



# The Voter

## THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MENDOCINO COUNTY

November, 2018

Cindy Plank and Nancy Kleiber, Presidents

Jary Stavely and Lee Tepper, Editors

*This month's meeting ...*

## What is the League's "Transformation Roadmap"?

*by Cindy Plank*

The LWV of Mendocino County encourages everyone to come for "Lunch with the League" at 11:30 am on Tuesday, November 13 at the Caspar Community Center.

*Lunch with the League*  
*Special time – special format!*



Melissa Breach, the Executive Director of the California League, will explain the League's "Transformation" and how the Transformation Roadmap, recently adopted at the national level, can affect our local and state League units. The League has determined to renew itself with greater focus, effectiveness, and inclusion, to be ready for its second century, starting in 2020. We undertake this effort at a critical time, given an energized public, the League's sound reputation, and the compelling need for its work. Our plan for achieving this transformation, called the "Transformation Roadmap", offers an important resource for greater mission impact.

You are invited to bring your own bag lunch, or to have a build-it-yourself salad from ingredients

provided by David's Deli. Please RSVP to the League phone (937-4952) by November 6 if you want to partake of the salad. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided.

The presentation, discussion, and dining are expected to last until 1:30. Since this topic could also be called, "Why You Can Have an Impact Through LWV," or even, "Why You Should Join LWV," we encourage all members to invite five friends to come along to participate at a new time, and in a new way.



Melissa Breach has been the California League's Executive Director for the past seven years. She has over 15 years of service in nonprofit leadership, and brings significant experience as a nonprofit strategist. She is a skilled consultant and trainer on the issues of governance, organizational sustainability, and change facilitation. She was Director of Programs at the Center for Volunteer and Nonprofit Leadership and is a former advisory committee member of the California Arts Commission's Public School Partnership Initiative, as well as a former Board Member of California Partners in Education, Theatre for Young People, and Resourceful Women.

### LWV Mission Statement

The League of Women Voters, a non-partisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, strives to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

*President's message*

## Stand With Youth

by *Cindy Plank*

*Juliana v. United States*, the constitutional climate lawsuit filed against the federal government by 21 children and youths, sometimes referred to as “the Trial of the Century” or “Youth v. Gov,” was first filed in August of 2015. The lawsuit is based on the “Public Trust Doctrine,” asserting that the government has neglected its duty to protect public trust resources and that its actions promoting climate change violate the youths’ constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property. League of Women Voters US and

LWV Oregon submitted amicus briefs in support of the youth in September 2016 and again in September 2017. The California League is one of the many official partners pledging support.. Fast forward to July 30, 2018: the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously denied the Trump administration’s application for a stay. The Court also denied the government’s “premature” request to review the case before the district court hears all of the facts that support the youth’s claims at trial.

So the youth were scheduled to confront the federal government at trial in open court (U.S. District Court, Eugene, Oregon) on October 29. But on October 19 the “new” Supreme Court temporarily stayed the beginning of the trial at the behest of the defendants. Although the petition to the court was on the same grounds as the one denied in July, the court was different—Brett Kavanaugh had replaced Anthony Kennedy. It is not known if or when the trial will proceed.

**UPDATE: On Nov. 2nd, the Supreme Court lifted its temporary stay, allowing the trial to proceed. The new starting date hasn't been set.**

Rallies have been held at the federal courthouses all over the country in support of these young climate warriors, who say, “Our freedom depends on a climate system that will sustain human life. Let's show the government that it has a duty to prepare and implement a Climate Recovery Plan to protect our basic and most fundamental rights!”

You may have read the article, *Losing Earth: The Decade We Almost Stopped Climate Change* (New York Times Magazine, August 1, 2018); if so, the name James Hansen will be familiar, a top climate scientist prominent in the article. His granddaughter, *Sophie Kivlehan* (age 19), one of the 21 youth represented in this lawsuit, has said: “I know climate change is going to have the biggest impact on my generation and generations to come. Our government



isn't taking action and we have a very small window to turn this around. I feel a sense of responsibility to take action.”

*From Jacob Lebel (age 21):* “...my co-plaintiffs, who range in age from 10 to 21, and I have been asking for one thing: to have our voices and our evidence heard at trial. We seek to prove that the U.S. government’s reckless promotion of fossil fuels is destroying our future and violating our Constitutional rights to life, liberty, and property—rights which depend on a stable climate. ... The U.S. government has been leasing federal lands for the extraction of coal, oil, and gas, and heavily subsidizing the fossil fuel industry since long before I was born. It has done so while disregarding the warnings of our nation’s top scientists and despite having over five decades of rigorous expert testimony on how cumulative greenhouse gas emissions would irrevocably harm future U.S. citizens—my generation ... Our suit’s goal is to secure a court-ordered national Climate Recovery Plan, backed by some of the world’s leading scientists, which will reduce U.S. emissions and draw down carbon ... If this administration wants to continue the unjust status quo of U.S. fossil fuel policy, they’ll have to silence our voices first.”

*From Avery McRae (age 13):* When asked why people should care about the lawsuit, she became breathless as she described the stakes. She said, “The case will decide how future generations will survive on earth: if they’re going to have to wear air masks every time they go outside, or if they’re going to live in pristine environments where they can swim in cold water in the summer and fish and hike in old-growth forests and not worry about climate change.”

We need to support these courageous young people, to make it known: it’s not just these 21 youth, it’s the *American People* demanding a Climate Recovery Plan. *(For more on the case, see the box, next page)*

**Resources for *Juliana v United States*:**

Meet the rest of the youth here:

<https://www.youthvgov.org/meet-the-youth/> .

Magazine article: <https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2018/10/government-silencing-kids-hurt-climate-change/573790/>

**Global Warming and Us**

by George Reinhardt

*In anticipation of our upcoming meetings in January and April concerning carbon sequestration and the future of the Fort Bragg mill site, we share League member George Reinhardt's recent letter to the editor of the Advocate-News:*

Thank you for the excellent editorial last Thursday about shared sacrifice and our environment. As you wrote, we face issues where sacrifice will be shared whether we like it or not. On October 7th the IPCC – the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change – issued a chilling report. We have only a few years to begin a genuine and substantial turn away from fossil fuels. We don't have decades. We must begin now. They also said that more forests, non fossil fuel based agriculture, and environmental restoration that takes CO2 out of the atmosphere will be essential to stabilize global temperatures. This is where our community comes in. We are ideally suited to nurture carbon capturing efforts. They are already happening here in Mendocino. Jobs are being created in Sustainable Forestry, Organic Agriculture and Environmental Restoration. We are moving from the Extraction Economy to the Restoration Economy. This is an essential piece of the greatest challenge facing our species today, climate chaos.

The IPCC is the world's largest group of scientists ever assembled. The debate regarding the overwhelming human impact on the Earth's climate is settled. Business as usual is unacceptable. The Environment is our economy. A livable, sustainable environment is in peril. We are fortunate to live in a place where we can do something about it.

**Don't let it stop you!** If you lost your ballot, forgot to mail it, or never got it, go to a polling place and vote a provisional ballot.

**Towards Creating More Housing on the Coast**

by Jary Stavelly

On October 25 the North Coast Housing Action Team (a committee established under the auspices of the countywide organization, Healthy Mendocino), along with the City of Fort Bragg and the Mendocino County Planning Department, held a workshop at Town Hall on the subject of creating second housing units on existing property. Over 80 people attended the event and listened to presentations by two separate panels. The opening panel dealt with the various codes and inducements which now govern the development of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) within the city of Fort Bragg and also in unincorporated areas of the county. The second panel explained some of the details which homeowners can expect to find in financing and renting additional dwelling units on their property.

To open the first panel, Fort Bragg Planning Director Marie Jones (also a voluntary member of the Housing Action Team) presented a summary of what the city is doing to encourage the establishment of ADUs, an effort which she said has made Fort Bragg the most accommodating place in the state to create second unit housing. This effort includes:

- offering 3 different free, pre-approved plans, saving large architectural and engineering fees;
- requiring no additional parking for the creation of the ADU;
- requiring no special permits beyond a basic building permit;
- dropping the hookup fee for connecting to city water and sewer systems, as long as a separate meter is not established, a savings of about \$5,000.

She also summarized the city's other requirements, such as maximum square footage, size and placement restrictions *vis a vis* the main house, window placements, and maximum amounts of impervious surfaces allowed. Ms. Jones outlined the process for getting the unit fully approved for construction, and emphasized that City staff is willing and eager to work with homeowners to make the process as smooth as possible.

*(See Housing Meeting, next page)*

*(Housing Meeting, from p. 3)*

Fourth District Supervisor Dan Gjerde followed with a brief discussion of what the requirements for county residents are, and suggested that they are rather murky for those who live within the Coastal Zone. He said that former Fort Bragg City Manager Linda Ruffing is working with the county to spell out building regulations that conform with county rules and Coastal Commission guidelines. County Chief Building Inspector Mike Oliphant spoke next, giving more detail on current county requirements and costs for building second units, which can also include "junior accessory dwelling units" attached to main units. He suggested that current building permit costs range from \$3200 for a 1200 sq. ft. ADU, to \$1400 for a 640 sq. ft. garden cottage. Cynthia Sharon of Dancing Dog Design Build concluded the first panel by summarizing some of the issues and problems that come up when property owners work with builders, whether they are contractors or not.

Download the City's flyer about its 2nd unit program:  
<http://ca-fortbragg2.civicplus.com/651/Free-Second-Unit-Designs-Building-Plans>.

Watch the entire workshop:  
<https://youtube/DQJCIO7biC4>

The second panel, on the "economics" of developing 2nd units, included presentations by Jennifer Tyler, Loan Officer at the Fort Bragg Savings Bank of Mendocino County; Phillip Jago, Mortgage Broker at ReMax in Fort Bragg; Larry Flores, a local CPA; Steve O'Mara from the West Company; and Meghan Durbin, President of the Coastal Mendocino Association of Realtors. Ms. Tyler explained the rules which the Savings Bank has in place for property loans, while Mr. Jago discussed how he works to find alternative financing for those who may not fit into straight bank mortgages. Mr. Flores provided examples of how a homeowner who rents might file for the taxes which he will need to pay, including the rules in place for figuring depreciation as part of his costs. For homeowners who are becoming landlords for the first time, Mr. O'Mara outlined the kind of counseling he provides to new businesses; this involves developing clear goals, objectives, and plans for the financial future. Ms. Durbin summarized the effects on property values

from establishing 2nd units by comparing average sales prices of single and non-single homes over the past several years.

## Hospital Board Forum

*by Jary Stavelly*

On October 1 the seven candidates for four seats on the Mendocino Coast District Hospital board gathered at the Fort Bragg Senior Center to participate in a forum put on by the local League of Women Voters. More than 70 people attended the standing-room-only event to hear the candidates introduce themselves and answer written questions from the audience. Cindy Plank gave introductory remarks, Pat Dunbar presented the questions to the candidates, Sharon Gilligan kept track of time, and several other League members gathered up the questions from the floor and brought them up to Pat.

Jessica Grinberg, Amy McColley, Kevin Miller, John Redding, and Jade Tippett are the candidates for three long (four-year) terms on the MCDH board, while Karen Arnold and Rex Gressett are contesting the one short (two-year) term on the ballot. The candidates gave their opening and closing remarks, as well as their one-minute responses to the various questions, in a civil and reasoned manner. All seemed to agree at the conclusion that they would be comfortable with each other, whoever turned out to be elected. In the main, they agreed that the hospital was vital to the community, that Measure C turned out to be a good thing, that it was important for the new oversight committee to function well, and that better communication with the community was essential.

### Resources on Hospital Board Candidates

Forum video:

<https://mendocinotv.com/category/election-2018/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/mendocinocoastmedia/>.

(Scroll down through dates to October 1 at 6 PM.

Newspaper:

<https://www.advocate-news.com/2018/10/20/hospital-board-candidates-background-and-priorities/>.

## Pros and Cons All Around

by Jary Stavelly

A series of reports on the October 9 League meetings, which presented the pros and cons of the 11 propositions on the state ballot and the local measure in Fort Bragg, has been posted on our Facebook page. It can be accessed by going to <https://www.facebook.com/LWVMendo1/>, then scrolling through the messages until you reach posts from October 18. There the interested reader can also find photographs of the morning session presenters taken by *Voter* photographer Becky Bowen.

Later in the month, Pat Dunbar and Nancy Kleiber reprised the pros and cons for Mendocino TV, also now known as Mendo Coast Media. A video of their presentation can be found at the same Facebook site, in a post dated October 25.

The League also brought voting information to our coastal high schools in October. Jane Person and Cindy Plank visited the civics class at Mendocino High School with new voter packets for students turning 18 (see the April '18 *Voter*, pp. 3 and 12). The students there had already conducted their own pros and cons forum, and they impressed their visitors with the apt questions they raised about the upcoming election. This past Tuesday, Cindy and Nancy Kleiber also brought League new voter packets to Fort Bragg High School, at the invitation of the Liberal Club there.

## Mendocino College Trustee Election

Voters who live south of the Noyo River will find a choice on their ballot involving one of the Mendocino College Trustee Districts. After the 2017 transition of the Mendocino Coast community college campus from the College of the Redwoods to Mendocino College, the coastal areas were annexed into the the adjoining existing trustee districts, centered on Willits and Boonville/Hopland. The term for the northern district is ongoing, but that of the southern district is coming to an end. The districts will be re-aligned after the 2020 census, so the new seat will be for a "short term." The incumbent candidate is Jason Pinoli, who lives in Boonville and works as the local director of the

Skunk Train. He is opposed by William "Bill" Daniel, who lives in Ukiah and is listed as "Businessman" on the ballot. Neither candidate has provided information to Voter's Edge.

## Useful Websites for Voters

*During the October 9 "Pros & Cons" presentation Jane Person mentioned her favorite websites to use for understanding ballot measures. The Voter would like to make them available to its readers:*

<https://cavotes.org/> League of Women Voters

[www.ballotpedia.org](http://www.ballotpedia.org) independent

[www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov](http://www.voterguide.sos.ca.gov) Secretary of State: nonpartisan analysis, arguments for and against, and even the full text of the proposed law.

[www.speakoutca.org](http://www.speakoutca.org) independent

<https://oag.ca.gov/> California Attorney General

[www.votersedge.org](http://www.votersedge.org) League of Women Voters guide—who's running, candidate statements, ballot measures, etc. (statewide)

[www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org). Redirects to votersedge

Here are some additional websites to check facts:

[www.factcheck.org](http://www.factcheck.org) Launched at the University of Pennsylvania, 2003

[www.flackcheck.org](http://www.flackcheck.org) Points out errors in political speeches and debates

[www.politifact.com](http://www.politifact.com) Operated by the Tampa Bay Times

[www.urbanlegends.about.com](http://www.urbanlegends.about.com) New York Times affiliate company

[www.quackwatch.org](http://www.quackwatch.org) Reviews questionable medical claims

[www.snopes.com](http://www.snopes.com) Debunks urban legends and other myths

[www.publicagenda.org](http://www.publicagenda.org) Provides non-partisan background on key public issues

## Report on Access to Voting

*Readers who remember the Access to Voting meeting of last January may wish to read the following message from the Brennan Center dated October 9:*

Earlier this summer, when the Brennan Center released a report (<https://www.brennancenter.org/publication/purges-growing-threat-right-vote>) examining voter purge data through 2016, we found

that four million more people were purged from the rolls between the federal elections of 2014 and 2016 than between 2006 and 2008. Much of that increase came from states that were previously required under the Voting Rights Act (VRA) to get election changes cleared in advance, before that part of the law was eviscerated by the Supreme Court in 2013.

Although comparable data for the two years ending in 2018 won't be available until early next year, we were able to use different data sources to figure out how many voters have been purged over the past two years in three states we had studied — Florida, Georgia, and North Carolina. A preliminary analysis supports our initial alarm over the purge processes in these three states, showing that they continued to have high purge rates.

Purges in and of themselves aren't bad. They're commonly used to clean up voter lists when someone has moved, passed away, and more. But too often, names identified for removal are determined by faulty criteria that wrongly suggest a voter be deleted from the rolls. When flawed, the process threatens to silence eligible voters on Election Day — especially in states where purge rates are high.

### **Florida**

From November 2008 to November 2010, the median purge rate in the Sunshine State was 0.2 percent. That number jumped to 3.6 percent from 2012 to 2014. And new data show it's jumped again: Between December 2016 and September 2018, Florida has purged more than 7 percent of its voters.

Not only can we tell that purges have increased — we also know where the biggest purges are happening. Hardee, Hendry, Palm Beach, and Okaloosa counties have each purged more than 10 percent of their voters in the last two years.

Dade and Broward counties also have a number of zip codes that purged at higher rates. Some of those zip codes, however, include military bases or college campuses, which one would expect to have higher purge rates because of the transient nature of the population and the established processes for removing voters who have moved.

### **Georgia**

Between 2010 and 2014 — a period of time that covers before and after the Supreme Court's decision

on the Voting Rights Act — Georgia's median purge rate increased from 6.7 percent to 10.7 percent. Our analysis of the data shows that the state continues to have a high purge rate: over the past two years, the state has purged 10.6 percent of voters. Nonwhite voters were slightly overrepresented among those purged when compared to the total population breakdown.

Ninety-seven of the state's 159 counties purged more than 10 percent of their voters in the last two years. Four counties (Chattahoochee, Liberty, Dade, and Camden) are particular outliers, each purging at least 15 percent of their voters. At a more granular level, 430 of the 781 zip codes have purged more than 10 percent of their voters since 2016. This rebuts any speculation that the VRA's preclearance provision may have blocked reasonable list maintenance practices. "Catching up" might have seemed like an excusable reason for increased rates in the first purge cycle without pre-clearance (2014-2016), but Georgia's purge rates have not returned to pre-2013 levels in the five years since the decision was handed down.

### **North Carolina**

North Carolina's purge rates fall in between Florida and Georgia. Forty of its one hundred counties were covered under Section V of the Voting Rights Act at the time of the *Shelby County v. Holder* decision in 2013. The average purge rate in the state increased modestly between 2010 to 2014, from 8.0 to 8.8 percent. Like in Georgia and Florida, however, this didn't represent a temporary increase, but rather has been sustained over the past few years. Between September of 2016 and May of 2018 (the latest date data is available), the state purged 11.7 percent of its voter rolls. Just 19 of its counties purged fewer than 10 percent of their voters, and no county purged fewer than 8 percent. These purges have been especially troubling for voters of color — in 90 out of 100 counties, voters of color were over-represented among the purged group.

To voters living in these three states — and to voters around the country: Check your registration status to make sure that you're still on the rolls. If you are not registered, and think you should be, call your local election official and find out why. There is still time to register in many states if you have a problem.

## LWVMC Schedule of Programs

All meetings take place on Tuesdays at the Caspar Community Center, except the Friday evening Meet & Greet in March.

Members are also welcome to attend Board meetings, held at the Fort Bragg Library at 9:30, generally on the final Tuesday of the month. Check our website (<http://mendo.ca.lwv.org/>) for any changes.

November 13, **11:30 AM only**: "League Transformation Roadmap"

presented by LWVC ED Melissa Breach (lunch)

January 8, **6 PM only**: "Carbon Sequestration/Local Farming"

presented by Elizabeth Guimarin & local farmers  
(contact: Carol Czadek)

February 12, **10 AM only**: "State/Local Positions & Program Planning"

presented by LWVMC members (contact: Nancy Kleiber)

March 15, **5 PM**: "Meet & Greet Your Local Officials"

contact: Jary Stavely

April 9, **10 AM & 6 PM**: "The Future Mill Site Wetlands"

presented by the League's Mill Site Committee  
(contact: George Reinhardt)

May 14, **10 AM only**: Annual Meeting/Luncheon/Election

(contact: Cindy Plank) (lunch)



*Members Jim & Cindy Plank created a contribution for the Botanical Gardens community non-profit scarecrow gathering. We endorse the messages. Photo contributed by Cindy.*

## Local Allies Taking Action

by Jary Stavely

*The Mendocino Coast Jewish Community Justice Group has been working to help local residents take action on two issues which have deadlines for public comment. Here is their statement:*

[We want] to help each other write and submit public comments opposing regulations that will make detention conditions harsher again for immigrant children and families detained at the border. Right now there is the "Flores Agreement" in place, which limits how harsh the conditions can be. The Trump Administration wants to vacate that agreement, so that they can do whatever they want with people who cross the border. The timing is tight — last day for submitting public comments is Election Day — November 6. So we're doing a push to get public comments in before then. Public comments seem to make a difference — slowing the process and

sometimes making regulators at least change the worst aspects of what they're pushing.

Submit your comment about that: [https://indivisible.org/2018/10/15/speak-up-for-immigrant-children/?mc\\_cid=ed76b87ac6&mc\\_eid=0806f641d8](https://indivisible.org/2018/10/15/speak-up-for-immigrant-children/?mc_cid=ed76b87ac6&mc_eid=0806f641d8)

At their meeting on November 8 the Justice Group plans to work on the issue of "Public Charge." The Trump Administration has published a plan to expand the definition of what uses of public money could disqualify legal residents from receiving citizenship. This change is likely to deter legal immigrants from seeking medical care, food stamps, and citizenship itself. The deadline for unique comments on this proposed change is December 15. Further information can be found at:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1JMZXupLMiyApDY6xiN7y3pZ7ZddXPSMD/view>.

## ***From the National League:***

### **Voting: A Better Way to Be Disruptive**

John Oliver and his talented writers at Last Week Tonight found a funny way to help voters engage on the issues and research their candidates last weekend (<http://time.com/5437238/john-oliver-last-week-tonight-attorneys-general/>), when the talk show host “ended” his show two minutes early and urged viewers to learn what’s on their ballot on **VOTE411.org**. He even brought out a cacophony of music—including a theremin—in order to really propel viewers to look away from the show. Our voter information site, VOTE411.org, saw through-the-roof numbers of voters coming to learn what’s on their ballot, their polling places, and what they need at the polls on Tuesday. (<https://www.thewrap.com/john-oliver-vote411-org-voter-information-site-traffic-spike/>) A lot of noise, all for a very good cause.

### **Florida’s New Governor Will Appoint New Justices**

In a huge win for Floridians this month, the Florida Supreme Court ruled that Governor Scott is not permitted to appoint three Florida Supreme Court justices on his last day in office. The next governor will do so instead—making an already contentious race even more anticipated. Florida voters will have a very important say in this matter on Tuesday, especially because both candidates have staked out very different positions on the kinds of people they are looking to appoint to the court.

## **Membership news**

Five new or renewing members have sent their dues in this fall, and one long-time long-distance member is leaving our fold. Barbara Auerbach, Tanya Smart, Margaret Fox, Garth Saalfield, and Henry Thomas have all signed up. Please welcome and congratulate them when next you see them.

Janis Ossa of Angels Camp sent the following letter to our group:

I am delighted to report that this past spring and summer a group of like-minded women who mostly live in the Sonora area formed a local League. I will be attending my first meeting there on October 17th where I will pay my annual dues. Sonora is only 35 minutes away, so I will be able to be much more active in League affairs than I was, Mendocino being at least 5 1/2 hours away!

Thank you for the many times you printed out and mailed my newsletter. I was proud to be a member because of the good work you do. I currently serve on the Calaveras County Solid Waste Commission, and the article awhile ago about your local waste stream was galvanizing to me.

So this note is not a resignation, just a notice that I am transferring my membership.

### **Four Votes for Fair Maps**

On Tuesday, voters will have the chance to make redistricting in four states fair and independent—putting the power to draw lines in the hands of the people, not politicians. In Colorado (where the Governor even made an appearance at a recent rally [<https://www.denverpost.com/2018/10/15/arnold-schwarzenegger-anti-gerrymandering-rally/>]), Michigan, Missouri, and Utah voters are considering ballot initiatives that would change the way their state legislative and congressional district lines are drawn. Learn more about these initiatives at [https://www.lwv.org/blog/leagues-support-redistricting-initiatives-november-6th-ballots?utm\\_source=MonthlyHighlights&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=October18](https://www.lwv.org/blog/leagues-support-redistricting-initiatives-november-6th-ballots?utm_source=MonthlyHighlights&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=October18).

### **Campaign Finance Reform in Los Angeles**

The League of Women Voters of Los Angeles successfully worked with LA City’s Ethics Commission to develop a package of reforms that empower small donors and improve the city’s matching funds program (<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-debate-rule-20181005-story.html>). The reforms will be in place for the 2020 elections. Other reforms like those in Seattle (<http://www.seattle.gov/democracymatching>) and Maine (<https://www.mainelections.org/cleanelections>) have also been successful in empowering small donors and getting big money out of politics.