

# TUSTIN RWF

Tustin Area Republican Women Federated

## December 2018 Newsletter



### Presidents Address December 2018:

Many of you have asked me what I thought went so wrong with this last mid-term election. So many factors were involved, there are almost too many to count. More troubling to me than the voter fraud, that most assuredly took place, are the laws the California State legislature has burden us with in regarding voting and the registration of voters. Early voting, turning ballots in after election day, registration on the day of voting, vote harvesting, etc... all made legal by our State Legislature to their benefit to retain the quest for power. All of those different avenues for voting require a different method of counting and verifying the ballot. Those new laws coupled with some miscalculation by our candidates, mismanaged campaigns, being out spent 6 to one in some cases, lack of enthusiasm by some in our own party, failing to rally volunteers that were up against thousands of PAID campaign workers....it was just over whelming. We can come back from this, we have in the past. We do need new ideas and new leadership and we need to work smarter to get our message out.

I have enjoyed being your President for the last 5 years and I am grateful for the opportunity to have done so. I am also grateful for your repeated confidence in me, and support in doing what we do. You are all unique, smart, determined, and talented ladies and I am proud to be associated with you. I've watched many of you blossom into activists who have done things you thought you never could. I'm so happy I could be a part your lives to see that. I gratefully thank each of you for your support through some especially trying times we've had as a club, and through the challenges that I have faced personally. Together we most certainly are stronger. I'm not going far, I look forward to bringing more interesting and informative speakers and programs to you this coming year, and welcome suggestions of those speakers you would like to hear.

I hope to see you all this coming Friday when we can celebrate our club, enjoy each other's company to kick off the holiday season with a little fun and a little retail therapy. And our speaker, Nixie Laramore of Gateways to Better Education, is absolutely delightful. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah, and a happy, healthy and productive New Year!

Linda Barcelona, President TARWF





## Dear Friends & Fellow Patriots

November-December, 2018

Our precious **Thanksgiving & Christmas** season are upon us already...and our election season has quickened it with all the busyness and our involvement. ☺ **May you all be Blessed as we approach this special season** ☺

We enjoyed another great time together at our October General meeting...and it was '**electric**' being with **ALL** of your bright, shiny conservative selves. ☺ We also trust it was both informative and helpful as we went over the General Election Ballot & Voter Information Guide. Tustin City Council candidate and TARWF Associate Member **Austin Lombard** attended and spoke, and it was so good to get to know him better. He is one of the few Republican candidates in our OC District who **WON** his race and we will be surely blessed to have him serving on our Tustin City Council. **Congratulations to Austin!!** We are so grateful that he is an Associate Member of our club.

Thank you again to all of our dear members for inviting and bringing your friends and family to our meetings. Please give a warm **Tustin Area Republican Women Federated (TARWF)** welcome to the following who, since our last newsletter, chose to join us: ☺ **Kim DeBenedetto** of Tustin; **Diane Fancher** of Santa Ana; **Linda Flathers** of Santa Ana; **Linda Kayiran** of Tustin; **Autumn Wright** of Laguna Woods; and **Loretta Miller** of Orange. We now have a total of **13 new members for 2019!**

We also want to boast about and heartily thank those **2018 members** who have already **RENEWED** your **TARWF membership for 2019**, during our recent renewal campaign. We are pleased to report that **94 Regular members** and **20 Associate members** have renewed by returning their Renewal Form to Gretchen Whisler, our Membership Secretary. **We humbly ask the remaining faithful members to send in your COMPLETED renewal form with your check to 17531 Via Lindo, Tustin CA 92780 ASAP using the convenient TARWF envelope we provided for you in our mailing. If you plan to attend our December 7 luncheon meeting, you can save a stamp and bring it then! We would love 100% response by the end of the year! Your membership and presence in our club is PRECIOUS to our vitality and success.** We also want to at this time publicly **thank** the following for their **extra financial support** sent with their renewals: **Austin Lombard, Jeanne Mangum, Pat Micone, Mary Nesbitt, and Katherine & Homer Shapiro**—we are *very* appreciative!!

We need each and every one of you in the new year ahead, as it will be a **CRUCIAL time** in our history to continue to **GROW and STRENGTHEN our 78-year-old Republican "Grassroots Army"** in order to help preserve our freedoms and ensure our security, locally and nationally. We **MUST keep fighting** for Conservative values.

We trust you are all deeply saddened and disappointed with the devastating news of the results of all our Congressional Candidates losing in the final count of ballots. Stay tuned in the 2019 New Year as we receive more information to help us understand why we experienced so many losses ...and consider a best strategy for our Republican Party in the future.

**Happy Hour Politics (HHP) will NOT be held on the usual Thursday in November or December due to the holidays.**

Please continue to consider getting more involved with us. We have **10 OPENING** to

fill on our Elected BOD for 2019. We still need to fill the role of Recording Secretary. Please contact us if you'd like to serve with your talents & heart. **Keep Being ENGAGED, EDUCATED, ENCOURAGED, and EMPOWERED to achieve success in 2019 to come.**

**Happy Thanksgiving!** We hope to see you at our December Christmas meeting on the first Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Your TARWF Membership Team,

**Gretchen Whisler**

**Pat Micone**

Membership Secretary    Membership Chair



## Tustin Area Republican Women Federated

Invite You to Join us December 7, 2018

for Our Holiday Celebration



With special guest speaker **Nixie Laremore**

Nixie comes to us from the beautiful Sonoma Coast and Cazadero, CA. She earned a Masters in Education from Liberty University in 2015 and has been working with Gateways to Better Education to "keep GOD in our Schools" for over 12 years. All she wants for Christmas is for American public schools to "get religious liberty right!"

Gateways to Better Education was founded by Eric and Kim Buehrer in Lake Forest, CA. Gateways exists to support religious liberty in the public schools through educating educators and informing students about their liberties. Gateways moves people from fear to freedom regarding religious expression at school.

A Silent Auction and Christmas Vendors will also be available

Doors open for Check-in at 10:30 AM

Meeting 11 am — 1:00 pm

Members & Associate Members \$30.00 • Guests \$35.00

RSVP by Monday, December 3, 2018

For reservations please contact:

Mary Hardin at [hardinmary@gmail.com](mailto:hardinmary@gmail.com)

714/731-2460 or 714/403-9100

**Please remember a reservation made is a reservation paid .**  
If you are unable to keep your reservation please cancel.

Meeting and Luncheon held at  
Tustin Ranch Golf Club  
12442 Tustin Ranch Rd.,  
Tustin CA 92782



## **California Federation of Republican Women** **Fire victims (members) need your help.**

### **PLEASE HELP wonderful volunteers this Christmas!**

*The recent devastating and deadly California wildfires that wiped out an entire city and thousands of homes statewide have had a terrible impact on several of our CFRW members, volunteers, and sisters who have lost their homes.*

*The rains will bring further devastation with flooding which will ruin or destroy many more homes. Some members who lost their homes are now guests at other member homes. On behalf of sisters who have suffered so much loss, we are asking wonderful people all over the nation to generously help them this Christmas season.*

*Thanks for your generous support to those in need.*

*President of the California Federation of Republican Women.*

Please Send Gift Card Donations to: (No Checks or Cash)

### **For Southern California victims, please send to:**

Suggested gift cards items: Gas cards, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, or Lowes;  
Groceries (Albertsons, Ralphs, Safeway, Stater Bros, Trader Joe's, & Vons)

**Gigi Becker 3235 Sawtelle Blvd #12 Los Angeles, CA 90066**

### **For Northern California victims, please send to:**

Suggested gift cards items: Gas cards, Wal-Mart, Home Depot, or Lowes;  
Groceries (Albertsons, Ralphs, Safeway, Stater Bros, Trader Joe's, & Vons)

**Kastner Honda**

**Attention, Gaylon Kastner**

**480 Soscol Ave., Napa, CA 94559**



**Let's Share This Christmas.**

Thank you for your generosity,  
CFRW President, Nam-Yong Horn



# WASHINGTON Examiner

## Why California Republicans lost it all, even in Orange County (Hint: It's not Trump)

By Shawn Steel | Nov. 14, 2018, 11:27 AM

California Republicans, long in the wilderness, have now reached the point of desperation.

As of this writing, California Democrats had won every statewide race, a supermajority in both houses of the state legislature, and were on track to pick up as many as seven congressional districts. When all the votes are counted, Orange County — once considered the country's "Most Republican County" — won't have a single Republican representative in Washington, D.C.

A convenient narrative has formed: California Republicans are a casualty of President Trump. Yet, the party's problems have been around longer and run much deeper than any one person. From money to grassroots organization, California Republicans are completely outmatched.

**Money:** This election, California campaign spending exceeded \$1 billion with \$287 million spent on California's congressional campaigns. Overwhelmingly, this massive spending aided Democrats. In California, Democrats have achieved fundraising domination thanks to two billionaires, labor unions, and even the state's business community bankrolling year-round campaigns.

Nowhere was this more apparent than in California's 39th Congressional District, which saw \$34.5 million in total spending.

Republican Young Kim was outspent by a five-to-one ratio in direct contributions. The 48th District wasn't far behind with Republican Rep. Dana Rohrabacher substantially outspent in a \$33 million race. In the 25th Congressional District, Democrat Katie Hill defeated incumbent GOP Rep. Steve Knight with the help of \$4.5 million from billionaire Michael Bloomberg's super PAC. Remember when progressives complained about *Citizens United*?

**Organization:** Democrats are investing their money in a sophisticated, year-round campaign operation. Billionaire Tom Steyer funneled \$3.8 million for targeted youth voter registration, voter contact and get-out-the-vote efforts just in California. In a pre-election memo, Steyer's NextGen America detailed how 68 staff members recruited nearly a thousand volunteers to register more than 28,000 youth voters in a half-dozen targeted California congressional seats. Those efforts paid off, most notably, in California's 45th Congressional District, where Democrat Katie Porter is likely to defeat GOP Rep. Mimi Walters. The Democrat posted North Korea-style returns in one UC Irvine precinct, earning 92 percent of the vote.

**Data:** Aided by Silicon Valley, Democratic operatives are masterfully collecting individual voter data from online and offline sources. While Republican campaigns are busy flooding the airwaves and cluttering mailboxes with tired ads, Democrats are A/B testing thousands of online ads in each campaign.

This data allows Democrats to pinpoint which individual voters in pure Republican households are most receptive to crossing party lines. At Republican Rep. Dana Rohrabacher's campaign, we received daily reports of Democrats repeatedly visiting GOP households asking to speak with one member of the household about a single issue.

**Voter Registration:** With limited resources, California Republicans have all but abandoned any semblance of a voter registration program. Meanwhile, Democrats have invested in ongoing voter registration programs targeted in the state's competitive congressional districts.

Paul Mitchell, vice president of Political Data, notes that voter registration in California's 39th and 45th congressional districts "have seen a tripling of total registrations and nine-fold increases in re-registration compared to 2014."

**Mobilization:** Democrats have deployed social media campaigns in tactical ways that increase a voter's commitment level and boost turnout. A Los Angeles Times analysis of the 2018 Primary found that youth voter turnout had more than doubled compared to 2014. This resulted in borderline fraudulent turnout rates outdoing dead voters in Chicago. Heralding the success of Steyer's operation, Teen Vogue celebrated the 126 percent voter turnout at one precinct near Stanislaus State University.

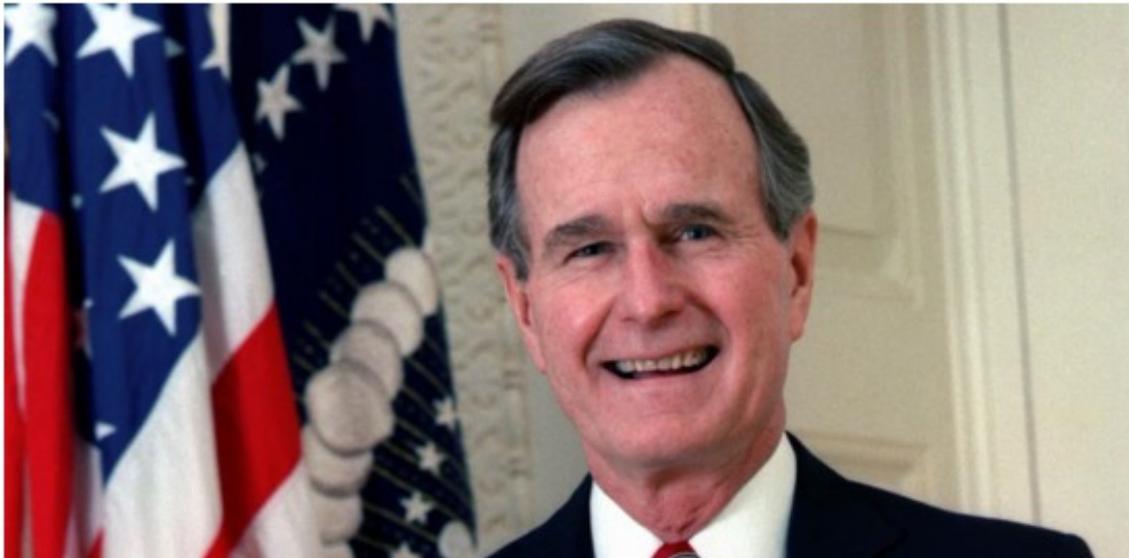
**Grassroots:** Democrats have cultivated a national network of grassroots activists to support their targeted campaigns. Even opposition research has been outsourced to an army of dedicated volunteers. Former Barack Obama operative John Burton's Citizen Strong organization recruited an army of amateur opposition researchers to "read every line of every document" of targeted Republicans' lives, voting records, and disclosure reports. "There's so much just sitting out there that's been made available through sunshine laws, through states posting personal financial disclosures and putting lobbyist disclosures online, and through social media," Burton told Bloomberg before the election.

**Demographics:** All of these problems have contributed to a vicious demographic cycle for California Republicans. Since 2007, California has experienced a net domestic out-migration of a million citizens. As Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, points out, this mass migration includes a larger number of California conservatives fleeing to Texas. Former California congressional candidate Paul Chabot not only left California, but has incorporated a business to help other California conservatives leave the state.

To blame the president is to remain in denial about the real causes of California Republicans' staggering setbacks.

*Shawn Steel, a former California Republican Party chair, is California's Committeeman for the Republican National Committee.*





## Republican Women Pay Tribute to George H.W. Bush

Nation Indebted to 41st President for Lifetime  
of Public Service, Accomplishment

**ALEXANDRIA, Va.** - Jody Rushton, president of the National Federation of Republican Women (NFRW), issued the following statement on the passing of President George H.W. Bush:

"The National Federation of Republican Women and Republican women across our nation are deeply saddened and moved by the passing of our 41st President, George Herbert Walker Bush.

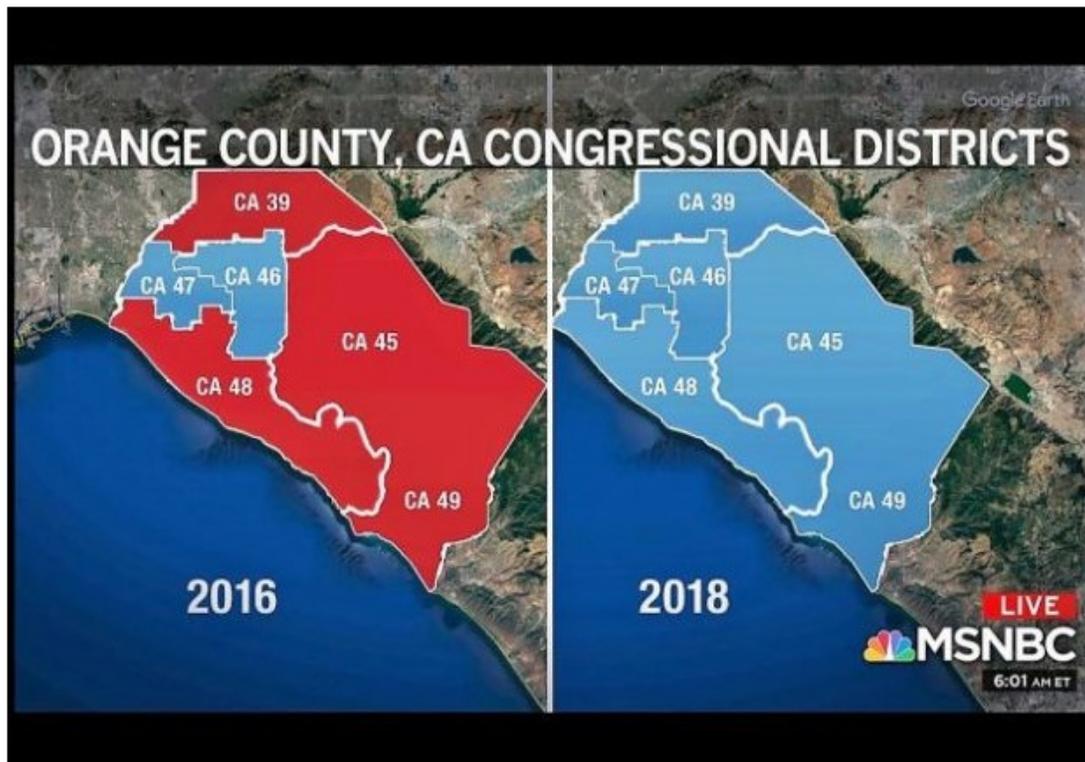
"President Bush was the last president from the Greatest Generation, and he exemplified its character, resolve and patriotism. A decorated combat pilot, President Bush served as our nation's youngest naval aviator in World War II. After decades of public service, he became the faithful partner of President Ronald Reagan. Together, they renewed America's faith and optimism and faced down the tyranny of Soviet communism.

"President Bush's near 75-year marriage to First Lady Barbara Bush was a true partnership. Their devotion to their family, as well as their lifelong dedication to public service, continues to serve as an inspiration to our nation.

"The NFRW's deepest sympathies are with the entire Bush Family, who have lost both their patriarch and their matriarch this year. Our thoughts and prayers are with you."

Last year at its biennial convention, [the NFRW honored President and Mrs. Bush for their legacy of public service with this resolution.](#)

Founded in 1938, the National Federation of Republican Women is the largest and most influential Republican women's group in the nation, proudly representing the party that first made it possible for women to vote in the U.S. The NFRW works to increase the effectiveness and relevance of women in the cause of good government. Our mission remains to recruit and elect Republican candidates, promote the principles of the Republican Party, educate the public and inform the media.



## Did “ballot harvesting,” not a rejection of Trump, cost Republicans Orange County?

Posted by [William A. Jacobson](#) Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 8:14pm

Republicans were out-hustled by Democrats in the use of this recent change to California law

What started as a good night for Democrats in the House on Election night 2018, turned into a very, very good result after paper ballots were counted days and sometimes weeks later. In Orange County, often referred to as Reagan Country, it was a wipeout (see Map above).

The conventional wisdom is that Trump lost California Reagan Republicans in Orange County.

This November 18 [CNN analysis](#) is typical of the conclusions the mainstream media and Never-Trump Republicans drew:

It was where “good Republicans go to die,” Ronald Reagan often quipped.

Now, with the final ballots counted, Democrats have achieved a total takeover of congressional seats in the one-time Republican bastion of Orange County....

“We are seeing a realignment with college-educated voters and Orange County is ground zero for this phenomenon,” said Sean Clegg, a California-based Democratic strategist who advises US Sen. Kamala Harris and California Governor-Elect Gavin Newsom. “This election was a clear referendum on Trump and Trumpism and people want the reality show to end, particularly suburban women.”

The Democrats’ success in flipping all four seats from red to blue is a stunning development

for a county that served as the North Star for Reagan-style conservatism.

“The cataclysmic losses in Orange County are the manifestation of changing demographics that have been in motion for a couple decades. Trump has accelerated the political consequences the GOP,” said Rob Stutzman, a California-based Republican strategist, noting that the lesser-known GOP candidate for governor, John Cox, is still winning the county by a slender margin, according to the latest results posted by the Orange County Registrar of Voters.

“That’s good evidence that the congressional losses are a Trump effect,” said Stutzman. “The GOP can compete to win those seats back in two years and new district maps in 2022 will possibly yield a clear GOP seat. The ‘Orange Curtain’ has fallen but Republicans will still compete in Orange County for the next few election cycles. They’ll be more likely to succeed without Trump on the ballot.”

While simple, that narrative may be wrong in Orange County and throughout California, where Republicans fared okay on Election Night, but lost numerous seats as paper ballots were counted.

Paul Ryan expressed his surprise, and the term “ballot harvesting” that most people likely had not heard before. [The Daily Caller](#) reports on Ryan’s reaction:

“California just defies logic to me,” said Ryan [at a Washington Post live event](#). “We were only down 26 seats the night of the election, and three weeks later, we lost basically every California contested race. This election system they have — I can’t begin to understand what ‘ballot harvesting’ is.”

Bre Payton at [The Federalist](#) explained what ballot harvesting is, and how it is one of many features that leaves California open to voter fraud:

***‘Ballot Harvesting’ allows political operatives to drop off other people’s ballots.***

A [new state law](#) allows third parties to pick up ballots and drop them off at polling locations on behalf of that person, a practice known as “ballot harvesting.”

In video [footage that surfaced last month](#), a woman who identifies herself to a California resident as Lulu is seen knocking on someone’s door and offering to deliver their absentee ballot, but “only to, like, people who are supporting the Democratic Party.”

Patton pointed to an e-mail to supporters from Orange County GOP chair Fred Whitaker attributing the party’s losses in longtime Republican districts to ballot harvesting as [the San Francisco Chronicle](#) reported:

**‘The number of election day vote-by-mail drop-offs was unprecedented — over 250,000. This is a direct result of ballot harvesting,’** Whitaker wrote. ‘That directly caused the switch from being ahead on election night to losing two weeks later. ... We have to develop a response to this new law that allows us to remain competitive while recognizing the realities of Republican voter attitudes towards handing over their ballot.’

Others also have pointed out the problem. Joel Pollak at [Breitbart](#) writes:

The practice explains several mysteries about the 2018 election, such as: why mail-in ballots caused massive shifts toward Democrats in races Republicans thought they won on Election Night; why Republicans won the turnout battle in the [primary](#), but lost it in the general election; and why Democrats with party backing [defeated](#) fellow Democrats without it — even when the latter had more money.

“Ballot harvesting” by Democratic Party operatives — a surprise tactic they likely saved for the general election — appears to have made the difference. The San Francisco Chronicle [reported](#) Thursday that Democrats ran a disciplined, door-to-door campaign offering to deliver voters’ ballots to the polls:

.... “We beat Republicans on the ground, fair and square,” said Katie Merrill, a Democratic consultant deeply involved in November campaigns. “Many of the field plans included (ballot harvesting) as an option to deliver voters or their ballots” to the polls. Republicans, in contrast, simply focused on traditional turnout operations — and lost badly....

**But as Democrats point out, there is no reason that Republicans cannot use the same methods in California. So Republicans should take them up on it. There is no alternative.**

This should not have come as a surprise. The video above and the Democrat effort to ballot harvest was exposed at Redstate on October 16, [CA Dem Party Sinking To New Lows To 'Harvest' Absentee Ballots](#)

Since the Kavanaugh debacle (and I mean debacle for the left, and not for the right), many have said that the Democrats will say or do anything to make their hoped-for Blue Wave in November a reality. **Election fraud isn't a new tool in their toolbox, but recent changes in California's vote-by-mail law regarding "ballot harvesting" make the state an attractive target for Democrats to easily influence (or steal) a few seats.**

In the state's hotly contested 25th Congressional district, in which two-term Rep. Steve Knight (R-Palmdale) is fighting off a challenge from Katie Hill (D-Newhall), footage from a Santa Clarita family's [Ring camera](#) is telling.

The results of Republicans falling asleep as to ballot harvesting were devastating. Republicans were out-hustled, out-muscled, and out-maneuvered. The result not only was a wipeout in Orange County, but also the risk that we may draw the wrong conclusions as to the cause of the Orange County wipeout.



By SHAWN STEEL | Orange County Register

PUBLISHED: December 1, 2018 at 4:01 pm | UPDATED: December 1, 2018 at 4:02 pm

Election night was painful for California Republicans, but it was nothing compared to the slow torture we've endured ever since.

For three agonizing weeks, Republicans have watched registrars update their tallies with late absentee and provisional ballots. From Orange County to the Bay Area, it's the same story playing out with different candidates: Democrats flipping seats with late ballots.

First, Mimi Walters. Then, Young Kim. Now, David Valadao.

It's not unusual for late absentee and provisional ballots to break against Republicans. What is unusual is the scale of the carnage. As of this writing, Republicans lost election night leads for five members of Congress, three state Assembly races, two state Senate seats and a Board of Equalization candidate.

Even the Associated Press was caught off-guard by late ballot counting. It has called California's 21st Congressional District for Republican incumbent David Valadao only to retract its decision three weeks later. If the independent organization "which sets the standard for calling races across the journalism industry" is getting races wrong, something's changed in California.

Legislative Democrats have rewritten election rules in their favor to expand voter eligibility, automatically register every voter, eliminate voting integrity laws and encourage questionable campaign tactics, such as ballot harvesting.

California has entered an era of near universal suffrage with illegal immigrants, felons, inmates and minors registering to vote. San Francisco now allows "people in the country illegally and other noncitizens the right to vote in a local election," according to the Associated Press. The city has spent at least \$310,000 in tax dollars to register 49 non-citizens to vote.

State law grants voting rights to inmates in county jails as well as convicted criminals on probation, mandatory supervision, post-release community supervision, and federal supervised release. Just about the only criminals barred from voting in California are felons in prison or on parole. Even that standard is weakening. In 2015, 60,000 convicted felons officially regained their voting rights after the state refused to appeal a lower court decision that would have denied them the right to vote.

California has effectively adopted same-day voter registration with the introduction of "conditional voting." This election cycle, voters who missed the 15-day voter registration deadline could request to cast a conditional ballot.

Under the state's Motor Voter program, every person who interacts with the Department of Motor Vehicles is automatically registered to vote. This has predictably led to tens of thousands of cases of voter registration problems. The state's Motor Voter program has come under fire for double registering as many as 77,000 people, including 1,500 ineligible voters.

This cycle also marked the beginning of California's pre-voter registration program for 16- and 17-year-olds. Of course, if every voter is automatically registered through the Motor Voter program, why would anyone need to pre-register? Pre-registration is a thinly veiled effort to capture voters while they are young and more likely to identify as liberal Democrats. Of the nearly 89,000 minors that participated in the program, only 10 percent registered as Republicans.

Of course, expanding the electorate is only good if you can get those new voters to the polls. It's hard to get voters to show up to the polls. That's why Democrats have brought the polls to the voters. This election, five counties mailed absentee ballots to every voter — whether they requested one or not. In 2020, every county in California, except Los Angeles, will have that option. If the change was truly about empowering every voter, why disenfranchise 10 million inhabitants in the state's most populous county?

It's never been easier to vote by mail. Absentee ballots are counted if they arrive at the registrar of voters three days after Election Day. If ballots are sent to the wrong county, the ballot is valid for an additional four days.

Most troubling of all, California has eliminated voting integrity laws that protect voters from campaign intimidation. In 2016, state lawmakers eliminated the ballot protection law that enabled only a trusted family member to return another voter's ballot. Assembly Bill 1921 now allows anyone to return an absentee ballot. The law has encouraged campaign operatives to engage in coercive tactics.

"How could someone come to my door and so brazenly ask me to hand over my ballot?" asked John Lieberman, a Democratic voter in Los Angeles, after an intimidation incident during a 2017 special election campaign. "What I experienced from her campaign sends chills down my spine."

For good or bad, all of these changes are law, and California Republicans are absolutely powerless to reverse course. Our party can either eat sour grapes or adopt new campaign tactics to account for these changes.

Shawn Steel, a former California Republican Party chair, is California's committeeman for the Republican National Committee



### **Your 2018 TARWF Board**

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