



## **CARA Alert – September 30, 2018**

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

### **CARA 15th Annual Regional Conventions Were SPECTACULAR!**

CARA held 9 Regional Conventions in the month of September to celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and get ready for the important elections this November. By every account, these regional events were the best ever – and a great way to celebrate CARA's 15<sup>th</sup> year and engage seniors in our Senior Vote Project. Approximately 900 people attended one of the 9 events across the state. Each one was a bit different, but all included a Candidate Forum, a Ballot Proposition Panel, great food, special keynote speakers, entertainment and great door drawing prizes provided by the CATs.

CARA would like to thank our affiliated organizations for sending delegates to the Convention, to the many volunteers who made the events possible, and to the wonderful speakers and presenters who provided great information. A big thanks also goes to our sponsors for their generosity and commitment to the work of CARA.

Kudos to the CARA Board and CARA members who helped decorate the hall and prepare our materials. A round of applause must go to the wonderful CARA staff – Kathrin Smith (Adbook, Registration and Logistics Diva) Vishnu Subramaniam (Central Valley Organizer), our two Southern CA Organizers – Jenni Chang and Susan Meyers, and Jodi Reid, (Executive Director and Northern CA Organizer).

A special mention goes to Jody Ginsberg from the CA Labor Federation who designed our beautiful program book and other convention materials and to SEIU 1000 who paid for the production of our program book.

Finally, we would like to extend a special thank you to the staff and members of the many venues where we held our events: Richmond Commission on Aging/City of Richmond; Maidu Community Center, Steelworkers Local 675, Sheetmetal workers Local 206, Salida Library, Hanford Fraternal Hall, City of Redding, UFCW local 324, and IBEW Local 332.

Below are the results of the Priority Issues ballots that were cast at each of the nine events, in order of priority. If you want to see pictures and some videos of these events, go to the CARA website at [www.californiaalliance.org](http://www.californiaalliance.org).

## **CARA ISSUE PRIORITIES FOR 2019**

These were the statewide priorities voted on by CARA delegates at the CARA Regional Conventions. Two issues remain will remain our top two until we win:

- Protect, Improve and Expand Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid – stop efforts to cut or privatize benefits.
- Support efforts to win universal, single payer health care (state & nationally).

The priorities voted on at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Conventions in order of preference are:

1. Support efforts to reform Proposition 13 and make commercial property owners pay their fair share of taxes.
2. Support efforts to implement Campaign Finance Reform at state/national levels.
3. Advocate increasing SSI/SSP base grants.
4. Protect pensions and retirement benefits (state and nationally), including fighting legislative and electoral efforts to eliminate or reduce benefits.
5. Advocate for funding for affordable housing construction/preservation.
6. Support efforts to build a California plan for long term care support and services that are based in the community.
7. Expand protections for renters, homeowners, and manufactured homeowners in California.
8. Require transparency of drug pricing; lower drug costs.
9. Educate and engage seniors on climate change and other environmental issues
10. Advocate for legislation to require all California counties to have a drug take back program to safely discard unused and expired drugs.

**Absentee Ballots will be mailed the First Week in October:  
Get out the Senior Vote!!**

Within a week, absentee ballots will be mailed. This is a very important time to mobilize the Senior Vote, since most seniors vote by mail. Please be sure to make your Senior Vote calls if you are a Senior Ambassador in one of the 5 target Congressional Districts. Distribute the CARA Slate Cards (if you need more, contact the CARA office at 877-223-6107 (toll free)).

**And remember to VOTE!!**

**CARA'S STATEWIDE DRAWING FOR \$2018 - November 9<sup>th</sup>.**  
*Don't forget to turn in your tickets and money before that date!*

## CARA Positions on the November 2018 Statewide Ballot

BALLOT MEASURE	Subject of Ballot Measure
<b>YES</b> on PROP 1	Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018 - \$4 billion for affordable housing development
<b>YES</b> on PROP 2	No Place Like Home Act of 2018 – funding for homeless housing and services
<b>YES</b> on PROP 3	Bonds for Water Projects, groundwater sustainability
<b>YES</b> on PROP 4	Bonds for construction at hospitals providing children’s health care
<b>NO</b> on PROP 5	Changes requirements for certain property owners to transfer their property tax base to replacement property
<b>NO</b> on PROP 6	Repeals recently enacted road repair and transportation funding by repealing revenues
<b>No position</b> on PROP 7	Cancels Daylight savings time.
<b>YES</b> on PROP 8	State regulation of kidney dialysis clinics to require 85% of funding go toward patient care.
<b>YES</b> on PROP 10	Expands local government’s authority to enact rent control on residential property.
<b>NO</b> on PROP 11	Requires private sector ambulance employees to remain on call during work breaks, etc.
<b>YES</b> on PROP 12	Establishes new standards for confinement of farm animals

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