

## *2024 California March Primary Preview: Update on Open-Seat Elections*

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With ballots arriving California voters' mailboxes, this alert provides a snapshot analysis of the open seats in the California Legislature for the 2024 primary. It's worth noting that in the secretary of state's [pre-primary voter registration report](#), there was an uptick in Republican registration with the GOP gaining 46,000 registered voters statewide between October 2023 and January 2024. Democrats lost 30,000 voters statewide in the same timeframe and saw decreased registration advantage in just about every Assembly district in the state. "No Party Preference" voters saw a drop of about 70,000 voters. However, Democratic voters still outnumber Republican voters by over 22% statewide (approximately 9.1 million registered voters to 4.8 million).

Below is a list of open seats in each chamber in the upcoming election with the current incumbents' and their party affiliation noted in **red** for Republicans and **blue** for Democrats, followed by a snapshot of each race. This list reflects district maps updated after the 2020 redistricting cycle.

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## OPEN ASSEMBLY SEATS

- AD 1: **Megan Dahle** (Bieber/Rural Northern CA)
- AD 2: **Jim Wood** (Healdsburg)
- AD 6: **Kevin McCarty** (Sacramento)
- 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 36: **Eduardo Garcia** (Imperial/Riverside/San Bernadino)
- AD 41: **Chris Holden** (Los Angeles/Pasadena)
- 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)

## OPEN SENATE SEATS

- 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 Snapshots

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

**REGISTRATION: R+13.05%**

**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.

Four Republicans, Anderson City Councilmember Melissa Hunt, Redding City Councilmembers Mark Mezzano and Tenessa Audette, and Modoc County Office of Education safety and communication specialist Heather Hadwick have qualified for the ballot. Both Brian and Megan Dahle have endorsed Hardwick.

As of early January, Mezzano led the field with \$40,500 raised. Hadwick raised \$31,292 and had \$26,224 on hand, Hunt raised \$19,198 and had \$7,988 remaining, and Audette raised \$10,759 and had \$7,539 on hand. No independent expenditure has been reported.

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

**REGISTRATION: D +29.22%**

**DISTRICT:** Consists of the whole counties of Trinity, Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino as well as 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 and Healdsburg as well as 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—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—and one Republican, Del Norte USD School Board member Mike Greer, have filed. Greer, the Republican, is likely to advance to November in the top two system with so many Democrats in the race.

Rusty Hicks leads the field with a significant cash-on-hand advantage reporting over \$440,000 with over \$605,000 raised. Hicks is also the beneficiary of over \$200,000 in supportive spending predominantly funded by the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW) and Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Additionally, Hicks has received the endorsements of Gov. Gavin Newsom, Assemblymember Wood and the California Labor Federation.

Despite these significant advantages for Hicks, this race is still shaping up to be competitive with this crowded Democratic field. Ariel Kelley, mayor of Healdsburg, raised a very competitive \$470,000 and reported over \$170,000 in cash on hand in early January and has garnered support from the Legislative Women’s Caucus and a host of legislators. Chris Rogers, the Santa Rosa councilmember, has also seen significant support from newly sworn in Senate President Pro Tem Mike McGuire as well as U.S. Rep. Mike Thompson and state Assemblymember Damon Connolly supporting his bid. It is important to note in this race that Santa Rosa is the largest city in the district with a population of over 68,000 and representing over 21% of the district. Lastly, Yurok Tribe Vice Chairman Frankie Myers also has raised a notable amount of money and, while not as much as other candidates, puts him in the mix as well—especially considering his endorsement from Assemblymember James Ramos as well as the tribal community and affiliated groups like the California Tribal Business Alliance, which could potentially work to lift Myers up through independent expenditure.

## **AD 6 (McCarty)** **REGISTRATION: D+30.05%**

**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 and announced in May that he would instead run in the open race for Sacramento mayor. Ten candidates will be on the ballot. On the Democratic side, the most notable candidates are San Juan Unified School District Board Member Paula Villescaz, CA Democratic Party Executive Board member Sean Frame, ACLU California Action Executive Director Carlos Marquez, the state’s Deputy Attorney General Maggy Krell, Sacramento Utility District (SMUD) board member Rosanna Herber, and Voices for Progress state policy manager and transgender rights activist Evan Minton. Two Republicans will be on the ballot: Preston Romero, a legislative analyst in state Sen. Janet Nguyen's office and the president of the Sacramento Log Cabin Republicans, and Nikki Ellis, an international affairs and media relations manager for the California Chamber of Commerce. A Peace and Freedom candidate, Kevin Olmar Martinez, a union representative, also will be on the ballot.

This crowded field saw Krell, who declared for the seat early, leading in fundraising with over \$315,000 in cash on hand as of early January. Krell has been endorsed by a slate of moderate Democrats and law enforcement and business groups. Villescaz, Minton and Marquez all reported around \$130,000 in cash on hand, with Rosanna Herber reporting approximately \$120,000. Sean Frame reported under \$60,000.

Villescaz is endorsed by Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg, the CA Labor Federation, CA Nurses Association and the CA Teachers Association. Marquez has received the notable endorsements of U.S. Rep. Robert Garcia, former U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer and a host of state legislators. Herber counts notable endorsements from a host of former Sacramento City councilmembers as well as state Sen. Angelique Ashby. Minton counts Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis as a supporter along with a handful of state legislators, while Frame counts endorsements from former Insurance

Commissioner Dave Jones, who unsuccessfully ran for state Senate, and former Superintendent of Public Instruction Delaine Eastin.

With over \$500,000 in independent expenditures to date, this race will likely be one of the most expensive races in the primary. Maggy Krell and Carlos Marquez saw almost all of the supportive spending with over \$249,000 in spending from law enforcement and business community-aligned groups supporting Krell and over \$280,000 from charter school groups supporting Marquez.

### **AD 8 (Patterson)**

**REGISTRATION: R+13.45%**

**DISTRICT:** Whole counties of Inyo, Tuolumne, Mariposa and Mono and 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, launched a campaign in April. Former Republican Assemblymember Frank Bigelow, who was expected to run here for a final term after he deferred to Patterson when the 2021 redistricting drew them into the same district, opted against a run in June and instead endorsed former GOP Congressman George Radanovich for the open seat. Michael A.F. Matheson, a Middlebury College student set to graduate in 2025, filed to run as a "No Party Preference" candidate. During the final days of filing, Democrat Caleb Helsel, a substitute teacher in the Clovis Unified School District and recent college graduate, filed and qualified for the ballot.

Tangipa has doubled Radanovich's fundraising and has a significant cash on hand advantage, reporting over \$170,000 to Radanovich's approximately \$40,000 in early January. Tangipa has also received Patterson's endorsement.

### **AD 13 (Villapudua)**

**REGISTRATION: D+27.27%**

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

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic 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."

The day before the end of the filing period, Villapudua's wife, Edith Villapudua, who had been running for the overlapping open SD 5 vacated by termed-out Sen. Susan Eggman, filed to run here. 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, who had been endorsed by the CA Democratic Party for the overlapping SD 5 race, executed a last-minute switch and filed to run for

Assembly instead. One Republican, militia leader and Jan. 6 attendee Denise Aguilar Mendez, filed and qualified during the extension period.

Ransom and Edith Villapudua have both raised approximately \$320,000 each for this contest with Villapudua showing a \$30,000 cash-on-hand advantage as of January. Villapudua counts Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas and a host of incumbent legislators among her supporters as well as the California Latino Caucus. Ransom appears to have occupied a more progressive lane with support from the California Labor Federation and the California Nurses Association. To date, this race has seen roughly \$140,000 in independent expenditures from labor groups and consumer attorneys benefitting Ransom.

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

**REGISTRATION: D+33.45%**

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

**OVERVIEW:** Three Democrats—Antioch City Councilmember Monica E. Wilson, former Contra Costa Supervisor Karen Mitchoff and Contra Costa County School Board member Anamarie Avila Farias—and one Republican, realtor Sonia Ledo, qualified for the ballot. Although, Mitchoff will be running with no ballot designation. As the only Republican on the ballot, Ledo will likely secure one of the two spots out of the primary with the top performing Democrat set to cruise to victory in November in this heavily Democratic district. Monica Wilson received the California Democratic Party endorsement and has more than double the cash on hand of the other two Democrats. Avila Farias and Mitchoff both count endorsements from more moderate former and current legislators while Wilson counts the progressive Working Families Party and the California Labor Federation as endorsers.

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

**REGISTRATION: D+51.62%**

**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 as well as portions of South San Francisco and San Bruno cities.

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Phil Ting is termed out in 2024, opening up a seat in a safely Democratic district. San Francisco Supervisor Catherine Stefani is a notable candidate in this race having received the California Democratic Party endorsement as well as San Francisco Mayor London Breed and Lt. Governor Eleni Kounalakis. Another Democrat, educator and former San Francisco Parks and Recreations Commissioner David Lee, is also in the race and counts Assemblymember Ting's endorsement as well as former San Francisco state Sen. Mark Leno. Stefani, who declared earlier, outraised Lee by more than a 2-to-1 margin (\$680,000 to Lee's \$200,000) but recent reports show Lee with a competitive \$170,000 cash-on-hand advantage to Stefani's \$260,000. Two Republicans are also in the race: filmmaker and former Daly City Parks and Recreation Commissioner Nadia Flamenco and San Francisco GOP activist Arjun Sodhani.

Republicans hold third-party status in this district behind “No Party Preference” voters, meaning that the limited GOP voter base here will prevent both Republicans from advancing.

## **AD 26 (Low)**

**REGISTRATION: D+37.94%**

**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 state’s open federal Congressional District 16 seat vacated by retiring Rep. Anna Eshoo.

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 afterwards. Republican Sophie Yan Song (a CPA), Libertarian Bob Goodwyn (a retired airline pilot and frequent candidate) and No Party Preference candidate Ashish Garg (who lists his ballot description as “School Foundation Boardmember”) have also qualified. Former Sunnyvale City Councilman Jim Davis was initially endorsed by the CA GOP but failed to make it onto the ballot.

Din leads the field in cash on hand reporting an impressive \$260,000 despite a short time to fundraise. Ahrens reported \$155,000 in cash on hand with Sreekrishnan reporting over \$110,000. Ahrens counts Assemblymember Low’s endorsement as well as that of former U.S. Rep. Mike Honda. Sreekrishnan is endorsed by state Sen. Dave Cortese as well as the Legislative Women’s Caucus. With over \$160,000 in independent expenditure reported so far, roughly \$110,000 in spending from a committee funded by Uber and a committee funded by other tech interests has supported Ahrens while about \$50,000 from Fund Her PAC, a group dedicated to achieving gender parity in elected representation, is supporting Sreekrishnan.

## **AD 32 (Fong)**

**REGISTRATION: R+21.65%**

**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 Nov. 29. On Dec. 6, Congressman Kevin McCarthy announced his intent to resign at the end of the year. The following day, Fong put out a statement that he was not running for Congress and would seek re-election here. However, after Republican state Sen. Shannon Grove announced she would not run for McCarthy’s seat in congress, Fong reversed course and announced his candidacy.

After a short battle in court to get his name on the ballot for the congressional race, Judge Shelleyanne Chang of the Sacramento Superior Court ordered Secretary of State Shirley Weber to



include Fong's name on the certified candidate list, both in the federal Congressional District 20 and in AD32. With no other candidate filing, the qualified write-in candidate who receives the most votes will advance to the November runoff. Bakersfield City Councilman and longtime Kern County GOP Chair Ken Weir is running a write-in campaign, and Vince Fong is urging his supporters to vote for Weir.

### **AD 33 (Mathis)**

**REGISTRATION: R+0.41%**

**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 to 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, and Democrat Hipolito Cerros, the 25-year-old mayor of Lindsay, qualified near the end of the filing period. Macedo holds a commanding lead over the field in cash on hand. The crowded field of Democrats will also dilute the Democratic vote in this majority Latino district and, while the voter registration advantage on paper is close to even, this is a strongly Republican-leaning district and none of the Democratic candidates have raised enough money to be competitive.

### **AD 36 (E. Garcia)**

**REGISTRATION: D+16.51%**

**DISTRICT:** All of Imperial County and a large portion of Riverside County, including areas on the eastern and northeastern sides of the Coachella Valley. The district 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 and portions of the City of Hemet.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a strongly Democratic but red-trending majority-Latino VRA district encompassing all of Imperial County along with 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 Acuña 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.



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

Acuña has been endorsed by Eduardo Garcia and both the present and former Assembly speakers. However, a five-way split on the Democratic side and two lesser-known Republicans could split the Democratic vote to a sufficient degree that could allow both GOP candidates to slip through to the November runoff, should either the Republicans fail to consolidate substantial portions of the GOP vote.

### **AD 41 (Holden)**

**REGISTRATION: D+17.68%**

**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 will be on the ballot: Phlunte Riddle, former district director for Holden, has filed and touts Holden’s endorsement. Claremont City Councilman and immigration attorney Jed Leano and former Sierra Madre City Councilman John Harabedian will be on the ballot. One Republican, former Altadena Town Councilmember Michelle Del Rosario Martinez, will be on the ballot as well. Harabedian holds a commanding cash-on-hand advantage with over \$470,000 to Riddle’s \$280,000. Leano reported just over \$80,000.

As of mid-February, there has been \$900,000 in independent expenditures in this race with all but \$65,000 spent in support of Harabedian. The committees funding these expenditures are generally funded by pro-business groups and include Uber, DaVita and the California Dental Association.

### **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 federal Congressional District 30 seat Adam Schiff is vacating to run for U.S. Senate, leaving this seat open in 2024. Six Democrats will be on the ballot: Burbank Vice Mayor Nick Schultz, Glendale City Councilmember Elen Asatryan, sound engineer and Democratic activist Steve Pierson, entrepreneur Carmenita Helligar, law professor and Air Force Reserve JAG Ed Han and Studio City neighborhood councilmember Adam Summer. One Republican, Tony Rodriguez, will also be on the ballot, ensuring he will advance to November only to be defeated by whichever

Democrat is the top vote-getter out of the crowded field. Schultz has been endorsed by Friedman and a host of legislators as well as the California Labor Federation and SEIU California. Schultz also has roughly double the amount of cash on hand (\$258,000) as the other candidates in the field. However, the district has seen \$580,000 in independent expenditures supporting Ed Han, who seems to have captured the moderate, more business-friendly lane in this race.

## **AD 50 (Reyes)**

**REGISTRATION: D+21.58%**

**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 SD 29 shortly after the 2022 election, leaving this safely Democratic seat open for 2024. Three Democrats—Dejonaé 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’ endorsement and splits a large list of legislative endorsements with Shaw. Shaw’s endorsement list counts several notable progressive legislators as well as the California Labor Federation Working Families Party and AFSCME.

However, Perez has a decisive advantage with over \$1.1 million in independent expenditure dollars spent as of mid-February in this district, with over \$900,000 benefitting him and roughly \$200,000 spent by labor and consumer attorneys opposing Perez.

## **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 is running for Los Angeles City Council, which creates an open seat in 2024. This seat was last open in 2017 after Jimmy Gomez was elected to Congress and Carrillo topped a 13-candidate field in the special election. This crowded field includes 8 Democrats, one Green Party candidates, and one Republican.

The viable candidates in the Democratic field include: Ari Ruiz, a field representative for Congresswoman Maxine Waters; Jessica Caloza, deputy chief of staff in Attorney General Rob Bonta’s office; Franky Carrillo (no relation to Wendy), an advocate for criminal justice reform, David Girón , a policy advisor to L.A. Councilmember Bob Blumenfield; Genesis Coronado, an LAUSD legislative analyst; and Carlos León, associate director of community health initiatives for the Community Coalition.

With a significant cash-on-hand advantage over the rest of the field as well as independent spending exceeding \$660,000 in her support, Caloza also counts endorsements from a notable roster of legislators and appears likely to advance to November against the only Republican in the race, college student and economic thinktank researcher Stephen Sills, with eight Democrats splitting the Democratic votes.

**AD 53 (Rodriguez)**  
**REGISTRATION: D+24.64%**

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

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Freddie Rodriguez is termed out in 2024, opening up 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, will all be competing for their share of the Democratic vote. Republican Nick Wilson, a former Orange County detective who runs a non-profit focused on the mental health of first responders, will work to maximize Republican turnout and is likely to advance with a crowded Democratic field.

Rodriguez leads the field in cash on hand and has seen about \$200,000 in independent expenditure spending in support of her candidacy funded predominantly by DaVita. Hernandez, clearly occupying the progressive lane, has been endorsed by many progressive legislators and the Working Families Party and has seen about \$30,000 in supportive independent expenditure from labor groups.

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

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

**OVERVIEW:** Incumbent Democrat Miguel Santiago is not seeking re-election and is running against Assemblymember Carrillo for the Los Angeles City Council seat currently occupied by former State Sen. Kevin de León, opening up 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 relatively token competition from one Democrat, transit activist John Yi, and one Republican, health care worker Elaine Alaniz, Gonzalez is likely to be the top vote-getter in March, cruising to victory 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 is termed out in 2024. A crowded field of five Democrats are vying to replace him: Efrén Martínez, 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. Martínez and Elhawary appear to be the most competitive candidates with Martínez reporting just under \$300,000 in cash on hand to Elhawary's \$180,000. While not as well-resourced as the other two candidates, Vasquez counts endorsements from housing advocacy group California YIMBY and several members of the Senate and Assembly.

Independent expenditure in this race has exceeded \$1.5 million with \$750,000 in support and \$440 in opposition to Martínez. Elhawary saw \$390,000 in supportive independent spending. Supportive spending for Martínez was predominantly funded by law enforcement-aligned groups and DaVita with his oppositional spending (and Elhawary's supporting spending) appearing to be funded by labor and consumer attorney groups.

## **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 well 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 run for the open SD 31 state senate seat Richard Roth is vacating due to term limits. Prior to her announcement, first-term Riverside city councilman and restaurateur Ronaldo Fierro announced that he intended to run. 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 who was endorsed by the CA GOP in the 2022 primary and finished a close third, has filed again for 2024.

With over \$1.4 million in independent expenditures so far, Clarissa Cervantes and Fierro are in a heated contest to decide which Democrat will cruise to victory in November over the Republican, Castillo. Fierro has clearly captured the "moderate" lane in this race, with independent spending from pro-business groups in support of his candidacy and opposed to Cervantes's exceeding \$1.3 million of the dollars spent to date.

## **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 March and subsequently 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 is termed out in 2024. This is a crowded field of six candidates, three Republicans and three Democrats. Leading the field in terms of cash on hand, and perhaps infamy, is former San Diego City Councilmember and right-wing radio host Carl De Maio with just under \$1 million in the bank. Former district director for Sen. Brian Jones, Andrew Hayes, trails De Maio in cash on hand, reporting over \$400,000, but has also received the endorsement of incumbent Waldron as well as the California Republican Party. A third Republican, Jack Fernandes, co-founder of a San Diego-based biotech startup, reported around \$90,000.

On the Democratic side, Kevin Juza, a businessman and unsuccessful candidate for Poway City Council (and California Democratic Party-endorsed candidate), will likely see the lion's share of the Democratic votes but reported less than \$10,000 in cash on hand.

## **AD 76 (Maienschein)**

**REGISTRATION: D+7.53%**

**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 up 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 SD 40 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 and Pacific Islander American Affairs, have filed to succeed him. Unsuccessful 2022 Republican candidate Kristie Bruce-Lane has also filed, who prompted the CA GOP to write off the seat after she advanced out of the top two primary over the more moderate Republican.

Patel, the more progressive Democrat, received the CDP endorsement and has seen supportive independent spending from labor committees. Rocha, a more moderate candidate who performed better than expected in the overlapping (and more Republican-leaning) Senate district against a Republican incumbent, will hope to benefit from name identification and capture a larger share of moderate Republican or "No Party Preference" voters, who might not opt for election denier Bruce-Lane on the GOP side, to advance to November.

## **AD 79 (Weber)**

**REGISTRATION: D+25.33%**

**DISTRICT:** San Diego County seat including 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 running for the open SD 39 state Senate seat Toni Atkins is vacating due to term limits.

Hours after Weber's announcement, La Mesa Vice Mayor Colin Parent announced his campaign for the now-open Assembly seat, rolling out endorsements from several San Diego-area Democratic assemblymembers. San Diego State University professor and former Shirley Weber district director LaShae Sharp-Collins announced a campaign soon after. Weber has endorsed Sharp-Collins. Latest filings show Parent leading Sharp-Collins in cash on hand.

Parent, a strong pro-housing advocate, has also seen \$350,000 in independent expenditures from pro-housing organizations and labor trades engaged in construction.

## Senate Snapshots

In the Senate, while some seats are not technically open, SD 16 (Hurtado), SD 22 (Susan Rubio) and SD 30 (Archuleta) all see their incumbents (who are not up for election for another two years) seeking congressional seats, meaning that if elected in November, special elections will be called to fill the vacancies in the statehouse. SD 36 will also have a vacancy if incumbent Republican Janet Nguyen is successful in her bid for the Orange County Board of Supervisors.

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

**REGISTRATION: R+13.54%**

**DISTRICT:** Whole counties of Butte, Colusa, Glenn, Lassen, Modoc, Plumas, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Sutter, Tehama and 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 as well as the town of Paradise and portions of the City of Auburn.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Republican district in northern California that spans across 14 counties. This will be an open seat in 2024 due to incumbent Republican Brian Dahle being termed out. AD 1 Assemblymember Megan Dahle, wife of Sen. Dahle, announced in February she would run for his seat. Republican and perennial candidate David Fennell appears to be token opposition for Megan Dahle, having reported almost no funds raised. The expectation is for Megan Dahle to cruise to victory in November.

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

**REGISTRATION: D+27.15%**

**DISTRICT:** Includes the whole counties of Napa, Solano, Yolo and portions of Contra Costa, Sacramento and Sonoma counties. It includes 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 SD 3 Democrat Bill Dodd is termed out of his state senate seat in 2024. The field in the race to succeed him is comprised of three Democrats and two Republicans. On the Democratic side, the race includes former longtime West Sacramento Mayor Christopher Cabaldon, Vallejo Vice Mayor Rozanna Verder-Aliga (who has been endorsed by Dodd) and Rohnert Park City Councilmember Jackie Elward. The Republican field is comprised of Thom Bogue, a Dixon city councilmember and automotive repair shop owner, and Jimih Jones, a local auto repair professional and unsuccessful congressional candidate in 2022.



Verder-Aliga leads the field in cash on hand, reporting just under \$250,000. Cabaldon reported roughly \$180,000 while Elward reported \$134,000 in mid-January. Neither Republican candidate has reported any notable fundraising. The independent expenditures in this race as of mid-February has already exceeded \$2.2 million with over \$1 million supporting Cabaldon, predominantly funded by the Yocha Dehe tribe as well as the CA Charter School Association. Supportive spending from progressive and labor-backed committees have gone to support Elward and oppose Verder-Aliga. Elward would seem to have captured the progressive lane in this race and received the California Labor Federation endorsement.

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

**REGISTRATION: D+17.18%**

**DISTRICT:** 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. Initially, three Democrats—Edith Villapudua, the wife of AD 13 Assemblyman Carlos Villapudua; Miguel Villapudua, a San Joaquin County supervisor and cousin of Carlos Villapudua; and former Tracy City Councilmember Rhodesia Ransom, who was endorsed by Eggman and the CA Democratic Party—filed to run here.

The field was completely upended in the final 48 hours of filing as detailed in the AD13 summary. Carlos Villapudua jumped over to this race while Edith dropped out to run for his now-open Assembly seat. He will compete with fellow Democrat and former U.S. Congressman Jerry McNerney and Republican Jim Shoemaker, a CA GOP-endorsed pool cleaning company owner, vocal Trump supporter and previously unsuccessful congressional candidate. The battle in this race is between Carlos Villapudua and McNerney for who will advance to November to easily defeat Shoemaker, whose public and strong support of embattled former President Donald Trump and lack of money raised (Shoemaker reported less than \$5,000 in cash on hand) mean he will likely be token opposition for the top performing Democrat.

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

**REGISTRATION: D+62.87%**

**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 will be on the ballot. The Democratic field is comprised of Berkeley Mayor Jesse Arreguín, California Labor Federation President Kathryn Lybarger, Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District director Jovanka Beckles, Oakland City Councilmember Dan Kalb, and 2016 state Senate candidate and former Assemblyman Sandre Swanson. In December, the AFSCME labor union formed an independent expenditure committee to support Lybarger and logged its first \$100,000 from the CA Labor Federation. As of mid-February, a whopping \$4.3 million has been spent in

independent expenditures. Business interests are backing Arreguín while labor is opposing Arreguín and backing Lybarger. Arreguín has seen roughly \$947,000 in supportive spending from committees funded by Uber, the California Chamber of Commerce, housing groups and developers, and the California Dental Association with about \$1 million in spending opposed to Lybarger. Not to be outdone, labor-backed committees have dropped about \$2 million in support of Lybarger.

## **SD 9 (Glazer)**

**REGISTRATION: D+34.60%**

**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, and Walnut Creek as well as the towns of Danville and Moraga.

**OVERVIEW:** This is a safe Democratic district straddling 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 four-year term in 2024. Progressive Democrat Marisol Rubio, who unsuccessfully challenged Glazer from the left in 2020, will compete with AD 15 Assemblyman Tim Grayson in a moderate-versus-progressive dynamic familiar to this district. Grayson holds a more than six-to-one advantage in cash on hand, reporting over \$600,000 in January as compared to Rubio's less-than \$20,000. Grayson also counts a host of endorsements from his legislative colleagues as well as the California Labor Federation and the State Building and Construction Trades. Rubio's backers include U.S. Rep. Rho Khanna, SEIU and the California Teachers Association. Independent expenditures decisively favor Grayson with over \$660,000 in supportive spending backing Grayson's candidacy funded by the California Chamber of Commerce, California Dental Association and other business interests.

## **SD 23 (Wilk)**

**REGISTRATION: D+10.13%**

**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 is termed out in 2024. This is a competitive Los Angeles/San Bernardino County district. The district remains roughly as competitive as its prior iteration prior to redistricting with the Democratic registration advantage remaining around 10% but Biden's 6.2% margin ticking up to 7.6% under the new boundaries. The district swung towards Republicans in 2022 with Brian Dahle's candidacy for governor winning by 7.1% over Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Three Democrats—unsuccessful 2020 candidate Kipp Mueller, perennial candidate Ollie McCaulley and Victorville Councilmember Blanca Gomez—as well as two Republicans, former Assemblymember Suzette Valladares and substitute teacher James DJ Hamburger, are competing for this seat.

Mueller is leading the field in cash on hand followed closely by Valladares. With advantages in cash on hand and the endorsement of the California Democratic Party, Mueller will look to consolidate the Democratic vote over two token fellow Democrats while Valladares will do the same on the GOP side. Independent expenditures (\$415,000 to date funded by business-aligned committees) are clearly aiming to push Valladares (who represented a sizeable portion of the district already in the Assembly) into the top two against Mueller.

## **SD 25 (Portantino)**

**REGISTRATION: D+23.84%**

**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 as well as 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 SD 25 Democrat Anthony Portantino is termed out and is running for the federal Congressional District 30 seat being vacated by Adam Schiff.

Four Democrats and one Republican are competing for this seat. Alhambra City Councilmember Sasha Renee Perez has been endorsed by the California Democratic Party and a "who's who" roster of Democratic legislative leadership and rank and file as well as most labor groups and is the frontrunner in this race. However, Yvonne Yiu, a Monterey Park city councilmember who put close to \$6 million of her own money into a 2022 run for state controller, also counts notable endorsements from State Treasurer Fiona Ma as well as Assemblymembers Phil Ting, Al Muratsuchi and Mike Fong and law enforcement groups. Yiu has also reported over \$1.7 million in cash on hand (a combination of self-funding and fundraising). The other two Democrats in the race appear to not be competitive in this race but will split some of the Democratic vote by virtue of being on the ballot, meaning that lone Republican Elizabeth Wong Ahlers, a member of the Crescenta Valley town council, has a solid shot at advancing to November. Labor groups have spent over \$400,000 in independent support of Perez and another \$100,000 opposing Yiu's candidacy.

## **SD 29 (NEW SEAT)**

**REGISTRATION: D+22.58%**

**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, safely Democratic, majority-Latino district in San Bernardino County. AD 50 Assemblymember Eloise Gomez Reyes launched a run for the new seat in December 2022 and immediately became the frontrunner. One other Democrat, Jason O'Brien (an LAPD detective, former school board member and frequent candidate), will also be competing for this seat as will two Republicans, Upland City Councilman Carlos A. Garcia and 2020 write-in candidate Kathleen

Hazelton. Reyes dominates the field in cash on hand and will likely be the top vote-getter in March to go on to easily win election to the Senate 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 safely Democratic, majority-Latino district with 98% of its voters in Riverside County and 2% in San Bernardino County. Incumbent SD 31 Democrat Richard Roth is termed out in 2024 and has announced a run for the Riverside County Board of Supervisors.

Democrat Angelo Farooq, a Riverside USD board member, began raising money for a 2024 bid in January 2021 and had close to \$600,000 on hand by June 2022. In December 2022, AD 58 Democratic Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes announced a run for the seat with the backing of Sen. Roth, Lt. Gov Eleni Kounalakis and a lengthy list of Democratic officials, along with a polling memo showing her leading Farooq by a comfortable margin. Republican Cynthia Del Sagario Navarro, a Berkshire Hathaway realtor and elected member of the Romoland School District board, will also be on the ballot.

Both Farooq and Cervantes have significant amounts of cash on hand with Farooq reporting \$700,000 and Cervantes reporting \$620,000. Independent expenditures are breaking roughly even with spending in favor of Cervantes totaling roughly \$150,000 funded by the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians and the California Professional Firefighters. Farooq has seen about \$55,000 in supportive spending and \$150,000 in spending opposing Cervantes from a committee funded by realtors.

## **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 plurality Latino. Incumbent Steve Bradford is termed out in 2024. Seven Democrats will be on the ballot and one Republican, environmental consultant James Arlandus Spencer, who will likely advance to November with the crowded Democratic field.

While crowded, Former Congresswoman Laura Richardson and former Compton Councilmember Michelle Chambers appear to be the two leading candidates. Both lead the field with roughly \$60,000 each in cash on hand while Chambers touts endorsements from a slew of legislators as well as Attorney General Rob Bonta, Controller Malia Cohen and the California Labor Federation. Of the \$1.3 million in independent expenditure dollars, \$470,000 has been supportive of Chambers,

funded predominantly by labor-backed committees. Richardson has seen supportive spending from DaVita and the Keep California Golden committee, funded predominantly by Phillip Morris Inc.

## **SD 37 (Min)**

**REGISTRATION: D+4.12%**

**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 (SD 29, SD 37, SD 34 and SD 36) into a map with three even and one odd-numbered district (SD 34, SD 36, SD37 and SD 38). As such, this drew two incumbents up in 2024 (Sens. Newman and Min) into the same seat. A member-versus-member race was averted with Katie Porter's decision to run for U.S. Senate and Min's entry into the now-open Congressional District 47 race.

The field is extremely crowded with seven Democrats and four Republicans. In the final week or so before the filing deadline, five additional Democratic candidates joined the race, which up until that point had consisted of Sen. Newman and Stonewall Democrats president Alex Mohajer, who at the time of his candidacy announcement was registered to vote as a "No Party Preference" voter. The five additional Democrats, mostly medical professionals, formed committees in sequential order all employing the same campaign treasurer and have reported less than \$20,000 raised in the cycle combined. Sen. Newman leads the field in cash on hand by a five-to-one margin and has seen roughly \$800,000 in supportive spending from a committee funded by Uber. Four of the five late-entry Democratic candidates have seen about \$150,000 in supportive spending split evenly between them by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME).

On the Republican side, former Assemblyman Steve Choi (who lost a 2022 member-versus-member race against Democrat Cottie Petrie Norris in AD7 3 after redistricting made the Irvine-area seat safely Democratic), Villa Park City Councilmember Crystal Miles, former Irvine City Councilmember Anthony Kuo and businessman Guy Selleck will all be on the ballot. Choi, Kuo and Selleck each reported roughly the same amounts of cash on hand, but Choi has seen \$124,000 in supportive spending from the same Uber-funded committee supporting Newman.

The old SD 37 had a 1.1% Democratic registration advantage and voted for Biden by 10.7% in 2020, while the new one has a 4.1% Democratic registration advantage and voted for Biden by 13.1%. Gov. Gavin Newsom carried the district by 1.9% in 2018 and by 1.4% in 2022, although Republican controller candidate Lanhee Chen won it by 6.4% and treasurer candidate Jack Guerrero won it by 0.8%, suggesting the district remains competitive under certain circumstances. The crowded field of both Democrats and Republicans make this race unpredictable.

## **SD 39 (Atkins)**

**REGISTRATION: D+23%**

### **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 San Diego County district. Incumbent Toni Atkins is termed out in 2024. Democrat Nathan Fletcher—who served in the Assembly as a Republican, became an independent and was elected to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors after running as a Democrat—filed a few weeks after the November 2022 election and raised over \$1 million. However, he announced in March that he was dropping out. With the field now open again, AD 79 Assemblymember Akilah Weber jumped into the race and is presumed to be the next senator in this district with only token Republican opposition opposing her on the ballot.