

It's a Great Day to be a Democrat!

by Carol Robb, Chair, San Bernardino County Democratic Party

Now is the time for Democratic unity



Regional Pre-endorsement Conferences were held on Saturday, March 20. With one exception (where there were three candidates running) all

Democratic candidates achieved at least the 70% minimum votes required to be on the consent agenda at April's State Party Convention in Los Angeles. The exception was in the 36th AD, where Linda Jones received over 60% of the vote. There will be another caucus of State Party Delegates from the 36th AD at the April Convention, to determine whether Linda Jones or Maggie Campbell will be endorsed by the California Democratic Party.



It's time for us all to get into the same boat, and to start rowing in the same direction. Some of the pundits are saying that Democrats can't win in 2010. It is up to us to show them how wrong they are! It may be tough, but it can be done. And with your hard work and enthusiasm, it will be done. **Yes we can!**

Endorsed Democrats whose districts are at least partly in San Bernardino County include:

- AD 32—Dr. Holly Spohn-Gross
- AD 34—Esmeralda Castro
- AD 36—pending decision at the Convention
- AD 59—Darcel Woods
- AD 60—Gregg Fritchle
- AD 61—Norma Torres
- AD 62—Wilmer Amina Carter
- AD 63—Renea Wickman
- AD 65—Carl Wood
- SD 18—Carter Pope
- SD 32—Gloria Negrete McLeod
- CD 25—Jackie Conaway
- CD 26—Russ Warner
- CD 41—Pat Meagher
- CD 42—Michael Williamson
- CD 43—Joe Baca

The County Central Committee will make its endorsements for County nonpartisan offices at its

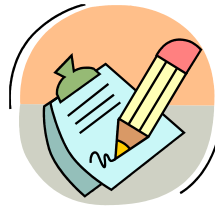
April 22 meeting. All Democrats running for non-partisan offices on the June ballot will soon receive invitations to participate in the endorsement process.

End minority rule! California needs a majority vote budget

Teachers, firefighters and nurses have launched a petition drive, to put a majority vote budget on the ballot in November. Their measure changes the vote requirement to pass a budget, from two-thirds to a simple majority, and penalizes legislators for failing to do their most important job – passing a fair budget on time.

Year after year, Republicans have held the budget hostage, and are able to make extraneous demands, that weaken our environmental protection laws and undermine worker protections, and they even managed to foist a Louisiana-style "Top-Two" primary on the voters of California – all in exchange for passing a budget which they are already required to do by law.

Getting this initiative to quality for the ballot will be an uphill climb for our union partners, unless our party's grassroots activists engage, organize and mobilize now.



Go to the State Party web site—www.cadem.org— and download the complete petition kit. Then go out and start gathering signatures, to help get this measure on the November ballot.

A second initiative, calling for a Constitutional amendment to pass both the budget and revenue bills by a simple majority vote, is also in circulation. Petitions for that initiative may be downloaded at www.camajorityrule.citymax.com

This initiative simply states, "All legislative actions on revenue and budget must be determined by majority vote." — that's it: just one sentence!

The initiative's author, George Lakoff, notes that what exists now is not democracy; rather it is minority rule.

Either initiative will help break the Sacramento stalemate. I plan to sign both, and urge you to do the same.