



Active Democrat

General Meeting – Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Six Upcoming State Propositions & Presidential Nominee Endorsement



President's Message:

We've Only Just Begun

Incredible as it may seem, the record amount of campaign money spent, massive voter turnout nationwide, and all the media

phone banking, fundraising, precinct walking, and, in the final days before the election, Get-Out-The-Vote (GOTV) efforts. At the last general meeting several people signed up for some of these efforts but we'll need many more of you to be involved before we're done.

attention has only gotten us to the selection of our Democratic Presidential Candidate, Barack Obama. Now as Democrats, we must begin the task of having our nominee win the Presidential election in November. Toward that end the Club will begin its election efforts with tabling and voter registration (please see the "Upcoming Event" on page 4). Additionally, the Club will work with the Obama campaign to determine how our Club can best support the campaign. We expect that the Club will participate in

However, don't forget that even though the Presidential race is of critical importance there will be many other items on November's ballot. As I write this there are already eleven ballot propositions qualified for the election and a possible five more in the works. We will tackle six of these propositions at our upcoming meeting and continue to address the others in following meetings. We also have the run-off election for the County Board of Supervisors with the club's endorsed candidate Mark Ridley-Thomas as the front runner. The Club will need to support Ridley-Thomas' campaign and make sure that the ballot propositions get passed or rejected in accordance with the positions we take.

All Presidential elections are historic, but this one may prove to be a watershed in our nation. With the addition of the State issues and the local race, this election demands our maximum political effort. Be sure to get involved with the Club's efforts and with the campaigns. Let me know how you'd like to help by emailing me at President@CCDemClub.Org or give me a call at (310) 204-1338. I look forward to hearing from all of you and seeing you at our general meeting.

Club Constitutional Amendments:

The text of proposed amendments is needed by the August General meeting.

The Club will be considering amendments to the constitution at our meeting in October. If you have changes you'd like to have considered please provide the text of your proposal to the Club President at a meeting or by email at President@CCDemClub.Org

Monthly General Membership Meeting:

NEW TIME!

7:00 PM Wednesday, July 9, 2008

6:45 PM – Refreshments

Rotunda Room

Veterans Memorial Building

4117 Overland Avenue

Corner of Overland Ave. and Culver Blvd.

What's Inside?

- 2: Six State Propositions
- 3: Six Propositions - Continued
- 3: Contact the Campaigns
- 2: Di's Corner

Club Notes

Volunteer for Tabling:

The club will be tabling to register voters. Various dates and times are available. See "Upcoming Events" on page 4 for more details.

Renew your membership!

2008 dues must be paid to get a ballot at our General Meeting.

Electronic Newsletter:

Submit your email address to Info@CCDemClub.org and ask to get the newsletter by email! Save a tree and save our club the postage!

Join the Culver City Peace

Vigil: Protest the Iraq war every Friday 5:30 – 6:30 PM across from the Culver Hotel.

July Meeting Sponsor:

Brenda Williams

Comments expressed in the Newsletter are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily represent the position of the Culver City Democratic Club.

Six State Propositions for November:

So far there have been eleven propositions that have qualified for the November ballot. At our July meeting we will be discussing and voting on six of them. Additional propositions will be discussed at the August and, if needed, at the September general meetings. The following summaries have been excerpted from the California Secretary of State web site. More detailed information is contained on the Secretary of State's web site at <http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections>. The positions taken on these ballots by the California Democratic Party (CDP) have also been indicated.

#1 - Safe, Reliable High-Speed Passenger Train Bond Act for the 21st Century:

CDP Position = Yes

Existing law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority with the responsibility of directing the development and implementation of intercity high-speed rail service.

This bond would provide for the issuance of \$9.95 billion of general obligation bonds, \$9 billion of which would be used in conjunction with available federal funds for the purpose of funding the planning and construction of a high-speed train system in this state pursuant to the business

plan of the authority. Nine hundred fifty million dollars of the bond proceeds would be available for capital projects on other passenger rail lines to provide connectivity to the high-speed train system and for capacity enhancements and safety improvements to those lines.

#2 -Treatment of Farm Animals (Statute):

CDP Position = Yes

Requires that an enclosure or tether confining specified farm animals allow the animals for the majority of every day to fully extend their limbs or wings, lie down, stand up, and turn around. Specified animals include calves raised for veal, egg-laying hens, and pregnant pigs. Exceptions made for transportation, rodeos, fairs, 4-H programs, lawful slaughter, research and veterinary purposes. Provides misdemeanor penalties, including a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment in jail for up to 180 days. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Probably minor local and state enforcement and prosecution costs, partly offset by increased fine revenue.

#3 - Children's Hospital Bond Act. Grant Program (Statute):

CDP Position = Yes

Authorizes \$980,000,000 in bonds,

Seeking Submissions

We would like your articles and letters to the editor. Let your voice be heard! Submissions will be published as space allows. Submissions may be edited for length.

The Club's Executive Board reserves the right to determine suitability of submissions for inclusion in the newsletter.

to be repaid from state's General Fund, to fund the construction, expansion, remodeling, renovation, furnishing and equipping of children's hospitals. Designates that 80 percent of bond proceeds go to hospitals that focus on children with illnesses such as leukemia, cancer, heart defects, diabetes, sickle cell anemia and cystic fibrosis. Requires that qualifying children's hospitals provide comprehensive services to a high volume of children eligible for governmental programs and meet other requirements. Designates that 20 percent of bond proceeds go to University of California general acute care hospitals. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: State costs of about \$2 billion over 30 years to pay off both the principal (\$980 million) and the interest (\$1 billion) costs of the bond. Payments of about \$67 million per year.

(Continues on Page 3)

Di's Corner: By Diane Rosenberg

Our own Karen Bass on May 13, 2008 became the 67th Speaker of the California Assembly up in Sacramento.

On Friday June 6, 2008 there was an Inaugural Ceremony in Los Angeles.

Renew your membership!

2008 dues must be paid by renewing members before a vote to get a ballot at the general meeting. New and lapsed members must have paid dues at least 25 days in advance to vote at a meeting.

Six Propositions

(continued):

#4 - Waiting Period and Parental Notification Before Termination of Minor's Pregnancy (Constitutional Amendment):

CDP Position = No

Amends California Constitution to prohibit abortion for unemancipated minor until 48 hours after physician notifies minor's parent, legal guardian or, if parental abuse reported, an adult family member. Provides exceptions for medical emergency or parental waiver. Permits courts to waive notice based on clear and convincing evidence of minor's maturity or best interests. Mandates reporting requirements, including reports from physicians regarding abortions on minors. Authorizes monetary damages against physicians for violation. Requires minor's consent to abortion, with exceptions. Permits judicial relief if minor's consent is coerced.

Contact the
Campaigns

Mark Ridley-Thomas for County Board of Supervisors

Campaign Headquarters
2092 W. Jefferson Blvd.
L.A., CA 90018
Tel: (323) 733-2002
Fax: (323) 733-2128
Web: www.ridley-thomas.com

Barack Obama for President

Phone: 866.675.2008
Web: www.barackobama.com

Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Potential unknown net state costs of several million dollars annually for health and social services programs, court administration, and state health agency administration combined.

8 - Limit on Marriage (Constitutional Amendment):

CDP Position = No

Amends the California Constitution to provide that only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: The measure would have no fiscal effect on state or local governments. This is because there would be no change to the manner in which marriages are currently recognized by the state.

#10 – Bonds - Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Renewable Energy (Statute):

CDP Position = Neutral

Authorizes \$5 billion in bonds paid from state's General Fund, allocated approximately as follows: 58% in cash payments of between \$2,000 and \$50,000 to purchasers of certain high fuel economy and alternative fuel vehicles; 20% in incentives for research, development and production of renewable energy technology; 11% in incentives for research and development of alternative fuel vehicle technology; 5% in incentives for purchase of renewable energy technology; 4% in grants to eight cities for education about these

2008 Club Officers and Committee

Chairs:

President: Greg Valtierra
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First Vice President: Ronnie Jayne
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Treasurer: Eric Fine
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Membership Secretary: Diane
Rosenberg

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Publicity: Karlo Silbiger

technologies; and 3% in grants to colleges to train students in these technologies. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: State costs of about \$9.8 billion over 30 years to pay both the principal (\$5 billion) and interest (\$4.8 billion) costs on the bond. Payments of about \$325 million per year. Increase in state sales tax revenues of an unknown amount, potentially totaling in the tens of millions of dollars, over the period from 2009 to beyond 2018. Increase in local sales tax and VLF revenues of an unknown amount, potentially totaling in the tens of millions of dollars, over the period from 2009 to about 2018-19. Potential state costs of up to about \$10 million annually, through about 2018 -19, for state agency administrative costs not funded by the measure.

“There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable inaction.”

- John F. Kennedy

