

Ballot Simplification Committee - DRAFT for Consideration on Friday, July 30, 2010
Local Elected Officials on Political Party Committees *(working title only, subject to change)*

The Way It Is Now: San Francisco has eighteen elective offices: Mayor, Assessor-Recorder, City Attorney, District Attorney, Public Defender, Sheriff, Treasurer, and eleven seats on the Board of Supervisors.

State political parties often have local chapters that are run by county central committees. County central committees may engage in political activities such as registering voters or endorsing candidates and ballot measures. The California Elections Code currently recognizes the following state political parties: the Democratic Party of California, the California Republican Party, the American Independent Party of California, and the Peace and Freedom Party of California.

Currently, a City elected official may also serve on a political party county central committee.

The Proposal: Proposition __ would amend the City's Campaign and Governmental Conduct Code to prohibit City elected officials from also serving on a "political party county central committee." Proposition __ defines this term to mean any county central committee of a political party recognized by the California Elections Code that performs political activities for the benefit of the party and on behalf of the party's candidates.

Persons violating this provision would be subject to civil, criminal, and administrative penalties, including possible suspension and removal from elective office.

A "YES" Vote Means: If you vote "yes," you want to prohibit City elected officials from also serving on political party county central committees in San Francisco.

A "NO" Vote Means: If you vote "no," you want to continue to permit City elected officials to serve on political party county central committees in San Francisco.

word count: 234 [suggested word limit: 300]