



UC Davis State Government Relations Update November 2018

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In this Update:

- *2018 General Election Results (Pages 1-3)*
- *Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates (Page 3)*
- *Questions or Need Assistance (Page 3)*

2018 General Election Results

Democrats in Control

Democrats gained one seat in the Assembly and two seats in the Senate, capturing the two-thirds majority. Assembly Democrats are expected to hold 56 seats, allowing enough votes for the two-thirds majority. Senate Democrats are expected to hold 28 seats, one seat above the number needed for two-thirds majority. Several races remain close.

Governor

Gavin Newsom won his bid to become the next Governor of the State of California. Governor Newsom has served as a UC Regent and it is important to note that he shared the story of a UC Merced student in his victory speech.

State Assembly

All 80 Assembly districts were up for election. There were 5 “open” seats and 75 seats with incumbents seeking reelection. All incumbent Assembly Members in UC Davis’ service area won reelection. This includes Assembly Members McCarty, Aguiar-Curry, Dahle, Wood, Gallagher, Frazier, Cooper, Cooley and Kiley.

State Senate

The 20 even-numbered Senate seats were up for election, meaning Senators Dodd and Ted Gaines were not up for reelection. However, Senator Gaines did run for the Board of Equalization and won which will leave his District 1 Senate seat empty come January and thus there will be a special election this upcoming spring to fill that seat.

Incumbents sought 13 seats and seven seats were “open.” Like in the Assembly, all incumbent Senators who were up for reelection in UC Davis’ service area won. This includes Senators McGuire, Pan and Nielsen.

Senator Anthony Cannella (R), a UC Davis alum, termed out this year so he will no longer be in office. The election to succeed him in Senate District 12 is too close to call. However, Democrat Anna Caballero is expected to win (she has 51% of the vote at this writing). Assemblywoman Caballero would be moving from the Assembly to the Senate.

Other Constitutional Officers

Eleni Kounalakis will be the state’s next Lieutenant Governor. She is a businesswoman/economic advisor by trade and she attended UC Berkeley. Alex Padilla was reelected Secretary of State, Betty T. Yee, who also went to UC Berkeley, will continue to be the State Controller and Fiona Ma was elected Treasurer.

Xavier Becerra will continue as Attorney General while the races for Insurance Commissioner and Superintendent of Instruction remain too close to call, although it is worth noting that Senator Lara and Marshall Tuck (UCLA) are currently in the lead respectively for those offices. Finally, as noted above, Senator Gaines has won his bid for the District 1 seat on the Board of Equalization.

State Ballot Measures

Proposition 1 Passed: Authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds for existing affordable housing programs for low-income residents, veterans, farmworkers, manufactured and mobile homes, infill, and transit-oriented housing. *Fiscal Impact: Increased state costs to repay bonds averaging about \$170 million annually over the next 35 years.*

Proposition 2 Passed: Authorizes bonds to fund existing housing program for individuals with mental illness. Specifically, ratifies existing law establishing the No Place Like Home Program, which finances permanent housing for individuals with mental illness who are homeless or at risk for chronic homelessness, as being consistent with the Mental Health Services Act approved by the electorate. *Fiscal Impact: Allows the state to use up to \$140 million per year of county mental health funds to repay up to \$2 billion in bonds. These bonds would fund housing for those with mental illness who are homeless.*

Proposition 3 Failed: Would’ve authorized bonds to fund projects for water supply and quality, watershed, fish, wildlife, water conveyance, and groundwater sustainability and storage. Specifically, would have authorized \$8.877 billion in state general obligation bonds for various infrastructure projects.

Proposition 4 Passed: Authorizes bonds for funding construction at hospitals providing children’s health care. Specifically, authorizes \$1.5 billion in bonds, to be repaid from state’s General Fund, to fund grants for construction, expansion, renovation, and equipping of qualifying children’s hospitals. *Fiscal Impact: Increased state costs to repay bonds averaging about \$80 million annually over the next 35 years.*

Proposition 5 Failed: Would’ve changed requirement for certain property owners to transfer their property tax base to replacement property. Specifically, would have removed certain transfer

requirements for homeowners over 55, severely disabled homeowners, and contaminated or disaster-destroyed property.

Proposition 6 Failed: Would've eliminated certain road repair and transportation funding. Had Prop 6 passed it would have repealed a 2017 transportation law's taxes and fees designated for road repairs and public transportation. *Fiscal Impact: Preserves \$5.1 billion from state fuel and vehicle taxes for highway and road maintenance and repairs, as well as transit programs.*

Proposition 7 Passed: Conforms California daylight saving time to federal law. Gives Legislature ability to change daylight saving time period by two-thirds vote, if changes are consistent with federal law. *Fiscal Impact: This measure has no direct fiscal effect because changes to daylight saving time would depend on future actions by the Legislature and potentially the federal government.*

Proposition 8 Failed: Would've regulated amounts outpatient kidney dialysis clinics charge For dialysis treatment.

Proposition 10 Failed: Would've expanded local governments' authority to enact rent control on residential property.

Proposition 11 Passed: Will requires private-sector emergency ambulance employees to remain on-call during work breaks. *Fiscal Impact: Likely fiscal benefit to local governments (in the form of lower costs and higher revenues), potentially in the tens of millions of dollars each year.*

Proposition 12 Passed: Establishes new standards for confinement of specified farm animals and bans sales of noncomplying products. *Fiscal Impact: Potential decrease in state income tax revenues from farm businesses, likely not more than several million dollars annually. State costs up to \$10 million annually to enforce the measure.*

Upcoming State Government Relations Events and Key Dates

Nov. 30 Adjournment *sine die* at midnight.

Dec. 3 2019-20 Regular Session convenes for Organizational Session at 12 noon.

Jan. 1 Statutes take effect.

Questions or Need Assistance?

If you have any questions regarding the aforementioned items or would like assistance in connecting with state legislators and/or their staff, please do not hesitate to contact Adrian Lopez, Director, State Government Relations. He can be reached at adnlopez@ucdavis.edu or by phone at (530) 752-9795.