

## California's 2024 November General Election Preview

*BROWNSTEIN CLIENT ALERT, OCTOBER 24, 2024*

With ballots arriving in the mailboxes of California voters, the below provides a snapshot analysis of the open and competitive seats in the California Legislature for the 2024 General election.

Prior to the March primary election, the [voter registration report](#) from the Secretary of State's office tracking registration activity between October 2023 and January 2024 noted an uptick in Republican registration, with the GOP gaining 46,000 registered voters statewide. Democrats lost 30,000 voters statewide and saw a decrease in registration advantage in just about every Assembly district in the state. No Party Preference voters saw a drop of about 70,000 voters. [As of September](#), a record total of 22,310,352 eligible Californians are registered to vote, which is 1,070,116 more than at the same point in the presidential election cycle four years ago. Democrats saw less than a 1% decrease in voter registration from 2020 to 2024, while Republicans saw a 0.65% increase in GOP registration between 2020 and 2024.

In the 12 years since California's election law was changed to allow the top two vote-getters, regardless of political party, to proceed to the general election, the types of candidates in Assembly and Senate races have significantly changed. In addition, due to the term limits instituted around the same time, many of the legislators who came in under the new term limits are now term-restricted. Upon completion of this election cycle, 68.5% of the Assembly and Senate seats will have changed hands in just the past four years.

Below is a list and analysis of each open and competitive Assembly and Senate races in the current election cycle. Names and numbers in **red** indicate Republican affiliation, those in **blue** indicate Democratic affiliation.

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## List of Competitive Seats And Current Incumbents:

### ASSEMBLY

- **AD 1: Megan Dahle** (Bieber/Rural Northern CA)
- **AD 2: Jim Wood** (Healdsburg)
- **AD 6: Kevin McCarty** (Sacramento)
- **AD 7: Josh Hoover** (Folsom)
- **AD 8: Jim Patterson** (Mariposa)
- **AD 13: Carlos Villapudua** (Stockton)
- **AD 15: Timothy Grayson** (Concord)
- **AD 19: Philip Ting** (San Francisco)
- **AD 26: Evan Low** (Silicon Valley)
- **AD 32: Vince Fong** (Bakersfield)
- **AD 33: Devon Mathis** (Tulare)
- **AD 41: Chris Holden** (Los Angeles/Pasadena)
- **AD 43: Luz Rivas** (San Fernando Valley)
- **AD 44: Laura Friedman** (Los Angeles/Glendale)
- **AD 50: Eloise Gómez Reyes** (San Bernardino)
- **AD 52: Wendy Carrillo** (Los Angeles/East LA)
- **AD 53: Freddie Rodriguez** (Chino Hills/Pomona)
- **AD 54: Miguel Santiago** (Downtown Los Angeles)
- **AD 57: Reggie Jones-Sawyer** (South Los Angeles)
- **AD 58: Sabrina Cervantes** (Riverside)
- **AD 62: Anthony Rendon** (Southgate/Paramount-Unincorporated LA County)
- **AD 75: Marie Waldron** (Santee/Poway)
- **AD 76: Brian Maienschein** (Rancho Santa Fe)
- **AD 79: Akilah Weber** (San Diego/La Mesa)

### SENATE

- **SD 1: Brian Dahle** (Bieber/Rural Northern CA)
- **SD 3: Bill Dodd** (Napa)
- **SD 5: Susan Talmantes Eggman** (Stockton/San Joaquin County)
- **SD 7: Nancy Skinner** (Berkeley/Alameda County)
- **SD 9: Steve Glazer** (Orinda/Lafayette)
- **SD 23: Scott Wilk** (Santa Clarita)
- **SD 25: Anthony Portantino** (La Canada Flintridge)
- **SD 29: New Seat** (San Bernardino)
- **SD 31: Richard Roth** (Riverside)
- **SD 35: Steven Bradford** (Gardena/Carson)
- **SD 37: Dave Min** (Irvine/Costa Mesa)
- **SD 39: Toni Atkins** (San Diego)

## Assembly Election Snapshots:

### **AD 1 (M. Dahle)**

**REGISTRATION: R+14.36**

**DISTRICT:** Includes whole counties of Alpine, Siskiyou, Sierra, Shasta, Plumas, Lassen, Nevada and Modoc. Portions of Placer, Amador and El Dorado counties are also included in this mountainous rural district.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Republican district. Incumbent Republican Megan Dahle is running for the SD1 State Senate seat being vacated by her husband, Brian Dahle, who is termed out. Previously, Dahle ran unsuccessfully against Gov. Gavin Newsom in the gubernatorial race.

Republicans Tenessa Audette and Heather Hadwick, who is a safety and communication specialist with the Modoc County Office of Education, were the top vote-getters in March. Both Brian and Megan Dahle have endorsed Hadwick. The September campaign finance reports showed Hadwick with a cash-on-hand edge over Audette of \$76,531 to \$21,719.

Hadwick's campaign reported contributions from the California Association Realtors, Anheuser Busch, Sempra Energy and the California Professional Firefighters, while Audette's support included the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians, Asm. Bill Essayli, The American Council for Evangelicals PAC, and America Upheld PAC.

### **AD 2 (Wood)**

**REGISTRATION: D+28.19%**

**DISTRICT:** Consists of the whole counties of Trinity, Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, and portions of Sonoma. This district includes the whole cities of Sebastopol, Crescent City, Ukiah, Blue Lake, Fortuna, Eureka, Cloverdale, Fort Bragg, Ferndale, Arcata, Trinidad, Willits, Rio Dell, Point Arena, Healdsburg, the town of Windsor, and portions of the City of Santa Rosa.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Jim Wood announced in November 2023 that he would not seek re-election for this safe Democratic seat. Six Democrats competed in March, including: California Democratic Party Chair Rusty Hicks, who resides in Humboldt County; Healdsburg Mayor Ariel Kelley; Mendocino County Supervisor Ted Williams; Santa Rosa City Councilmember Chris Rogers; Yurok Tribe Vice Chairman Frankie Myers; and former KMUD radio program director Cynthia Click. One Republican, Del Norte USD School Board member Mike Greer, also competed in the race. Despite significant fundraising advantages, Democratic Party Chair Rusty Hicks was unable to advance. Santa Rosa City Councilman Chris Rogers was the top Democratic vote-getter advancing into November to face off against Republican Mike Greer. With a significant voter registration advantage in a district President Biden won by over 40% in 2020 and over \$150,000 more in cash on hand, it is very likely Rogers will be the next Assemblymember from this district.

### **AD 6 (McCarty)**

**REGISTRATION: D+29.07**

**DISTRICT:** Sacramento County seat including a majority of the City of Sacramento, which comprises 61% of the district.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Kevin McCarty is not seeking re-election in 2024 announcing instead in May that he would run in the open race for Sacramento mayor. A crowded field of ten candidates, primarily Democrats, was on the March ballot. Democrat and deputy Attorney General Maggy Krell emerged as the top Democratic candidate and will face off against Republican Nikki Ellis, an international affairs and media relations manager for the California Chamber of Commerce. As of September's campaign finance report, Krell has over \$300,000 in cash and is expected to cruise to victory in November in this heavily Democratic seat.

**AD 7 (Hoover)**

**REGISTRATION: D+4.61%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Sacramento County, including the whole cities of Folsom, Rancho Cordova, and Citrus Heights. Following the American River.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a competitive district that incumbent Republican Josh Hoover flipped in 2022, unseating incumbent Democrat Ken Cooley after redistricting made the seat more competitive. Hoover is facing a challenge from Democrat and Citrus Heights city councilmember and former Mayor Porsche Middleton. Hoover, a moderate Republican, has seen just under \$1 million in supportive independent expenditure by committed funded by the cardroom industry, DaVita, Uber, and other pro-business-sponsored committees. These committees have also spent over \$100,000 in opposition to Middleton. Middleton has seen under \$10,000 in supportive spending by committees funded by SEIU.

**AD 8 (Patterson)**

**REGISTRATION: R +14.49%**

**DISTRICT:**

Whole counties of Inyo, Tuolumne, Mariposa and Mono as well as portions of Fresno, Madera and Calaveras counties.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Republican Jim Patterson is termed out in 2024 for this safe Republican seat. Republican David Tangipa, a 28-year-old realtor and district representative for Fresno Supervisor Nathan Magsig, will face former GOP Congressman George Radanovich. Radanovich received close to 50% in Tuolumne and 40% or more in Calaveras, Madera, and Mariposa in the primary. Those counties comprise around 36% of the votes cast in the primary. Tangipa was strongest in Fresno County, which cast 57% of the votes in the primary. Both candidates have support from various corners of the elected GOP establishment and business groups.

As of September, Tangipa has roughly double the cash on hand of Radanovich (\$122,321 to \$67,288) Tangipa has also received Patterson's endorsement—a committee funded by tobacco companies reported just over \$45,000 in independent expenditure to support Tangipa.

**AD 13 (Villapudua)**

**REGISTRATION: D +25.10%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of San Joaquin County and the whole cities of Stockton and Tracy.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district. Initially, incumbent Assemblymember Carlos Villapudua filed to run for re-election in this district. For the second consecutive cycle, progressives in the local Democratic Party blocked incumbent Carlos Villapudua from receiving the official California Democratic Party endorsement in the primary, with 73% voting in favor of 'No Endorsement.'

Then, the day before the end of the filing period, Villapudua's wife, Edith Villapudua, who had been running for the overlapping open Senate District 5 vacated by termed-out Sen. Susan Eggman, filed to run in this AD13 seat. A few days later, Carlos Villapudua announced that he and his wife were switching races and that he would run for the SD 5 Senate seat while Edith would run for his now-open assembly seat. Former Tracy City Councilmember Rhodesia Ransom, whom the California Democratic Party had endorsed for the overlapping SD 5 race, executed a last-minute switch and filed to run for Assembly instead. Denise Aguilar Mendez, a Republican who leads a far right organization known as the "Mamalitia," and is a Jan. 6 attendee, filed and qualified during the extension period.

The Villapuduas were both ultimately unsuccessful, with neither securing enough votes to progress to the general election. Ransom took the top spot in the primary with 41.6%, and the Republican Mendez, received 37.9% and a second-place finish. Edith Villapudua was a distant third with 20.5% of the vote. Ransom is all but certain to win in November against the Republican Mendez in this strongly Democratic district.

#### **AD 15 (Grayson)**

**REGISTRATION: D +32.11%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Contra Costa County, including the cities of Concord, Brentwood, Clayton, Martinez, Antioch, Pittsburg and Pleasant Hill as well as portions of the City of Walnut Creek.

**OVERVIEW:** Two Democrats participated in the primary election: Antioch City Councilmember Monica E. Wilson and Contra Costa County School Board member Anamarie Avila Farias. One Republican, Realtor Sonia Ledo, qualified for the primary ballot. Former Contra Costa Supervisor Karen Mitchoff who has previously run as a Democrat, ran with no ballot designation.

Ledo, as the sole Republican on the ballot, claimed the top spot in the primary. Monica Wilson received the California Democratic Party endorsement and had more than doubled the cash on hand of the other two Democrats. Avila Farias and Mitchoff counted endorsements from more moderate former and current legislators, while Wilson counted the progressive Working Families Party and the California Labor Federation as endorsers. However, after heavy spending by Mitchoff and Wilson allies, neither advanced into the top two. Instead, the number two spot went to Anamarie Avila Farias, who finished 1,437 votes behind Ledo with 30.4%. Having advanced alongside a Republican to the general election, Democrat Avila-Farias is expected to win in November in this safe Democratic seat.

#### **AD 19 (Ting)**

**REGISTRATION: D +50.79%**

**DISTRICT:** Consists of portions of San Francisco and San Mateo counties, including all of Daly City and the town of Colma, as well as the western portion of the City of San Francisco and portions of South San Francisco and San Bruno.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Phil Ting is termed out in 2024, opening up a seat in a safely Democratic district. San Francisco Supervisor Catherine Stefani received the California Democratic Party endorsement, as well endorsements from San Francisco Mayor London Breed and Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis. Another Democrat, Educator, and former San Francisco Parks & Recreations Commissioner David Lee also ran in the primary race. Lee counts Asm. Ting's endorsement as well as the endorsement of former San Francisco State Senator Mark Leno. Stefani and two Republicans were also in the primary race.

Stefani was the top vote-getter with 57%, followed by Lee with 29%. The two Republicans split the 14% GOP vote. Stefani is heavily favored with double the cash on hand and double the independent expenditure dollars in support of her candidacy.

#### **AD 26 (Low)**

**REGISTRATION: D +36.97%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Santa Clara County, including the whole cities of Santa Clara, Cupertino, and Sunnyvale, and portions of the City of San Jose.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district in Santa Clara County with a large Asian population. Incumbent Democrat Evan Low filed to run for the open CD16 seat that retiring Rep. Anna Eshoo vacated.

Low's district director, Foothill-De Anza Community College Trustee Patrick Ahrens, pulled papers hours after Eshoo's retirement announcement. Two other Democrats, Santa Clara County Board of Education member Tara Sreekrishnan and Sunnyvale Vice Mayor Omar Din, followed shortly afterward. One Republican, CPA Sophie Yan Song, Libertarian Bob Goodwyn, a retired airline pilot and frequent candidate, and No Party Preference candidate also qualified for the primary.

Ahrens was the top vote-getter in the primary, taking 34.4%, followed by Sreekrishnan in second with 26.9%. The race between the two Democrats will likely remain competitive in November. Ahrens secured the California Democratic Party's endorsement after the primary and has seen almost triple the independent expenditure spending (just shy of \$1 million by law enforcement, tech companies, and business-aligned groups) to that of Sreekrishnan, who has seen most of her supportive independent spending coming from labor.

#### **AD 32 (Fong)**

**REGISTRATION: R +22.54%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Kern and Tulare counties, including the whole cities of Exeter, Ridgecrest, Tehachapi, Maricopa and Taft, and portions of the cities of Bakersfield and Visalia

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Republican Vince Fong was the only candidate to file nomination paperwork during the filing period and qualified for re-election on November 29, 2023. On Dec. 6

of that same year, Congressman Kevin McCarthy announced his intent to resign at the end of the year.

With Fong's successful election to Congress, the seat will be declared vacant in December upon the legislature's swearing-in, prompting a 2025 special election.

**AD 33 (Mathis)**

**REGISTRATION: R +2.05%**

**DISTRICT:** Consists of all of Kings County and portions of Tulare and Fresno counties, including the whole cities of Farmersville, Kingsburg, Lemoore, Tulare, Woodlake, Avenal, Porterville, Corcoran, Lindsay, Dinuba, and Hanford, and portions of the cities of Visalia and Reedley.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Republican Devon Mathis announced he would not seek re-election two weeks before the end of the filing period. Two Democrats, Angel Ruiz Moran and perennial candidate Ruben Macareno, had pulled papers prior before Mathis' announcement. The day after Mathis' announcement, Republican Alexandra Macedo, the principal at Macedo Environmental Consulting and a fourth-generation Tulare livestock and almond farmer, launched her campaign with Mathis endorsing her. One other Republican, Tulare Healthcare District board member Xavier Avila, pulled papers after Mathis' announcement. Another Democrat Hipolito Cerros, the 25-year-old mayor of Lindsay, qualified near the end of the filing period. Macedo held a commanding lead over the field in cash on hand during the primary.

Macedo was the top vote-getter in the primary, with Avila taking the second spot at 23.5%, locking the three Democratic candidates out of the runoff. Macedo, who has the backing of Assembly Leader James Gallagher, Assemblyman Vince Fong, and much of the GOP establishment, appears to be heavily favored to prevail in November.

**AD 36 (E. Garcia)**

**REGISTRATION: D +14.38%**

**DISTRICT:** The district includes all of Imperial County and a large portion of Riverside County, including areas on the eastern and northeastern sides of the Coachella Valley. It also includes portions of San Bernardino County and the whole cities of Indio, Calexico, Brawley, Calipatria, Holtville, Imperial, Blythe, El Centro, Coachella, Needles and Westmorland as well as portions of the City of Hemet.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a strongly Democratic but red-trending majority-Latino VRA district encompassing all of Imperial County, a large segment of Riverside County, and parts of San Bernardino County. Incumbent Democrat Eduardo Garcia was expected to run for a final term in the Assembly but did not turn in any paperwork by the end of the filing deadline. Two local elected Democrats, Coachella Valley USD Trustee Joey Acuna and Indio City Councilmember Waymond Fermon pulled papers. After the filing period was extended, El Centro City Councilmembers Edgard Garcia and Tomas Oliva filed paperwork. Social worker and Central Union High School District trustee Eric Rodriguez also joined the Democratic field. Joey Acuna was the only candidate endorsed by incumbent Eduardo Garcia and both the present and former Assembly Speakers.

Before Garcia’s surprise retirement, two Republicans—Jeff Gonzalez, a businessman, Marine Corps veteran, and 2018 general election candidate as well as Kalin Morse, a 21-year-old from an Imperial County farming family who lists his ballot description as “nonprofit director”—had filed.

Republican Jeff Gonzalez secured the bulk of the GOP vote and took the top spot with 35%, and Democrat Joey Acuna took the second spot in the runoff with 19.9%. Votes for the two Republicans combined for a total of 46.4% in the primary, which means that the general election race remains a heavy lift for the GOP. However, with a Presidential election on the ballot, lower-propensity voters could make or break this race for Republicans, making this a race to watch.

**AD 41 (Holden)**  
**REGISTRATION: D +16.96**

**DISTRICT:**

Segments of San Bernardino and Los Angeles counties, including the whole cities of La Verne, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, La Cañada Flintridge, Bradbury, Claremont, and San Dimas, as well as portions of the cities of Hesperia, Monrovia, Rancho Cucamonga, and Upland.

**OVERVIEW:**

Incumbent Democrat Chris Holden is termed out, opening up a seat in a safely Democratic district. Three Democrats were on the primary ballot: Phlunte Riddle, former district director for Holden, who touted Holden’s endorsement; Jed Leano, a Claremont city councilman and immigration attorney; and former Sierra Madre city councilman John Harabedian. One Republican, former Altadena Town Councilmember Michelle Del Rosario Martinez also filed. Michelle Del Rosario Martinez took the top spot with 39.8% of the base GOP vote, with Harabedian securing the second spot with 29.7%. Having advanced to a November runoff with a Republican mounting a token campaign, Harabedian is expected to easily cruise to a win for his first term in the Legislature in this safely Democratic seat.

**AD 43 (L. Rivas)**  
**REGISTRATION: D +38.80%**

**DISTRICT:** Consists of portions of Los Angeles County, including the City of San Fernando and portions of the City of Los Angeles.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic majority-Latino district in the San Fernando Valley. Following Rep. Tony Cardenas's November 2023 announcement that he was retiring, incumbent Democrat Luz Rivas announced she would run for his open seat.

Three Democrats, Celeste Rodriguez, the Mayor of San Fernando; Walter Garcia, a media relations manager for Attorney General Rob Bonta; and, Saul Hurtado, a childcare provider filed for the primary election. Two Republicans, Victoria Garcia, an attorney and member of the San Fernando transportation; and, public safety commission and Felicia Novick, an office administrator also qualified for the primary ballot.

Celeste Rodriguez was the top vote-getter in the primary, taking 43.5%. Republican Victoria Garcia, who also won a special election for an open San Fernando city council seat alongside the March primary, grabbed the second spot with 23.5%. Rodriguez was elected to the San Fernando



City Council in 2020 and serves as mayor. She worked in L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti's office from 2015 to 2020 as a veteran's affairs fellow, homelessness policy coordinator, and deputy director of community development strategies. Rodriguez also worked for the City of Los Angeles since 2020, first as a senior program manager for the Community Investment for Families Department and currently as the associate director in the Community Services Department. She counts endorsements from Speaker Robert Rivas, Assemblymembers Luz Rivas, Pilar Schiavo, and Mike Fong, as well as Senators Caroline Menjivar and Monique Limon. The base GOP vote here is usually around 25%, and therefore Rodriguez can be expected to cruise to an easy win in November.

**AD 44 (Friedman)**

**REGISTRATION: D +31.39%**

**DISTRICT:** Includes the City of Burbank, and portions of the City of Glendale and San Fernando Valley neighborhoods in the City of Los Angeles, including Sherman Oaks, Studio City, Valley Village, North Hollywood, Toluca Lake, La Crescenta, and Sunland-Tujunga.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district. Incumbent Democrat Laura Friedman is running for the CD30 seat. Adam Schiff is vacating to run for US Senate, leaving this seat open in 2024. Six Democrats and one Republican competed in the primary. Burbank Vice Mayor Nick Schultz and Republican Tony Rodriguez advanced to the general election. With a significant Democratic advantage, and what appears to be a token campaign by Rodriguez, Schultz will cruise to an easy victory in November.

**AD 47 (Wallis)**

**REGISTRATION: D +5.84%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the whole cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, La Quinta, Yucaipa, Palm Springs, Palm Desert, and Rancho Mirage, and the town of Yucca Valley.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Republican Greg Wallis won this seat in 2022 by 85 votes against Democratic Palm Springs Councilmember Christy Holstege. Holstege filed for a rematch this cycle. Wallis was the top vote-getter in the primary, falling below 50% and taking 48.6% of the vote. Holstege easily took the second spot with 46.4%, with another Democrat picking up 5.1%.

This is the top race for both parties this cycle, with Assembly Republicans hoping to hang on to this seat and keep Wallis, a respected moderate, in the legislature. As of mid-October, over \$1.3 million in independent expenditure dollars had been spent, with roughly \$1.2 million supporting Wallis or opposing Holstege. The bulk of the spending has been from the business community, which is supporting Wallis.

**AD 50 (Reyes)**

**REGISTRATION: D +19.66%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of San Bernardino County, including the whole cities of Loma Linda and Colton, and portions of the cities of San Bernardino, Redlands, Rialto, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, and Ontario.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Eloise Reyes announced a run for the new SD29 shortly after the 2022 election, leaving this safely Democratic seat open for 2024. Three Democrats, Dejonae Shaw, a licensed vocational nurse who was an unsuccessful 2022 candidate for San Bernardino County Supervisor Robert Garcia, an elected member of the Etiwanda School District Board of Trustees; and, Adam Perez, a Fontana School Board Member, are competing to succeed Reyes. Garcia received Reyes's endorsement and splits an extensive list of legislative endorsements with Shaw. Shaw's endorsement list includes several notable progressive legislators, the California Labor Federation Working Families Party and AFSCME.

Garcia was the top vote-getter in the primary, taking 42% of the vote. Perez eked out a close win for the second spot with 29%, finishing 363 votes ahead of Shaw, who received 28.2%. With Perez occupying the moderate lane, Shaw's supporters are expected to gravitate towards Garcia in the general election, giving him an edge and the easiest path to 50% plus 1. However, the GOP vote could trend to Perez and offset Garcia's gains. With over \$2.9 million spent in independent expenditures as of mid-October, this expensive proxy battle between business interests supportive of Perez, and progressive and labor groups backing Garcia, will be a key race to watch.

#### **AD 52 (W. Carrillo)**

**REGISTRATION: D +52.55%**

**DISTRICT:** Includes portions of the cities of Glendale and Los Angeles as well as Dodger Stadium and Echo Park Lake.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Wendy Carrillo chose to run for Los Angeles City Council, rather than for re-election, which created an open seat in 2024. This seat was last open in 2017 after Jimmy Gomez was elected to Congress. In that race, Carrillo topped a 13-candidate field in the special election. This cycle's crowded primary field included 8 Democrats, one Green Party candidate, and one Republican.

Two democrats, Jessica Caloza, Deputy Chief of Staff in Attorney General Bonta's Office, and Franky Carrillo (no relation to Wendy), an advocate for criminal justice reform, made it out of the primary. Caloza secured the California Democratic Party endorsement after the primary and also has nearly a four-to-one cash-on-hand advantage over the mostly self-funded Franky Carrillo.

#### **AD 53 (Rodriguez)**

**REGISTRATION: D +24.64%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, including the whole cities of Montclair and Pomona as well as portions of the cities of Ontario, Chino and Upland.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Freddie Rodriguez will be termed out in 2024, opening a seat in a safely Democratic district. Four Democrats and one Republican will be on the ballot. Michelle Rodriguez, the wife of the incumbent Rodriguez; Robert Torres, a Pomona city councilman and the son of congresswoman Norma Torres; Carlos Goytia, a Pomona USD senior groundskeeper and elected member of the Three Valleys Municipal Water District board of directors; and, Francisco Javier Hernandez, a social justice activist and executive director of the Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice competed for their share of the Democratic vote during the primary. Republican

Nick Wilson, a former Orange County detective who runs a non-profit focused on the mental health of first responders, was the sole Republican.

As the only Republican on the ballot, Wilson won with 43% of the vote, while Rodriguez secured second place with 20.2%. Redistricting saw this district shift from one that Governor Newsom carried by 27% in 2018 to one he carried by 12% in 2022, making this somewhat more competitive, but it is still very likely that Rodriguez will carry this seat in November.

**AD 54 (Santiago)**  
**REGISTRATION: D +47.87%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Los Angeles County, including the whole cities of Commerce, Montebello, and Vernon as well as portions of the City of Los Angeles.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Miguel Santiago is not seeking re-election and is running against Asm. Carrillo for the Los Angeles City Council seat currently occupied by former State Senator Kevin de Leon, opening a safe Democratic seat for the 2024 cycle. Mark Gonzalez, Santiago's district director and the chair of the L.A. Democratic Party, launched a campaign after the seat became open. With Santiago's endorsement and token competition from one Democrat, transit activist John Yi, and one Republican, Gonzalez was the top vote-getter in March. With significant resources and backing, he is likely to prevail in November.

**AD 57 (Jones-Sawyer)**  
**REGISTRATION: D +57.27%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of the City of Los Angeles, such as downtown Los Angeles and Skid Row.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Reggie Jones-Sawyer will be termed out in 2024. A crowded field of five Democrats sought to replace him: Efren Martinez, who ran a strong campaign against Jones-Sawyer in 2020; Greg Akili, a longtime community organizer who placed third in the 2012 primary for the area's assembly seat; Sade Elhawary, a community organizer active with the Black Los Angeles Young Democrats; Dulce Vasquez, who ran unsuccessfully for L.A. City Council in 2022; and, Tara Perry, a reparations advocate.

Turnout in the primary was low, with just 12.5% of the registered voters casting a ballot in the primary. Martinez took the top spot with 32.7% and Elhawary in second, 448 votes behind him with 31.1%. This is another progressive vs. moderate proxy war, with Martinez seeing supportive spending and contributions from business and law enforcement groups while Elhawary seeing support from labor and progressive-funded committees. Almost \$3.2 million in independent expenditures have gone into this seat, making it one to watch.

**AD 58 (Cervantes)**  
**REGISTRATION: D +17.82%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, including the whole cities of Jurupa Valley and Grand Terrace, as portions of the cities of Corona, Eastvale, and Riverside.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a strongly Democratic district. Incumbent Democrat Sabrina Cervantes announced in December that she would not seek re-election and would instead run for the open SD31 state senate seat Richard Roth is vacating due to term limits. Prior to her announcement, first-term Riverside city council member and restaurateur Ronaldo Fierro announced he intended to run; and, after Cervantes' announcement, her sister Clarissa Cervantes, who was elected to Riverside's city council in 2021, also announced. Republican Leticia Castillo, a clinical therapist endorsed by the California GOP in the 2022 primary and finished a close third, has filed again for 2024.

Over \$1.4 million in independent expenditures was spent in the primary. As the only Republican on the ballot, Castillo took the top spot, winning 48.6%. The race for the second spot remained too close to call until just a few days before certification, with Cervantes besting Fierro by 199 votes 25.9% to 25.6%. Despite the business community's considerable spending in the primary to advance Fierro, there have been no dollars spent in the general to date to propel Castillo, even though this district has some factors that could make it competitive. It is now likely that Cervantes will replace her sister for this seat.

#### **AD 62 (Rendon)**

**REGISTRATION: D +40.66%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Los Angeles County, including the whole cities of Bellflower, Lynwood, Lakewood, South Gate, Paramount, Huntington Park, and Maywood.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district. Incumbent Democrat Anthony Rendon is termed out in 2024.

Lynwood city councilmember Jose Luis Solache is Rendon's endorsed successor and will cruise to victory in November against token opposition.

#### **AD 75 (Waldron)**

**REGISTRATION: R +11.29%**

**DISTRICT:** Consists of portions of San Diego County, including the whole cities of Santee and Poway, as well as portions of the City of San Diego.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Republican district. Incumbent Republican Marie Waldron will be termed out in 2024. The crowded primary field of six candidates consisted of three Republicans and three Democrats. Former San Diego City Councilmember and right-wing radio host Carl De Maio will face off in November against fellow Republican and former district director for Senator Brian Jones: Andrew Hayes. Business interests and groups aligned with more moderate candidates have spent roughly \$700,000 to boost Hayes and keep De Maio out of the Assembly in this establishment vs. right-wing GOP battle.

**AD 76 (Maienschein)****REGISTRATION: D +6.96%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of San Diego County, including the whole cities of San Marcos and Escondido as well as portions of the City of San Diego.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Brian Maienschein is termed out in 2024, opening a seat in a competitive Democratic-leaning district. Two Democrats, Joe Rocha, who lost 53.2%/46.8% to Republican Brian Jones in the 2022 SD40 race, and Darshana Patel, a two-term member of the Poway Unified School Board and appointed member of the California State Senate's Commission on Asian & Pacific Islander American Affairs, filed to succeed him, as has unsuccessful 2022 Republican candidate Kristie Bruce-Lane.

Patel, the more progressive Democrat, came in second after Bruce-Lane, who took the top spot in the primary with 49.5%. This race has the potential to be competitive despite a leftward tilt in general elections, and the California Democratic Party has shifted resources into the seat to ensure it stays in their column.

**AD 79 (Weber)****REGISTRATION: D +23.86%**

**DISTRICT:** San Diego County seat includes the whole cities of Lemon Grove and La Mesa as well as portions of the cities of San Diego and El Cajon.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district. Incumbent Democrat Akilah Weber is not seeking re-election and is instead running for the open SD39 State Senate seat Senator Toni Atkins is vacating due to term limits.

La Mesa Vice Mayor Colin Parent was the top vote-getter, with endorsements from several San Diego-area Democratic Assemblymembers. However, the Weber-endorsed Sharp-Collins came in second in what will likely be a competitive race in November. Parent, a strong pro-housing advocate, has roughly double the cash on hand as Sharp-Collins and significant independent expenditure support from pro-housing-sponsored committees.

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## Senate Election Snapshots:

### **SD 1 (B. Dahle)**

**REGISTRATION: R +14.83%**

**DISTRICT:** Whole counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama, Yuba and portions of Nevada and Placer counties. This district includes the whole cities of Alturas, Anderson, Biggs, Chico, Colfax, Colusa, Corning, Dorris, Dunsmuir, Etna, Fort Jones, Grass Valley, Gridley, Live Oak, Loyalton, Marysville, Montague, Mount Shasta, Nevada City, Orland, Oroville, Portola, Red Bluff, Redding, Shasta Lake, Susanville, Tehama, Tulelake, Weed, Wheatland, Williams, Willows, Yreka, Yuba City, the town of Paradise and portions of the City of Auburn.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Republican district in northern California that spans 14 counties (Butte, Shasta, Nevada, Sutter, Placer, Yuba, Tehama, Siskiyou, Lassen, Glenn, Plumas, Colusa, Modoc, and Sierra). This is an open seat in 2024 due to incumbent Republican Brian Dahle being termed out. AD01 Assemblymember Megan Dahle (wife of Senator Dahle), announced in February that she would run for his seat. Republican and perennial candidate David Fennell will be token opposition for Megan Dahle, having reported almost no money raised. Megan Dahle will cruise to victory in November.

### **SD 3 (Dodd)**

**REGISTRATION: D +25.90**

**DISTRICT:** Includes the whole counties of Napa, Solano, Yolo as well as portions of Contra Costa, Sacramento and Sonoma counties and the whole cities of American Canyon, Benicia, Brentwood, Calistoga, Cotati, Davis, Dixon, Fairfield, Isleton, Napa, Oakley, Rio Vista, Rohnert Park, St. Helena, Sonoma, Suisun City, Vacaville, Vallejo, West Sacramento, Winters, Woodland and Yountville.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district in California's Wine Country. Incumbent SD03 Democrat Bill Dodd will be termed out of his state senate seat in 2024. Former longtime West Sacramento Mayor and Democrat Christopher Cabaldon will face Thom Bogue, a Republican Dixon city councilmember, and is likely to cruise to victory in this strongly Democratic district.

### **SD 5 (Eggman)**

**REGISTRATION: D +15.68%**

**DISTRICT:** Includes San Joaquin County and portions of Alameda County, including the whole cities of Dublin, Escalon, Lathrop, Livermore, Lodi, Manteca, Pleasanton, Ripon, Stockton and Tracy.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Susan Eggman is termed out in this safe Democratic seat. Former Congressman Jerry McNerney will face off against Republican Jim Shoemaker, a California GOP-endorsed pool cleaning company owner and vocal Trump supporter, in what should be an easy matchup for McNerney.

### **SD 7 (Skinner)**

**REGISTRATION: D +61.54%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Alameda, Contra Costa and San Francisco counties, including the whole cities of Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, El Cerrito, Emeryville, Hercules, Oakland, Piedmont, Pinole, Richmond and San Pablo.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Nancy Skinner is termed out. Five Democrats and one Republican were on the primary ballot. Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguin and Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District director Jovanka Beckles were the top vote-getters in this race in the primary. Arreguin has the endorsement of Governor Gavin Newsom and sizeable independent expenditure support, putting him in a very favorable position for this race versus the Democratic Socialists of America-aligned Beckles

### **SD 9 (Glazer)**

**REGISTRATION: D +33.54%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Alameda and Contra Costa counties, including the whole cities of Antioch, Clayton, Concord, Lafayette, Martinez, Orinda, Pittsburg, Pleasant Hill, San Leandro, San Ramon, Walnut Creek, and the towns of Danville and Moraga.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district between Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Incumbent Democrat Steve Glazer resides within the new district, but due to first winning election in a 2015 special election, he will be ineligible to run for another 4-year term in 2024. Progressive Democrat Marisol Rubio, who unsuccessfully challenged Glazer from the left in 2020, will compete with AD15 Assemblyman Tim Grayson in the moderate vs. progressive dynamic familiar to this district in the general.

With Grayson seeing supportive independent spending of over \$750,000 and getting close to 60% in the primary, it appears he will assume this seat in November, barring late and more than significant investment from labor/progressive-backed committees.

### **SD 23 (Wilk)**

**REGISTRATION: D +8.46%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino counties, including the whole cities of Adelanto, Hesperia, Lancaster, Palmdale, Santa Clarita and Victorville.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Republican Scott Wilk will be termed out in 2024. This is a competitive Los Angeles/San Bernardino County district that remains roughly as competitive as its prior iteration before redistricting.

Unsuccessful 2020 candidate Kipp Mueller will face off against former Republican Assemblymember Suzette Valladares in a race that has seen significant independent dollars and attention from both parties with over \$3.6 million in independent spending to date. Valladares has seen \$1,152,540 in supportive spending from business-aligned groups and another \$100,000 or so in opposition to Mueller. Mueller has also seen significant spending in support of his candidacy from labor and progressive-backed committees.

**SD 25 (Portantino)**

**REGISTRATION: D +22.76%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Los Angeles and San Bernardino, including the whole cities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Claremont, Glendale, Glendora, La Cañada Flintridge, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena, and Temple City, and portions of the cities of Rancho Cucamonga and Upland.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district running along Los Angeles County's 210 corridor and into San Bernardino County. Incumbent SD25 Democrat Anthony Portantino is termed out.

Four Democrats and one Republican competed in the primary for this seat. Alhambra city councilmember Sasha Renee Perez was endorsed by the California Democratic Party. Lone Republican Elizabeth Wong Ahlers was the top vote-getter, taking the GOP vote to notch a first-place finish with 35.7%, with Democrat Sasha Renee Perez finishing in second with 32.9%. Having averted a competitive same-party Democratic runoff, Perez is on track to win in November easily.

**SD 29 (NEW SEAT)**

**REGISTRATION: D +20.67**

**DISTRICT:** Includes portions of San Bernardino County, including the whole cities of Rialto and San Bernardino and portions of the cities of Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands and Upland.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a new, safe Democratic majority-Latino district in San Bernardino County. AD50 Assemblymember Eloise Gomez Reyes launched a run for the new state senate seat in December 2022 and immediately became the frontrunner. She is expected to easily cruise to victory in November.

**SD 31 (Roth)**

**REGISTRATION: D +21.80%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Riverside and San Bernardino counties, including the whole cities of Eastvale, Jurupa Valley, Moreno Valley, Perris and San Jacinto and portions of the cities of Corona, Fontana, Menifee and Riverside.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic majority-Latino district with 98% of its voters in Riverside County and 2% in San Bernardino County. Incumbent SD31 Democrat Richard Roth is termed out in 2024 and has announced a run for the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

AD58 Democratic Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes announced a run for the seat with the backing of incumbent Sen. Roth, Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis, and a lengthy list of Democratic officials. Polling has shown her leading the field comfortably. A Republican candidate was the top vote-getter in the primary, but the district composition and considerable resources for Cervantes point to her having a relatively easy race in November.



**SD 35 (Bradford)****REGISTRATION: D +48.42%**

**DISTRICT:** Portions of Los Angeles County, including the whole cities of Carson, Compton, Hawthorne, Inglewood, and Lawndale, and portions of the cities of Gardena and Los Angeles.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district that is majority Latino. Incumbent Steve Bradford will be termed out in 2024. Former Congresswoman Laura Richardson and Michelle Chambers, a former Compton councilmember, were the top two vote-getters and are locked in a heated contest for this seat. Richardson was the top vote-getter in the primary, taking 27.8%, followed by Chambers in second with 24.5%. Moderates and business interests have coalesced around Richardson, while labor and progressives have lined up behind Chambers. The November election is likely to see significant spending, with \$4.1 million in independent dollars spent to date.

**SD 37 (Min)****REGISTRATION: D +3.09%**

**DISTRICT:** Orange County, including the whole cities of Aliso Viejo, Costa Mesa, Irvine, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Lake Forest, Tustin and Villa Park and portions of the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton, Orange, Placentia, Santa Ana and Yorba Linda.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a competitive Orange County district that has been trending Democratic. The redistricting commission altered the maps significantly in Orange County shifting most of its voters from residing in two odd and two even-numbered districts (SD29, SD37, SD34, SD36) into a map with three even and one odd-numbered districts (SD34, SD36, SD37, SD38). Newman was the top vote-getter in the primary, winning 30.1%, followed by Choi in second with 21.7%. The California Democratic Party and Senate Democrats have deployed considerable resources to this seat to ensure that Sen. Newman remains in the Senate. This is a race to keep an eye on, though it has yet to approach the levels of IE spending seen in competitive other seats this cycle.

**SD 39 (Atkins)****REGISTRATION: D +23.00%****DISTRICT:**

Portions of San Diego County, including the whole cities of Coronado, El Cajon, La Mesa, and Lemon Grove, and portions of the City of San Diego.

**OVERVIEW:**

This is a safe Democratic district. Incumbent Toni Atkins is termed out in 2024. AD79 Assemblymember Akilah Weber jumped into the race and will be the next Senator in this seat.

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*THIS DOCUMENT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE YOU WITH GENERAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE 2024 GENERAL ELECTION IN CALIFORNIA. THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE SPECIFIC LEGAL ADVICE. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE CONTENTS OF THIS DOCUMENT OR IF YOU NEED LEGAL ADVICE AS TO AN ISSUE, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEYS LISTED OR YOUR REGULAR BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP ATTORNEY. THIS COMMUNICATION MAY BE CONSIDERED ADVERTISING IN SOME JURISDICTIONS.*