



NATIONAL UNION OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS

# 2016 General Election ENDORSEMENTS

Politics is important to all of us, but to healthcare workers in particular, since government funds and regulates healthcare. Many of the issues that affect us are decided by elected leaders. And those elected office holders can help us in our workplaces. These endorsements were voted on by NUHW stewards and leaders in each district after interviewing candidates and reviewing their platforms. For more information on the California election, visit [www.sos.ca.gov/elections](http://www.sos.ca.gov/elections).



## U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### District 49: Doug Applegate

Colonel Applegate has pledged to fight for a living wage and equal pay, to strengthen services to veterans, and to improve access to quality healthcare for all Americans.



### District 51: Juan Vargas

Congressmember Vargas has worked tirelessly to ensure public safety and protect services to the poor and elderly. Currently serving his second term, he sits on the Committee on Financial Services.



### District 52: Scott Peters

Congressmember Peters helped lead the \$2 billion redevelopment of downtown San Diego, the cleanup of the city's beaches and bays, and the completion of a number of major infrastructure projects.



### District 53: Susan Davis

As a former medical social worker, Congressmember Davis recognizes the need for accessible and affordable quality healthcare. She advocated for direct access to OB/GYN and crucial maternal healthcare for low-income women under the Affordable Care Act.



## STATE SENATE

### District 39: Toni Atkins

Atkins, former Speaker of the Assembly, has been a pioneer in the fight for housing, veterans, the environment, women's health, and LGBT rights.



## STATE ASSEMBLY

### District 78: Todd Gloria

Todd Gloria, currently San Diego's District 3 City Councilmember, is a strong advocate for mental health parity, affordable housing, and finding real solutions for homelessness.



### District 79: Shirley Weber

Assemblymember Weber has authored bills on K-12 education reform, increasing access and affordability for higher education for California's students, and a law to address the issue of racial profiling in policing.



### District 80: Lorena Gonzalez

Assemblymember Gonzalez authored the historic legislation that affords 6.5 million working Californians the ability to earn paid sick leave. Prior to her election to the Assembly, Gonzalez was a labor leader and organizer, serving as the first woman and person of color to lead the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council.



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#### **PRESIDENT — Hillary Clinton**

Our influence with Senator Bernie Sanders helped put mental health care at the top of his agenda. Sanders and our endorsement of Clinton in the general election were major factors in Clinton's decision to release a comprehensive mental health care plan in August. A Hillary Clinton administration is the best vehicle for advancing the progressive values and goals that were expressed by Sanders and embraced by a majority of NUHW members over the past year.



#### **U.S. SENATE — Kamala Harris**

A longtime friend of NUHW, Kamala Harris has a strong track record of fighting for vulnerable communities. As California Attorney General, she fought big banks and secured from them more than \$20 billion for struggling homeowners, and she continues to fight for working families trying to keep up with the rising cost of living. As San Francisco's District Attorney, she stood with us in the battle with SEIU.



#### **STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES**

##### **Proposition 51: School Bonds for K-12 and Community Colleges — YES**

Would help modernize our neglected school system by enabling the state to issue \$9 billion in bonds to fund improvement and construction of facilities for K-12 schools and community colleges.

##### **Proposition 52: Medi-Cal Hospital Fee Program — YES**

Would ensure that Medi-Cal fees are directed to children's health services, Medi-Cal health care services, and uninsured patient care by increasing the vote required for changing fee allocation to a two-thirds majority.

##### **Proposition 53: Revenue Bonds — Statewide Voter Approval — NO**

Would erode local control in communities across California, create more gridlock, and jeopardize vital infrastructure improvements.

##### **Proposition 54: Legislature — Legislation and Proceedings — NO RECOMMENDATION**

##### **Proposition 55: Tax Extension to Fund Education and Healthcare — YES**

Would extend for 12 years the temporary personal income tax increases approved in 2012 on income over \$250,000, which is earmarked for education and healthcare funding. This tax is critical to reducing class size, funding our schools, and increasing healthcare access.

##### **Proposition 56: Cigarette Tax to Fund Healthcare, Tobacco Use Prevention, Research, and Law Enforcement — YES**

Would increase the cigarette tax to \$2 per pack, with equivalent increases on other tobacco

products and electronic cigarettes. Proceeds would go to healthcare programs and smoking cessation programs.

##### **Proposition 57: Criminal Sentences — Parole, Juvenile Criminal Proceedings, and Sentencing — YES**

Would increase parole chances for felons convicted of non-violent crimes and give them more opportunities to earn credits for good behavior.

##### **Proposition 58: English Proficiency, Multilingual Education — YES**

Would repeal most of 1998's Proposition 227, the "English in Public Schools" initiative, thus effectively allowing non-English languages to be used in public education instruction.

##### **Proposition 59: Corporations — Political Spending, Federal Constitutional Protections — YES**

Would overturn Citizens United and allow California's elected representatives at the state and national level to pass a 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution to help get special interest money out of politics.

##### **Proposition 60: Condom Usage and Health Requirements in Adult Films — NO RECOMMENDATION**

##### **Proposition 61: State Prescription Drug Purchases, Pricing Standards — NO RECOMMENDATION**

##### **Proposition 62: Death Penalty — YES**

Would repeal the death penalty, saving taxpayers about \$150 million within a few years.

##### **Proposition 63: Firearms — Ammunition Sales — YES**

Would prohibit the possession of large-capacity ammunition magazines and would require most individuals to pass a background check and obtain authorization from the California Department of Justice.

##### **Proposition 64: Marijuana Legalization — YES**

Would legalize marijuana and hemp under state law and enact certain sales and cultivation taxes.

##### **Proposition 65: Carryout Bags Charges — NO RECOMMENDATION**

##### **Proposition 66: Death Penalty Procedures — NO**

Would speed up the appeal process. We don't need to "fix" the process, we need to put an end to the death penalty.

##### **Proposition 67: Ban on Single-Use Plastic Bags — YES**

Would uphold or ratify the contested legislation banning plastic bags that was enacted by the Legislature under the name Senate Bill 270.

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