

Democrats Spent \$91.5 Million on Same-Party Races in 2016

In 2010 California voters approved Proposition 14, a constitutional amendment requiring candidates in all non-presidential elections to run in a nonpartisan blanket primary. Under this system, the single primary is open to all registered voters with the top two winners facing each other in a run-off in the general election.

Since the 2012 election cycle, there have been a total of 79 same-party races in California for State Senate, State Assembly, and U.S. House of Representatives – 59 races between two Democrats and 20 between two Republicans.

In the 2016 election cycle, Democrats raised or spent \$91.5 million on same-party races – a 69 percent increase from 2014 when Democrats spent \$54.3 million. The average budget for a same-party race between Democrats was \$3.97 million in the 2016 cycle, up 32 percent since 2014.¹

Republicans raised or spent \$2.78 million on same party races in 2016, a decline of approximately 80 percent since 2014 when Republicans spent \$13.85 million. Notably, there were no same-party races between two Republicans in either the State Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives in 2016.

In total, Democrats have spent a total of \$195 million on same-party races since Prop. 14 first went into effect in 2012 compared to \$31.3 million spent by Republicans. In other words, Democrats have spent \$6.24 on same-party races for every dollar spent or raised by Republicans.

Table 1. Spending on 2016 Elections in California

Election		Democrats			Republicans		
Year	Legislative Body	Total Spending	# of Races	Average Per Race	Total Spending	# of Races	Average Per Race
2016	CA Assembly	\$49,447,218	11	\$4,495,202	\$2,784,596	4	\$696,149
	CA Senate	23,323,292	5	4,664,658	-	0	n/a
	U.S. House	18,747,845	7	2,678,264	-	0	n/a
	Total	\$91,518,355	23	\$3,979,059	\$2,784,596	4	\$696,149

¹ Totals here and in the appendices include contributions reported by campaign committees and by Independent Expenditure committees from both the primary and general elections.



Methodology

All data are subject to change as the California Secretary of State, California Fair Political Practices Commission, and Federal Election Commission updates their information. Candidate contribution and expenditure data spans the period from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2016.

State Elections:

Data on contributions and independent expenditures for State Assembly and State Senate candidates were obtained from the California Secretary of State [Power Search](#) and cross-checked with campaign finance records on [Cal-Access](#).

Federal Elections:

Data on contributions for U.S. House of Representatives were obtained from the Federal Election Commission [House and Senate Campaign Finance](#) website. Data on independent expenditures were obtained from the Federal Election Commission [House Independent Expenditures](#) website.

Contributions and spending for the U.S. Senate race between Democrats Kamala Harris and Loretta Sanchez were not included in this analysis.

Appendix 1: 2016 Election

California Assembly

In 2016 there were 11 same-party state Assembly races between Democrats. In total, these candidates raised \$49.4 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$4.5 million per race.

Table 2. State Assembly 2016 (Democrats)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
10	Marc Levine	\$891,989	-	-	\$891,989
	Veronica Jacobi	18,608	-	-	18,608
14	Tim Grayson	767,819	\$5,052,268	\$1,450,777	7,270,865
	Mae Torlakson	918,332	1,261,342	1,511,145	3,690,819
24	Marc Berman	925,110	2,917,566	124,060	3,966,736
	Vicki Veenker	743,463	343,226	-	1,086,689
27	Ash Kalra	1,115,235	1,193,155	1,368,154	3,676,545
	Madison Nguyen	1,159,519	3,921,821	1,097,640	6,178,980
30	Anna Caballero	652,941	1,685,625	38,287	2,376,853
	Karina Alejo	468,543	59,339	77,992	605,875
39	Raul Bocanegra	1,135,833	1,635,500	401,636	3,172,970
	Patty Lopez	143,244	18,098	-	161,342
43	Laura Friedman	898,698	2,318,206	355,264	3,572,168
	Ardy Kassakhian	1,109,159	564,658	35,792	1,709,608
46	Adrin Nazarian	785,785	2,131	-	787,916
	Angela Rupert	59,382	-	-	59,382
47	Cheryl Brown	1,410,656	3,122,034	759,476	5,292,167
	Eloise Reyes	768,032	1,419,035	726,383	2,913,450
52	Freddie Rodriguez	701,187	12,511	-	713,698
	Paul Avila	-	-	-	-
53	Sandra Mendoza	24,673	-	-	24,673
	Miguel Santiago	1,275,888	-	-	1,275,888
	TOTAL:	\$15,974,095	\$25,526,517	\$7,946,606	\$49,447,218

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>).



In 2016 there were four same-party state Assembly races between Republicans. In total, these candidates raised \$2.78 million, for an average of \$696,149 per race.

Table 3. State Assembly 2016 (Republicans)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
12	Heath Flora	\$312,464	\$431,506	\$334,430	\$1,078,401
	Ken Vogel	453,037	-	-	453,037
23	Gwen Morris	63,325	-	-	63,325
	Jim Patterson	695,465	-	-	695,465
71	Leo Hamel	4,750	-	-	4,750
	Randy Voepel	282,880	-	-	282,880
76	Rocky Chavez	205,688	-	-	205,688
	Thomas Krouse	1,050	-	-	1,050
	TOTAL:	\$2,018,659	\$431,506	\$334,430	\$2,784,596

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>).

California Senate

In 2016 there were five same-party state Senate races between Democrats. In total, these candidates raised \$23.3 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$4.6 million per race.

Table 4. State Senate 2016 (Democrats)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
3	Bill Dodd	\$1,371,318	\$4,210,691	\$107,168	\$5,689,177
	Mariko Yamada	558,870	149,730	15,000	723,601
9	Nancy Skinner	1,325,464	125,062	-	1,450,526
	Sandr� Swanson	673,582	153,691	-	827,273
11	Jane Kim	1,758,463	488,937	146,627	2,394,027
	Scott Wiener	2,753,782	1,171,909	1,913,405	5,839,096
15	James Beall Jr.	1,859,591	989,064	608,268	3,456,924
	Nora Campos	280,772	365,847	-	646,619
35	Steven Bradford	958,670	520,194	-	1,478,865
	Warren Furutani	672,023	145,161	-	817,184
	TOTAL:	\$12,212,536	\$8,320,287	\$2,790,469	\$23,323,292

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>).

There were no same-party state Senate races between Republicans in 2016.

House of Representatives

In 2016 there were seven same-party Congressional races between Democrats. In total, these candidates raised \$33.9 million including independent expenditures, for an average of \$2.7 million per race.

Table 5. U.S. House of Representatives 2016 (Democrats)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	IE (Support)	IE (Oppose)	Candidate Total
17	Mike Honda	\$2,987,535	\$80,267		\$3,067,802
	Ro Khanna	3,723,321	204,810	\$321,065	4,249,196
29	Tony Cardenas	1,689,791			1,689,791
	Richard Alarcon	69,834			69,834
32	Grace Napolitano	733,695			733,695
	Roger Hernandez	107,564			107,564
34	Xavier Becerra	1,750,953			1,750,953
	Adrienne Nicole Edwards	20			20
37	Karen Bass	639,999			639,999
	Chris Blake Wiggins				
44	Isadore Hall	1,879,741	237,743	27,411	2,144,895
	Nanette Barragan	1,904,759	432,277	405,583	2,337,036
46	Lou Correa	946,713	713,277		1,660,621
	Bao Nguyen	276,759		19,680	296,439
	TOTAL:	\$16,710,684	\$1,669,005	\$773,739	\$18,747,845

Note: Data for each candidate collected from the Federal Election Commission (http://www.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/candcmte_info.shtml)

There were no same-party Congressional races between Republicans in 2016.

Appendix 2: 2014 Election

California Assembly

In 2014 there were eight same-party Assembly races between Democrats. In total, these candidates raised \$23.9 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$3 million per race.

Table 6. Assembly 2014 (Democrats)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
7	Steve Cohn	\$755,456	\$142,298	\$29,934	\$927,688
	Kevin McCarty	1,264,839	339,449	0	1,604,288
9	Jim Cooper	1,085,810	1,348,665	0	2,434,475
	Darrell R. Fong	981,127	313,568	116,787	1,411,482
15	Elizabeth Echols	1,238,953	228,835	12,073	1,479,862
	Tony Thurmond	1,076,392	623,823	0	1,700,216
17	David Campos	1,479,728	93,601	417,771	1,991,099
	David Chiu	2,250,188	552,829	634,210	3,437,226
39	Raul Bocanegra	1,941,061	0	0	1,941,061
	Patty Lopez	0	0	0	0
47	Cheryl R. Brown	837,373	99,484	0	936,857
	Gil Navarro	0	0	0	0
53	Sandra Mendoza	87,820	0	0	87,820
	Miguel Santiago	1,649,698	19,099	0	1,668,797
64	Mike Gipson	1,443,484	115,666	356,075	1,915,226
	Prophet Walker	1,230,120	1,117,632	0	2,347,752
	TOTAL:	\$17,322,048	\$4,994,950	\$1,566,850	\$23,883,848

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>) and the California FPPC 2014 Verification of Independent Expenditures (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=271>).

In 2014 there were four same-party Assembly races between Republicans. In total, these candidates raised \$3.2 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$794,669 per race.

Table 7. Assembly 2014 (Republicans)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
26	Devon Mathis	\$18,900	\$0	\$0	\$18,900
	Rudy Mendoza	620,538	50,219	0	670,757
71	Brian W. Jones	744,333	0	0	744,333
	Tony Teor	0	0	0	0
74	Keith D. Curry	894,508	0		894,508
	Matthew Harper	170,845	20,703	37,715	229,263
76	Rocky Chavez	610,366	0	0	610,366
	Thomas Krouse	10,550	0	0	10,550
	TOTAL:	\$3,070,040	\$70,922	\$37,715	\$3,178,677

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>) and the California FPPC 2014 Verification of Independent Expenditures (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=271>).

California Senate

In 2014 there were five same-party Senate races between Democrats. In total, these candidates raised \$18.9 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$3.8 million per race.

Table 8. Senate 2014 (Democrats)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
6	Roger Dickenson	\$1,460,696	\$147,370	\$352,402	\$1,960,468
	Richard Pan	2,007,184	2,317,182	1,663,956	5,988,321
24	Peter Choi	29,162	0	0	29,162
	Kevin De Leon	3,256,481	0	0	3,256,481
26	Ben Allen	2,176,565	1,483,006	219,141	3,878,713
	Sandra Fluke	2,015,522	36,644	0	2,052,166
30	Isidro Armenta	0	0	0	0
	Holly J. Mitchell	783,252	0	0	783,252
40	Rafael Estrada	60	0	0	60
	Ben Hueso	907,692	60,714	0	968,406
	TOTAL:	\$12,636,613	\$4,044,916	\$2,235,499	\$18,917,029

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>) and the California FPPC 2014 Verification of Independent Expenditures (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=271>).

In 2014 there was one same-party Senate race between Republicans. In total, these candidates raised \$6.2 million including independent expenditures.

Table 9. Senate 2014 (Republicans)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	I.E. Support	I.E. Oppose	Candidate Total
28	Bonnie Garcia	\$1,124,943	\$1,433,731	\$2,257,639	\$4,816,313
	Jeff Stone	1,342,684	1,518	63,055	1,407,256
	TOTAL:	\$2,467,627	\$1,435,249	\$2,320,694	\$6,223,569

Note: Data for each candidate collected from California Secretary of State website (<http://cal-access.sos.ca.gov/Campaign/Candidates/>) and the California FPPC 2014 Verification of Independent Expenditures (<http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=271>).

House of Representatives

In 2014 there were five same-party Congressional races between Democrats. In total, these candidates raised \$11.5 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$2.3 million per race.

Table 10. House of Representatives 2014 (Democrats)

District	Candidates	Individual/PAC Contributions	IE (Support)	IE (Oppose)	Candidate Total
17	Mike Honda	\$3,264,175	\$1,225	\$83,778	\$3,349,178
	Ro Khanna	3,405,325	391,288	371,608	\$4,168,221
19	Zoe Lofgren	1,137,623	0	0	1,137,623
	Robert Murray	6,200	0	0	6,200
34	Xavier Becerra	1,811,343	0	0	1,811,343
	Adrienne Edwards	0	0	0	0
35	Norma Torres	470,873	0	0	470,873
	Christina Gagnier	68,679	0	0	68,679
40	Lucille Allard	488,546	0	0	488,546
	David Sanchez	0	0	0	0
	TOTAL:	\$10,652,764	\$392,513	\$455,386	\$11,505,270

Note: Data for each candidate collected from the Federal Election Commission (http://www.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/candcmte_info.shtml)

In 2014 there were two same-party Congressional races between Republicans. In total, these candidates raised \$4.5 million including independent expenditures, for an average of approximately \$2.2 million per race.

Table 11. House of Representatives 2014 (Republicans)

District	Candidates	Individual Contributions	IE (Support)	IE (Oppose)	Candidate Total
4	Tom McClintock	\$1,587,685	\$13,498	\$0	\$1,601,183
	Art Moore	\$188,339	0	0	188,339
25	Tony Strickland	\$1,878,385	178,872	122,057	\$2,179,314
	Stephen Knight	\$413,060	0	67,005	\$480,065
	TOTAL:	\$8,278,924	\$192,370	\$189,062	\$4,448,901

Note: Data for each candidate collected from the Federal Election Commission (http://www.fec.gov/finance/disclosure/candcmte_info.shtml)