico: elections@co.slo.ca.us

Por correo postal:
1055 Monterey Street, Suite D120
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Personalmente: En la Oficina del Secretario-Oficial de Registro en 1055 Monterey Street, D120, San Luis Obispo o 6565 Capistrano Avenue (2.º piso), Atascadero

En línea: www.slocounty.ca.gov/LanguageAssistance

TECNOLOGIA DE BOLETAS ELECTORALES EN IDIOMA ESPANOL

Con la tecnología para marcar boletas electorales (máquinas de votación ICX), brinda una experiencia de votación en español y se encontrarán disponibles en la Oficina del Secretario-Oficial de Registro del Condado a partir del 7 de Octubre, y en todos los lugares de votación el 5 de Noviembre, el día de la elección.

TULONG SA WIKA

Ayon sa ipinag-aatas ng batas, nagbibigay ang County ng San Luis Obispo ng mga kopya ng balota na nasa mga sumusunod na wika at para lang sa mga presintong nakalista sa ibaba:

Spanish

Lahat ng Presinto

Lahat ng Lugar na Botohan

Tagalog

Mga Pinagsama-samang Presinto (Consolidated Precinct) 304, 305, 306, and 408

Upang alamin kung ano ang inyong Pinagsama-samang Presinto, mangyaring sumangguni sa kaliwang sulok sa itaas ng inyong balota sa Pagboto sa Pamamagitan ng Koreo, na naglalaman ng impormasyon ng inyong presinto (ibig sabihin, CON 403).

Magbibigay ng mga kopya ng balota at tagubilin kapag hiniling. Maaari ninyong hilinging makita ang kopya ng balota para sa wikang ginagamit sa Lugar na Botohan, na nakalista sa inyong pahina sa mga Tagubilin sa Pagboto.

Maaari kayong humiling ng kopya ng balota sa isa sa mga wikang magagamit:

Sa Pamamagitan ng Telepono:
1-805-781-5228

Sa Pamamagitan ng E-Mail:
elections@co.slo.ca.us

Sa Pamamagitan ng Koreo: 1055 Monterey Street, Suite D120 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

Sa Personal: Sa Tanggapan ng Klerk na Tagapagtala sa 1055 Monterey Street, D120, San Luis Obispo o 6565 Capistrano Avenue (ika-2 palapag), Atascadero

Online: www.slocounty.ca.gov/LanguageAssistance

TEKNOLOHIYA NG BALOTA SA WIKANG ESANYOL

Sa tulong ng nagagamit na teknolohiya sa pagmarka ng balota (mga ICX na makina sa pagboto), ang karanasan sa pagboto sa wikang Espanyol ay makakatulong sa mga botante sa pagpili at pagmarka sa kanilang mga balota. Magagamit ang mga ito sa tanggapan ng Klerk na Tagapagtala ng County simula ika-7 ng Oktubre, at sa lahat ng Lugar na Botohan sa ika-5 ng Nobyembre, Araw ng Halalan.

ASSISTANCE FOR VOTERS WITH DISABILITIES

San Luis Obispo County is committed to ensuring every voter can cast their ballot privately and independently. Below is detailed information about assistance offered to voters with disabilities.

Vote-by-Mail: Mark your ballot. Once completed, sign and seal your envelope. If you are unable to sign, make your mark and have a witness sign in the designated spot. Return your ballot by mail, or in person at any drop box, elections office, or polling site in California.

Vote at a Polling Place: On Election Day, you may choose up to two people to help you vote at any polling place or at the County Elections Office. This person cannot be your employer or anyone who works for your employer, your labor union leader, or anyone who works for your labor union.

- Accessible ballot-marking (ICX) machines are available at every polling place on Election Day and at the County Clerk-Recorder's Office beginning 29 days prior to the election. The ICX can mark a ballot in a number of ways and generate a paper ballot with a QR code for tabulating.

- Curbside Voting: If you arrive at a polling place and cannot get to the voting area, call for assistance: **1-805-781-1888**

- Voter Information Guides are available on the County Clerk-Recorder's website for use with personal accessible navigational tools and screen reader technology.

- Large print format of the County Voter Information Guide and of the state ballot measures is available upon request.

REMOTE ACCESSIBLE VOTE-BY-MAIL (RAVBM)

The Elections Office offers voters the use of a Remote Accessible Vote-by-Mail system that allows a voter to mark their selections on a personal computer, using their own compatible technology or assistive device(s) (screen readers, tactile switches, closed captioning, sip and puff system, etc.) as needed, to vote independently and privately in the comfort of their own home.

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-TDD-VOTE**

Contact the Elections Office for information at 1-805-781-5228.

VOTER INFORMATION SECTION

The following pages contain voter information applicable to your ballot, which may include any/all of the following:

- Candidates' Statements
- Ballot Measure(s)
- Impartial Analysis
- Fiscal Impact/Tax Rate Statement(s)
- Arguments and Rebuttals in Support Of or In Opposition To Ballot Measures

This section might not contain a statement for each candidate. A complete list of candidates you are eligible to vote for appears on your ballot.

Each candidate's statement in this pamphlet is volunteered by the candidate and is printed in English or English and Spanish at their 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 statement for that candidate.

Still have questions about how to vote?

Check out our Frequently Asked Questions (Voter FAQs) online at www.slovote.com

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 on this page have pledged to abide by campaign spending limits as specified in California Government Code 85600.

Candidates agreeing to the campaign spending limits also have the opportunity to have a Statement of Qualifications printed in this guide, at their own expense.

State Senate, 17th District:
John Laird
Tony Virrueta

State Senate, 21st District:
S. Monique Limón
Elijah Mack

State Assembly, 30th District:
Dawn Addis
Dalila Epperson

State Assembly, 37th District:
Sari M. Domingues



VOTER BILL OF RIGHTS



You have the right to vote if you are a registered voter. You are eligible to vote if you are: a U.S. citizen living in California; at least 18 years old; registered where you currently live; not currently serving a state or federal prison term for the conviction of a felony; and not currently found mentally incompetent to vote by a court.



You have the right to vote if you are a registered voter, even if your name is not on the list. You will vote a provisional ballot. Your vote will be counted if elections officials determine that you are eligible to vote.



You have the right to vote if you are still in line when the polls close.



You have the right to cast a secret ballot without anyone bothering you or telling you how to vote.



You have the right to get a new ballot if, prior to casting your ballot, you believe you made a mistake. You can ask an election official at a polling place for a new ballot; exchange your Vote-by-Mail ballot for a new one at an elections office or at your polling place; or vote using a provisional ballot.



You have the right to get help casting your ballot from anyone you choose, except from your employer or union representative.



You have the right to drop off your completed Vote-by-Mail ballot at any polling place in California.



You have the right to get election materials in a language other than English if enough people in your voting precinct speak that language.



You have the right to ask questions to elections officials about election procedures and watch the election process. If the person you ask cannot answer your questions, they must send you to the right person for an answer. If you are disruptive, they can stop answering you.



You have the right to report any illegal or fraudulent election activity to an elections official or the Secretary of State's Office.

VOTER PROTECTION HOTLINE: 1-800-345-VOTE (8683)

CA Secretary of State: www.sos.ca.gov | elections@sos.ca.gov

SLO County Elections Toll-Free Number: 800-834-4636, ext. 5228

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE, 19TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT**

JIMMY PANETTA

Occupation: U.S. Representative

Education and Qualifications: As a United States Representative, I'm fighting to give people opportunities for a better life. Having grown up with a deep sense of public service, I've dedicated my career to giving back to our community and country. As an Afghanistan War veteran, former prosecutor, and, now, a U.S. Representative, I know how to serve and fight for the people and values of our home.

I'm working to reduce the cost of living for working families with more affordable housing, accessible healthcare, and lower prescription drug prices. I'm securing federal resources to protect our livelihoods with investments in local infrastructure and national supply chains to boost productivity and prosperity. I'm promoting local jobs by supporting our diverse economy of technology, hospitality, agriculture, education, research, and small businesses.

I'm defending our precious environment by protecting our pristine coastline and public lands from oil drilling, promoting agricultural sustainability, and creating sound policies to help prevent wildfires and combat the climate crisis. I'm standing up for women's reproductive rights and equality. I'm working to secure our border and, as the grandson of immigrants, create pathways for legalization. I'm delivering federal funding for law local enforcement to fight crime.

I'm upholding democratic values by ensuring our right to vote and supporting international partners fighting for peace. I'll continue to fight for the people of California's 19th Congressional District with hard work, new ideas, and the will to work together to get things done. I'd be honored by your vote. For more information, please visit www.jimmypanetta.com

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
REPRESENTANTE DE EE. UU., DISTRITO 19° DEL CONGRESO**

JIMMY PANETTA

Ocupación: Representante de EE. UU.

Educación y Cualificaciones: Como Representante de los Estados Unidos, lucho para darle a la gente oportunidades para una vida mejor. Habiendo crecido con un profundo sentido de servicio público, he dedicado mi carrera a contribuir a nuestra comunidad y a nuestro país. Como veterano de la Guerra en Afganistán, exfiscal, y actual Representante de EE. UU., sé cómo servir y luchar por la gente y los valores de nuestro hogar.

Trabajo para reducir el costo de vida de las familias trabajadoras mediante viviendas más asequibles, atención médica accesible, y precios más bajos de medicamentos recetados. Aseguro recursos federales para proteger nuestros medios de vida con inversiones en infraestructura local y cadenas de suministro nacionales para impulsar la productividad y la prosperidad. Promuevo empleos locales apoyando a nuestra economía variada de tecnología, hotelería, agricultura, educación, investigación, y pequeñas empresas.

Defiendo nuestro preciado medio ambiente mediante la protección de nuestra costa inmaculada y tierras públicas de la perforación petrolera, promoviendo la sostenibilidad agrícola, y creando políticas sólidas para ayudar a prevenir incendios forestales y combatir la crisis climática. Defiendo los derechos reproductivos y la igualdad de las mujeres. Trabajo para asegurar nuestra frontera y, como nieto de inmigrantes, busco vías para la legalización. Entrego fondos federales a las fuerzas de seguridad locales para combatir el crimen.

Defiendo los valores democráticos garantizando nuestro derecho a votar y apoyando a los socios internacionales que luchan por la paz. Seguiré luchando por la gente del Distrito 19° del Congreso de California con trabajo duro, nuevas ideas, y la voluntad de trabajar juntos para lograr resultados. Me sentiría honrado de contar con su voto. Para obtener más información, visite www.jimmypanetta.com

STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR STATE SENATE, 17TH DISTRICT

JOHN LAIRD

Occupation: California State Senator, District 17

Education and Qualifications: It has been an honor to represent San Luis Obispo County. Over the past four years, I have visited every city hall, as well as parks, schools and special districts, and met with residents throughout the county. When atmospheric rivers slammed the Central Coast, I worked to get support to affected communities. When Cal Poly's Swanton Campus was decimated by fire, I worked to get the rebuilding fully funded. When Atascadero could not recover loans made for redevelopment, I worked to resolve the issue. I finished the bi-partisan effort to name a stretch of Highway 101 for Katcho Achadjian.

When the Governor wanted to extend the life of Diablo Canyon Power Plant, I worked to make sure local workers and businesses did not have to pay back their transition funds. I also ensured lands surrounding the plant are preserved, and that the Coastal Trail is extended into new areas of San Luis Obispo County. As Senator, I have authored 46 bills signed into law – including strengthening climate goals; improving fire prevention efforts; increasing sea level rise planning; requiring more efficient state buildings; and ensuring children of local fallen officers get the same survivor benefits as others. As Education Budget Subcommittee Chair, a substantial increase in public education funding was approved. I achieved restoration of UC's Cooperative Agriculture Extension – supporting local 4-H clubs and helping small farmers with needed technical help. There is much more to do. I'm energized and ready to continue contributing my experience, drive and commitment to serve San Luis Obispo County. I respectfully ask for your vote. www.LairdforCASenate.com

DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA SENADOR DEL ESTADO, DISTRITO 17º

JOHN LAIRD

Occupación: Senador del Estado de California, Distrito 17

Educación y Cualificaciones: Ha sido un honor representar al Condado de San Luis Obispo. Durante los últimos cuatro años, he visitado todos los ayuntamientos, así como parques, escuelas y distritos especiales, y me he reunido con residentes de todo el condado. Cuando los ríos atmosféricos azotaron la Costa Central, trabajé para conseguir apoyo para las comunidades afectadas. Cuando el Campus Swanton de Cal Poly fue diezmado por un incendio, trabajé para conseguir la financiación completa para la reconstrucción. Cuando Atascadero no pudo recuperar los préstamos otorgados para la reurbanización, trabajé para resolver el problema. Terminé el esfuerzo bipartidista para nombrar un tramo de la Autopista 101 en honor a Katcho Achadjian.

Cuando el Gobernador quiso extender la vida útil de la Planta de Energía Diablo Canyon, trabajé para asegurarme de que los trabajadores y las empresas locales no tuvieran que devolver sus fondos de transición. También me aseguré de que las tierras que rodean la planta se preserven, y de que el Sendero Costero se extienda a nuevas áreas del Condado de San Luis Obispo. Como Senador, he sido autor de 46 proyectos de ley que se convirtieron en ley – incluidos el fortalecimiento de los objetivos climáticos; la mejora de los esfuerzos de prevención contra incendios; el aumento de la planificación del aumento del nivel del mar; la exigencia de edificios estatales más eficientes; y la garantía de que los hijos de los oficiales locales caídos obtengan los mismos beneficios para sobrevivientes que los demás. Como Presidente del Subcomité de Presupuesto de Educación, se aprobó un aumento sustancial en la financiación de la educación pública. Logré la restauración de la Extensión Agrícola Cooperativa de la UC – que brinda apoyo a los clubes 4-H locales y ayuda a los pequeños agricultores con la asistencia técnica necesaria. Hay mucho más por hacer. Me siento lleno de energía y listo para seguir aportando mi experiencia, dirección y compromiso para servir al Condado de San Luis Obispo. Con todo respeto le pido su voto. www.LairdforCASenate.com

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY, 30TH DISTRICT**

DAWN ADDIS

Age: 52

Occupation: State Assemblymember/Teacher

Education and Qualifications: Dear Neighbor,

It has been my honor to represent the Central Coast in the State Assembly since 2022. In this role, I've listened to local residents and worked hard to advance meaningful legislation and deliver our region's fair share of state funding. As your Assemblymember, I'm working to improve public schools, reduce homelessness, combat the climate crisis, and help Central Coast residents navigate the high costs of gas, groceries, insurance, and housing. I'm also working with legislators from both parties to address the fentanyl epidemic and ensure safe communities.

I serve as the State Assembly appointee to the California Ocean Protection Council. I have authored important legislation to expand paid parental leave, improve housing opportunities for community college students, and help victims of childhood sexual abuse.

Prior to my election to the legislature, I worked as a classroom teacher and educational program developer. I also served on a local City Council and helped co-found a 10,000-person women's march. My husband, Marcus, and I are the proud parents of two children. My campaign has been endorsed by groups who represent Central Coast firefighters, paramedics, nurses, law enforcement personnel, teachers, and grocery store workers.

I would be honored to earn your vote for State Assembly. If you have questions or thoughts about my campaign, please do not hesitate to call me at (805) 749-3751 or email me at Dawn@DawnAddis.org. www.DawnAddis.org

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
MEMBER OF THE STATE ASSEMBLY, 30TH DISTRICT**

DALILA EPPERSON

Age: 58

Occupation: Retired Nurse

Education and Qualifications: I am running for the California State Assembly to champion much needed educational reform for our children, support law enforcement and local business owners, and to advance personal liberties.

My goal is to create an environment where every family can thrive, a position I hold dear as a devoted mother, grandmother, wife, and as an entrepreneur.

I love our precious Central Coast and the families who call it home as I do. That's why I have long been a committed community member. This includes actively participating in school board meetings and standing strong as a voice for parents. I also supported the reopening of businesses that the government cruelly shut down by attending multiple Board of Supervisor and City Council meetings. I walk the walk!

Understanding the challenges of local business owners which is based on my experience owning two small businesses, my entrepreneurial spirit drives me to support local businesses and advocate for policies that foster a thriving economy, e.g., less regulations!

My firefighter husband, a Navy veteran, embodies bravery and dedication that inspires my journey in public service. I believe we can unite by pursuing liberty, prosperity and safety.

Vote for strength and common sense; Someone who will always stand strong and represent us all: vote for me, Dalila Epperson for State Assembly.

For more information about my campaign, please visit DalilaForAssembly.com

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
Atascadero Unified School District**

VERONICA "RONI" DECOSTER

Occupation: Paralegal/Bookkeeper/Parent

Education and Qualifications: As the mother of two children who attended Atascadero public schools from kindergarten through graduation, I've witnessed our District in action for 15+ years. I've volunteered in classrooms, participated in School Site Councils at three schools, and held offices on PTA, Boosters, and two Grad Nite Committee Boards. I've also served on the District's LCAP, Budget Advisory, and Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committees for the last six years. While I support public schools, I feel there is room for improvement.

We need more emphasis on Career Readiness at the District level. College isn't a viable option for some students, and we should strive to prepare those students for success in life. High on my list of priorities as Trustee will be facilitating career/trade fairs, expanding the Career Technology Education (CTE) program, working with Cuesta College to add more dual enrollment courses, and advocating for responsible allocation of Proposition 28 funding for arts/music programs. I'd be honored to have your vote to help me reach these goals for our District.

Learn more about me at www.RoniDeCoster.org. Thank you!

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA GOBERNANTE
Distrito Escolar Unificado de Atascadero**

VERONICA "RONI" DECOSTER

Ocupación: Asistente Legal/Contadora/Madre

Educación y Cualificaciones: Como madre de dos niños que asistieron a las escuelas públicas de Atascadero desde el jardín de infantes hasta la graduación, he sido testigo de nuestro Distrito en acción durante más de 15 años. He sido voluntaria en las aulas, he participado en los Concejos Escolares de tres escuelas, y he ocupado cargos en la PTA, en los Boosters, y en dos Juntas del Comité de Grad Nite. También he trabajado en los Comités LCAP del Distrito, Asesoramiento Presupuestario, y Asesoramiento de Padres del Superintendente durante los últimos seis años. Si bien apoyo las escuelas públicas, creo que hay margen de mejora.

Necesitamos poner más énfasis en la Preparación Profesional a nivel de Distrito. La universidad no es una opción viable para algunos estudiantes, y debemos esforzarnos por prepararlos para el éxito en la vida. En lo más alto de mi lista de prioridades como Síndica estarán la facilitación de ferias profesionales/comerciales, la expansión del programa de Educación en Tecnología Profesional (CTE), trabajar con la Universidad Cuesta para agregar más cursos de inscripción dual, y abogar por la asignación responsable de los fondos de la Propuesta 28 para programas de arte/música. Me sentiría honrada de contar con su voto para ayudarme a alcanzar estos objetivos para nuestro Distrito.

Obtenga más información sobre mí en www.RoniDeCoster.org. ¡Gracias!

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
Atascadero Unified School District**

MATT PENNON

Age: 46

Occupation: Public Policy & Child Welfare Consultant

Education and Qualifications: I am Matt Pennon, currently serving as a Trustee for the Atascadero Unified School District, appointed on September 28, 2022. As a parent of three children attending schools within the district and a former foster parent, I am committed to making decisions in the best interest of all students, as if they were my own. With over a decade of experience in advancing equity and inclusivity within educational and governmental settings, I have spent many years professionally and personally advocating for children and families within our community here on the Central Coast. I am dedicated to raising the bar for academic achievement and fostering a culture of excellence. My priorities include empowering our students by listening to their voices, uniting families in education, and promoting collaboration among educators. I pledge to ensure that every dollar we spend on these priorities is spent wisely and fairly, enhancing the quality of education while maintaining transparency and accountability. Together, we can secure our future by creating a dynamic, inclusive educational environment where every student thrives. Visit www.MattPennon.com to learn more about my priorities. I would be honored to have your vote!

**DECLARACIÓN DE CANDIDATURA PARA
MIEMBRO DE LA JUNTA GOBERNANTE
Distrito Escolar Unificado de Atascadero**

MATT PENNON

Edad: 46

Ocupación: Consultor de Políticas Públicas y Bienestar Infantil

Educación y Cualificaciones: Soy Matt Pennon, actualmente me desempeño como Síndico del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Atascadero, designado el 28 de Septiembre de 2022. Como padre de tres niños que asisten a escuelas dentro del distrito y antiguo padre adoptivo, me comprometo a tomar decisiones en el mejor interés de todos los estudiantes, como si fueran mis hijos. Con más de una década de experiencia en la promoción de la equidad y la inclusión en entornos educativos y gubernamentales, he pasado muchos años defendiendo profesional y personalmente a los niños y las familias dentro de nuestra comunidad de la Costa Central. Estoy dedicado a elevar el nivel de los logros académicos y fomentar una cultura de excelencia. Mis prioridades incluyen empoderar a nuestros estudiantes escuchando sus voces, unir a las familias en la educación, y promover la colaboración entre los educadores. Me comprometo a garantizar que cada dólar que gastemos en estas prioridades se gaste de manera inteligente y justa, mejorando la calidad de la educación y manteniendo la transparencia y la responsabilidad. Juntos, podemos asegurar nuestro futuro creando un entorno educativo dinámico, e inclusivo en el que cada estudiante prospere. Visite www.MattPennon.com para conocer más detalles sobre mis prioridades. ¡Sería un honor contar con su voto!

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
Atascadero Unified School District**

JODI TAYLOR

Age: 50

Occupation: Small Business Owner and Operator

Education and Qualifications: I'm a longtime resident of the area. I attended AUSD schools in my youth and graduated from AHS in June of 1991. I then attended and graduated from Cal Poly, SLO. I was Animal Science major with a concentration in Agribusiness. I married in 1995 and we both worked in the agriculture industry until 1999 when we purchased our small business. It has instilled a work ethic and community appreciation in us that has served us well for years. We have two sons that went through the Atascadero School District like myself and graduated in 2015 and 2019. My eldest son is married and about to have his first child, my first grandchild, in the fall. I have served on several boards including, school site council, junior sports association and 4H groups. I have judged project competitions and been event directors for local organizations. My mother served on the school board during part of my time as a student at AUSD. She was measured in her temperament and an affective problem solver, those are qualities that she has passed on to me. I would like to contribute to my local government by offering to serve my community in this way.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
Atascadero Unified School District**

JOEY ARNOLD

Age: 46

Occupation: Rancher, Businessman

Education and Qualifications: My reason for running for a seat on the Atascadero School Board is to serve the community that has given me so much. I, as did my great-grandfather, grandfather, and father, graduated from Atascadero High School. I went on to graduate from Cal Poly SLO with a degree in Fruit Science. Today I assist my family with our ranching and farming business where we raise commercial beef cattle, farm hay and wine grapes, and operate a small family winery. I also own and operate an agricultural fencing business, and I maintain a California Contractors license and a Qualified Applicator License from California Department of Pesticide Regulation. I am a husband and father of two girls who also attend Atascadero Schools. My wife Jessica, (also an Atascadero High graduate), and I have stayed active coaching and supporting many youth sports teams, as well as 4-H programs. I would consider it a great honor to represent you on the Atascadero Unified School District Board of Trustees. My goals would be to ensure parents had a strong voice in shaping school policy, promote curriculum in the schools that would increase academic performance, and support sports and vocational education programs for students.

**STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE FOR
GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER
Atascadero Unified School District**

CORINNE KUHNLE

Occupation: Incumbent

Education and Qualifications: I am presently serving on the Atascadero Unified School District Board and am seeking reelection. As a trustee I have served on the Superintendent's Budget Committee, Regional Occupation Program (ROP), LCAP Steering Committee, Superintendent's Goals Committee, and as Board President three times.

Student growth and success continues to be my motivation and passion! I strongly support AUSD's district goals of dedication to family and community partnership, staff collaboration, and student success. By supporting the above stakeholders and respecting the responsibilities as a board member, I will better serve our students to graduate, help them become effective communicators, critical thinkers and ultimately more productive citizens.

ATASCADERO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT FULL TEXT OF MEASURE B-24

BOND AUTHORIZATION

By approval of this measure by at least 55 percent of the registered voters voting on the measure, the Atascadero Unified School District (the "District") will be authorized to issue and sell general obligation bonds in the aggregate principal of up to \$110,000,000 at interest rates not to exceed legal limits and to provide financing for the specific types of school facilities projects listed in the Bond Project List described below, subject to all the accountability requirements imposed by law and specified below.

ACCOUNTABILITY REQUIREMENTS

The provisions in this section are specifically included in this measure in order that the voters and taxpayers in the District may be assured that their money will be spent wisely. Expenditures to address specific facilities needs of the District will be in compliance with the requirements of Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3), of the State Constitution and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000 (codified at Education Code Sections 15264 and following.)

Evaluation of Needs. The Board of Education of the District (the "School Board") has identified detailed facilities needs of the District and has determined which projects to finance from a local bond. The School Board hereby certifies that it has evaluated safety, class size reduction, enrollment growth, and information technology needs in developing the Bond Project List shown below.

Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee. Following approval of this measure, the School Board will establish an Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee, under Education Code Sections 15278 and following, to ensure bond proceeds are expended only on the types of school facilities projects listed below. The Oversight Committee will be established within 60 days of the date when the results of the election appear in the minutes of the School Board. No employee or official of the District and no vendor, contractor or consultant of the District shall be appointed to the Oversight Committee.

Performance Audits. The School Board will conduct annual, independent performance audits to ensure that the bond proceeds have been expended only on the school facilities projects listed below.

Financial Audits. The School Board will conduct annual, independent financial audits of the bond proceeds until all of those proceeds have been spent for the school facilities projects listed below.

Government Code Accountability Requirements. As required by Section 53410 of the Government Code, (1) the specific purpose of the bonds is set forth in this Full Text of the Measure, (2) the proceeds from the sale of the bonds will be used only for the purposes specified in this measure, and not for any other purpose, (3) the proceeds of the bonds, when and if issued, will be deposited into a building fund to be held by the San Luis Obispo County Treasurer, as required by the California Education Code, and (4) the Superintendent of the District shall cause an annual report to be filed with the District Board not later than January 1 of each year, which report shall contain information regarding the amount of funds collected and expended, as well as the status of the projects listed in this measure, as required by Sections 53410 and 53411 of the Government Code.

NO TEACHER OR ADMINISTRATOR SALARIES

Proceeds from the sale of bonds authorized by this measure shall be used only for the purposes specified in Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3), those being for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of school facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of school facilities, and the acquisition or lease of school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries and other school operating expenses.

STATE MATCHING FUNDS

The following statement is included in this measure pursuant to Education Code Section 15122.5: Approval of this measure does not guarantee that each of the proposed projects that are the subject of bonds under this measure will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by this measure. The District's proposal for the project or projects described below may assume or require the receipt of additional funds such as State matching funds, which, if available, could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.

INFORMATION ABOUT ESTIMATES AND PROJECTIONS INCLUDED IN BALLOT

Voters are informed that any estimates or projections in this bond measure and related ballot materials, including relating to estimated rates of *ad valorem* property taxes, the duration of issued bonds until fully repaid and related levies and collections of *ad valorem* property taxes are provided as informational only. Such amounts are estimates and are not maximum amounts or limitations on the terms of the bonds, the tax rate required to fully amortize the bonds or the duration of the levy supporting repayment of issued bonds. Such estimates depend on numerous variables which are subject to variation and change over the term of the District's overall facilities and bond financing plan, including but not limited to the amount of bonds issued and outstanding at any one time, the interest rates applicable to issued bonds, market conditions at the time of sale of the bonds, when bonds mature, timing of project needs and changes in assessed valuations in the District. While each of the estimates and approximations relating to this bond measure are provided based on information currently available to the District and its current expectations, all such estimates and approximations are not limitations nor maximums on the terms of the bonds nor on the related tax levies. In addition, the abbreviated and condensed statement of the bond measure presented to voters on the ballot label which is subject to a 75-word count limitation imposed by State law does not limit the scope and broader, more complete meaning of the measure provided in this Full Text of Bond Measure and related ballot materials.

BOND PROJECT LIST

Scope of Projects. Bond proceeds will be expended on the construction, modernization, reconstruction, rehabilitation, replacement, or otherwise improve school facilities of the Atascadero Unified School District, including furnishing and equipping, and the acquisition or lease of real property for school facilities, and not for any other purpose, including teacher and administrator salaries or other school operating expenses, in compliance with California Constitution Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3). The projects in the Bond Project List are authorized to be completed at any current and future District properties and sites.

School Facility Project List. The types of projects authorized to be funded with bond proceeds are set forth below. Specific examples included on this project list of the more general types of projects authorized are not intended to limit the broader types of projects described and authorized by this measure.

The types of projects authorized pursuant to this measure are:

- Expand, renovate and revitalize existing or construct new classrooms, labs, workshops, school facilities and equipment for vocational and career training programs including robotics, coding, welding, construction, engineering, agriculture mechanics, woodworking, design and programming and the arts pathways, including ceramics, art, music and performing arts
- Expand, renovate and revitalize existing or construct new classrooms, labs and school facilities for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (“STEAM”) instruction
- Replace, repair, modernize deteriorating roofs, leaking pipes, outdated plumbing, sewer and gas lines, waterlines, water pumps, wells, storm drains and valves, heating, cooling, ventilation systems and electrical systems
- Modernize, upgrade, renovate existing classrooms and construct new classrooms, multipurpose rooms and multipurpose spaces
- Retrofit classrooms or other existing facilities
- Construct a high school career center and agriculture center, including new classrooms, workspaces, barns, and show arena
- Acquire, install and/or upgrade campus safety and security systems, including intercom and emergency communications systems, lighting systems, bell systems, video surveillance systems, alarms, install additional fencing and gates, pedestrian access, walkways, lighting, reconfigure entrances and drop-off/pickup locations, point of entry access and upgrade door locks
- Make health and safety improvements, such as installing necessary seismic reinforcements, repairing termite damage and repairing and/or replacing aging building materials including removal of hazardous materials identified either prior to or during construction
- Repair, modernize outdated portable classrooms or replace with permanent modern facilities
- Improve, upgrade and expand student and staff access to updated and modern technology, including acquiring and installing all necessary network infrastructure and connections, internet, wi-fi, wiring, hardware, software, computers, devices, classroom technology tools, data backup systems and remote learning software
- Renovate and modernize classrooms and school facilities including flooring, windows, window coverings, doors, lighting, interior and exterior finishes, and paint
- Renovate and modernize school libraries and media centers
- Renovate, expand and modernize classroom, workroom, office and conference room spaces for mental health, wellness and counseling
- Expand, renovate, construct and equip new transitional kindergarten, pre kindergarten, kindergarten and first grade classrooms, facilities, learning spaces, playgrounds and other play areas
- Expand, renovate, construct and equip special education and student intervention classrooms, facilities, learning spaces, playgrounds and other play areas
- Develop, construct, install and improve outdoor areas including playgrounds, outdoor learning and meeting areas, hardscaping, landscaping, irrigation improvements, and building/installing shade structures and seating
- Provide adequate furniture and equipment for all classrooms

- Renovate, repair, replace, expand, construct and/or install playfields, turf fields, running tracks, gyms, courts, playgrounds, play surfaces, other indoor and outdoor physical education and athletic facilities, locker rooms and all related improvements and equipment
- Renovate and repair restrooms
- Repair or replace deteriorating asphalt, concrete, sidewalks, parking lots, driveways and walkways
- Construct, modernize, retrofit central kitchen, cafeteria, serving and indoor and outdoor dining areas
- Improve energy efficiency and sustainability including installation of energy efficient lighting and systems, solar panels, battery storage, electric fleet, buses and electric vehicle charging stations
- Federal and State-mandated Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility upgrades district-wide including site access, walkways, parking, staff and student restrooms, relocation of some existing electrical devices, drinking fountains, playground equipment and classrooms

Furnishing and Equipping; Incidental Expenses. Each of the bond projects described in this Bond Project List include the costs of furnishing and equipping such facilities, and all costs which are incidental but directly related to the types of projects described above.

Examples of incidental costs include, but are not limited to: costs of design, engineering, architect including DSA fees, legal and other professional and consultant services including fees relating to litigation, facilities assessments, inspections, site preparation, utilities, landscaping, construction management by third parties, general contractors and/or District personnel, and other planning and permitting, environmental review, rezoning and municipal license fees if any, legal, accounting and similar costs; independent annual financial and performance audits; a customary construction contingency; demolition and disposal of existing structures; the costs of interim housing and storage during construction including relocation and construction costs incurred relating to interim facilities; rental or construction of storage facilities and other space on an interim basis for materials and other equipment and furnishings displaced during construction; costs of relocating facilities and equipment as needed in connection with the projects; interim classrooms and facilities for students, administrators, and school functions, including modular facilities; all federal, state and locally-mandated safety upgrades; the costs of new or expanded infrastructure; the cost of providing parking and other facilities to accommodate new or expanded facilities; addressing any unforeseen conditions revealed by construction/modernization and other necessary improvements required to comply with existing building codes, including the Field Act; complying with all access requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and similar laws and regulations; costs of the election including other costs arising directly from the bond measure; litigation costs; project construction oversight, management and administration during the duration of such projects including by District personnel, and bond issuance costs.

Alternations to Scope and Nature; New Construction. The School Board is hereby authorized to alter the scope and nature of any of the specific projects described above as required or recommended by new conditions, discoveries or any other factors including economic factors and/or factors relating to the most effective delivery of the District's educational programs that may become apparent during the course of facilities planning, design and construction. In the event that the School Board determines that a modernization or renovation project is in the best interests of the District and its students to be undertaken as new construction based on cost or

safety considerations or other compelling factors, this bond measure authorizes said project to be undertaken in whole or in part as new construction, including land acquisition, relocation and construction at a new or alternative site, and/or demolition and reconstruction and/or repurposing on the original site, including an expanded site, and all costs relating thereto. In addition, to accomplish any of the projects included on the above list, this measure authorizes the acquisition of real property, including necessary rights of ways or other real property interests.

Interim Financing Included; Joint Use Projects Authorized. In addition, authorized projects include reimbursements for paid project costs and paying and/or prepaying interim or previously obtained financing for the types of projects included on the project list, such as bond anticipation notes or lease financings including certificates of participation relating to facilities projects and/or equipment previously financed. Finally, projects on this list may be undertaken and used as joint use projects with other public agencies.

Unforeseen Circumstances; Limited Funding Sources. Many factors may impact the District's ability to address each of the projects described herein, including but not limited to construction costs, supply chain issues which can cause project delays, labor shortages, unknown environmental factors or site conditions, overall facilities needs and related costs which exceed available bond funding sources, among others. The District is unable to anticipate all circumstances which may prevent some of the projects listed above from being undertaken or completed. Approval of the District's bond measure does not guarantee that all of the identified projects within the Bond Project List will be funded beyond what can be completed with funds generated by this bond measure. The District plans to pursue additional funding such as State matching funds, if available, to address its facilities needs.

Project List Not in Order of Priority; Board Determines Prioritization. The order in which projects are listed in the foregoing Bond Project List does not suggest an order of priority. Project prioritization is vested in and will be determined by the District Board.

Interpretation. The terms of this Bond Measure and the words used in the Bond Project List shall be interpreted broadly to effect the purpose of providing broad and clear authority for the officers and employees of the District to provide for the school facilities projects the District proposes to finance with the proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by this proposition within the authority provided by law, including Article XIII A, Section 1(b)(3) of the California Constitution, Education Code Section 15000 *et seq.* and the Strict Accountability in Local School Construction Bonds Act of 2000. Words used in the Project List such as repair, improve, upgrade, expand, modernize, renovate, and reconfigure are used to describe school facilities projects in plain English but are not intended to expand the nature of such projects beyond what is authorized by law. The Bond Project List does not authorize, and shall not be interpreted to authorize, expending proceeds of the sale of bonds authorized by this measure for current maintenance, operation or repairs.

Severability. The District Board hereby declares, and the voters by approving this Bond Measure concur, that every section and part of this bond proposition has independent value, and the District Board and the voters would have adopted each provision hereof regardless of every other provision hereof. Upon approval of this measure by the voters, should any part be found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid for any reason, all remaining parts hereof shall remain in full force and effect to the fullest extent allowed by law, and to this end the provisions of this bond measure are severable.

IMPARTIAL ANALYSIS OF MEASURE B-24

Bonds are financial instruments used to borrow money. Under the California Constitution, school districts may issue bonds if approved by at least 55 percent of voters within the boundaries of the district who are voting on a measure to authorize the issuance of bonds. The bonds are sold to the public and constitute a debt of the district. The principal and interest on the bonds are repaid by an annual property tax levy on all taxable real property within the jurisdiction of the school district, calculated on the current assessed value of each property (“an *ad valorem* tax”).

The Board of Trustees of the Atascadero Unified School District (“the District”) has placed Measure B-24 on the ballot, proposing the sale of bonds in an amount not to exceed \$110 million at interest rates not to exceed legal limits. The District’s Tax Rate Statement, included in the voter information guide that was mailed to voters of the District, reflects an estimate of the maximum property tax levies required to service the bonds.

Proceeds from the sale of the bonds (i.e., funds generated by the bonds) may only be used for the purposes identified in the measure, which may be described generally as being for the construction, modernization, reconstruction, rehabilitation, replacement and other improvements to school facilities of the District. (The specific types of improvement projects are more fully described in the full text of the measure.) The law prohibits the use of bond proceeds to pay for teacher and administrator salaries or other operational expenses.

Approval of the measure does not guarantee that all proposed projects to be improved with bond proceeds will be funded beyond the local revenues generated by the measure. The District’s proposal for the projects may assume the receipt of matching state funds, which could be subject to appropriation by the Legislature or approval of a statewide bond measure.

As required by law, the District must follow certain accountability provisions to oversee the funds collected and expended, including the establishment of an independent citizens’ oversight committee, the annual completion of performance and financial audits, and issuance of an annual report detailing the proceeds received by the sale of the bonds and the expenditures made. All of these requirements are reflected in the full text of measure.

The District’s Tax Rate Statement provides the District’s best estimate of the highest tax rate to be levied at \$49 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation while the bonds are outstanding. The final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected is 2054-55.

A “yes” vote on this measure is a vote in favor of the issuance of \$110 million in general obligation bonds to be used for the purposes set forth in Measure B-24.

A “No” vote on this measure is a vote against the issuance of \$110 million in general obligation bonds for the purposes set forth in Measure B-24.

s/ RITA L. NEAL
County Counsel

TAX RATE STATEMENT OF MEASURE B-24

An election will be held in the Atascadero Unified School District (the "District") on November 5, 2024, to authorize the sale of up to \$110 million in bonds of the District to finance school facilities as described in the measure. If such bonds are authorized and sold, principal and interest on the bonds will be payable only from the proceeds of *ad valorem* tax levies made upon the taxable property in the District. The following information is provided in compliance with Sections 9400-9404 of the Elections Code of the State of California. Such information is based upon the best estimates and projections presently available from official sources, upon experience within the District, and other demonstrable factors.

Based upon the foregoing and projections of the District's assessed valuation, the following information is provided:

1. The best estimate of the average annual tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue over the entire duration of the bond debt service, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$45.19 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. The final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected is 2054-55.
2. The best estimate of the highest tax rate which would be required to be levied to fund this bond issue, based on a projection of assessed valuations available at the time of filing of this statement, is \$49.00 per \$100,000 of assessed valuation. It is estimated that such rate would be levied in fiscal year 2025-26 through 2049-50.
3. The best estimate of the total debt service, including the principal and interest, that would be required to be repaid if all the bonds are issued and sold is approximately \$191.8 million.

Voters should note the estimated tax rate is based on the assessed value (not market value) of taxable property on San Luis Obispo County's official tax rolls. In addition, taxpayers eligible for a property tax exemption, such as the homeowner's exemption, will be taxed at a lower effective tax rate than described above. Property owners should consult their own property tax bills and tax advisors to determine their property's assessed value and any applicable tax exemptions.

The attention of all voters is directed to the fact that the foregoing information is based upon projections and estimates only, which amounts are not maximum amounts or durations and are not binding upon the District. The actual debt service, tax rates and the years in which they will apply may vary from those used to provide the estimates set forth above, due to factors such as variations in the timing of bond sales, the par amount of bonds sold and market interest rates available at the time of each sale, actual assessed valuations over the term of the bonds, and other factors. The date and amount of bonds sold at any given time will be determined by the District based on the need for project funds and other considerations. The actual interest rates at which the bonds will be sold will depend on conditions in the bond market at the time of sale. Actual future assessed valuations will depend upon the amount and value of taxable property within the District as determined by the San Luis Obispo County Assessor in the annual assessment and the equalization process.

s/ Tom Butler
Superintendent, Atascadero Unified School District

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF MEASURE B-24

The overwhelming majority of Atascadero's citizens, taxpayers and voters agree that our local public schools are our community's greatest asset. Quality schools boost the value of our homes, support local businesses and are essential for the future success of our children. Investing in education benefits us all.

This is why **it is critical that we come together and Vote YES on Measure B to improve Atascadero schools.** Measure B will not only improve the safety of our local schools, but it will also better prepare our children for future careers and college by:

- Renovating vocational and career technical education classrooms
- Expanding classrooms for robotics, coding, engineering, woodworking, design and computer programming
- Providing Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) classrooms and labs
- Repairing and replacing leaky roofs and plumbing
- Improving emergency communication systems and alarms

Measure B also ensures numerous taxpayer protections, including:

- Requiring full public disclosure of all spending
- Requiring annual audits and independent taxpayer oversight of the funds
- Qualifying for state matching funds

Most importantly, these local funds can only be spent to improve our local schools and, by law, **cannot be taken by the state and spent elsewhere.**

Measure B protects our community's most valuable assets while ensuring that our children have the resources to thrive. Please join parents, guardians, teachers, grandparents, neighbors, business owners and community leaders in voting **YES on Measure B!**

s/ Donn Clickard, Executive Director, Lighthouse Foundation

s/ William Neely, Retired Educator

s/ Glenda Highland, Retired Educator

s/ James Greenman, Retired Educator

s/ L. W. Allan, Retired Journalist

NO ARGUMENT AGAINST MEASURE B-24 WAS SUBMITTED

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

1

VOTE YOUR BALLOT

- Completely fill the oval of your choice
- It's okay if you don't vote in every contest

2

SIGN YOUR RETURN ENVELOPE

- Make sure the envelope has your name preprinted on it
- It's okay to re-seal with tape if needed

3

RETURN YOUR BALLOT

- No postage necessary
- Return by mail or in person to an official drop box, polling location, vote center, or County Elections Office

4

TRACK YOUR BALLOT

- Sign up at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov
- Questions? Call the Elections Office (805) 781-5228 or email elections@co.slo.ca.us

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