



# CALPEEK

## CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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### **CALIF.'S OPEN PRIMARY LAW GETS U.S. SUPREME COURT HEARING. RULING IS EXPECTED BY JULY.**

Editor's note: Calif.'s controversial Open Primary Law got a full hearing April 24<sup>th</sup> in front of the U.S. Supreme Court. The Calif. Demo, Republican, Libertarian and P&F parties filed an appeal to overturn the law, after earlier lower court rulings had gone against them. Here's our brief update and commentary...

... The official name of the case is Calif. Democratic Party vs. Jones, 99-401. The Jones in this case is Calif. Secretary of State Bill Jones(R), the State's chief election officer. From news media reports, it seemed as if the Justices were leaning **against** Calif.'s Open Primary Law, which was approved by voters in March of 1996. YES on 198 got nearly 60%, but there was virtually no campaign against this initiative, thanks to the ineptitude of the Calif. Republican and Demo Parties...

... Point of Clarification: Calif.'s primary system is really not an open primary, but a blanket primary. It allows voters to cast ballots for any candidate they want, regardless of political party. And a voter can cast a ballot for a Goper in one race and cast a ballot for Demo in another race. Alaska, Louisiana and Washington State also have a blanket primary system. The open primary is different. Here a voter, who may be a Demo, can request a GOP ballot. Perfectly OK, but that Demo voter must then vote a straight GOP ticket for all the other down-ballot primary races...

... The chief argument by the State's attorney (Asst. AG Tom Gede) in support of the current law is that Prop. 198 has increased voter participation in the primary and it has given independent voters a voice for the first time in selecting candidates for the fall ballot. However, the real intent of 198 supporters in 1996 was to give *moderate Republicans* a better chance at capturing Legislative and U.S. House seats in heavy GOP districts by allowing independents and Demos to cross-over party lines. The key supporters of 198 were U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell(R) and the Calif. Republican League (CRL) - the moderate GOP activist organization. There were some Demo supporters too...

... Calpeek sources say the key quote from the bench at DC hearing came from Justice Sandra Day O'Connor: "The very essence of the party's right is to define its own message and decide its own candidates. What's left if this (Calif's open primary law) can stand?" O'Connor's quote fits right in what Calif. Demo Party attorney George Waters said: the open primary law is a "wholesale assault on the party's right to pick a standard-bearer who reflects its ideology."...

... FYI: Calif.'s "open primary" law hasn't had much impact at the Statewide level, but in the just completed Mar. 7<sup>th</sup> primary, two conservative GOP legislative candidates, Jim Righeimer in the 67<sup>th</sup> AD and Bruce Matthias in the 72<sup>nd</sup> AD, lost to more moderate GOP candidates because these candidates, Tom Harman in the 67<sup>th</sup> AD and Lynn Daucher in the 72<sup>nd</sup> AD, got votes from independents and Demos voters who crossed party lines. The final vote count shows that both Righeimer and Matthias got more GOP votes than their rivals, but lost the overall vote. Stay tuned...

### **CAMPAIGN 2000: AS LATE SPRING APPROACHES, U.S. SEN. DIFI LEADS CAMPBELL IN FUNDRAISING.**

Editor's note: There are a number of both GOP and Demo sources who think it is highly unlikely that U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell(R) as any chance of defeating U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) this coming November. And if there's any one thing which might give a clue about the eventual outcome, take a look at the fundraising. Here's our analysis...

... The current figures are through 3/31/00. It shows that U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein has raised a total of \$6,452,225 and has cash on hand of \$2.2 million, with no debts. U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell has raised a \$2,422,587 and had coh of \$614,532, with no debts...

... DiFi's chief fundraiser is Amy Maxwell, but she's also hired the fundraising telemarketing firm of Gordon & Schwenkmeyer of El Segundo. Most of DiFi's money comes from individuals inside Calif. (14% were from outside CA). And she took \$762,453 in PAC contributions. Next to Calif., NY and DC are DiFi's best source of funds...

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... Campbell's fundraising team is led by Karen Keane, who is the temporary daily mgr. of his campaign. Sources say Campbell will select a permanent daily manager very soon. Other GOP fundraising operatives working for Campbell include Kristin Hueter in S.F.; Kimberly Peters in Sacto, Anne Dunsmore & Joanne Davis in L.A., and Lacee Beaulieu in San Diego. But unlike past campaigns, L.A. based fundraiser Alice Borden will *not* be with Campbell in 2000. 75% of Campbell's individual contributions came from Calif. and he has taken almost no PAC funds...

... The biggest problem for Campbell in terms of fundraising is that he has *alienated* some of his long time contributors with positions that are hard to understand. For example, his position to tax the internet has gone over like a bunch of ants at a picnic in his home base in the *Silicon Valley*...

... Another example. Although Calpeek has written about this before, Campbell is one of the *25 worst votes* in the U.S. House when it comes to support for Israel. This has hurt his fundraising efforts with Jewish GOPers, who in the past have been very supportive. Some examples of Campbell's House votes: in July of '99, when the U.S. House Foreign Operations Approp. bill for FY 2000 was debated, Campbell introduced an amendment to cut economic aid to Israel by \$30 million. Campbell's amendment was defeated 414 to 13. And then there was a House Resolution opposing a unilateral declaration of Palestinian statehood. The vote was 380 to 24 – with Campbell on the losing side. As late as this past February, Campbell joined 69 other house members who called for lifting sanctions against Iraq...

... FYI: sources say Campbell has gone out of his way to court Arab American and Muslim American contributors. Several sources think Campbell has raised about \$100,000 so far from these contributors. Seems a little high, but it's hard to know for sure. Stay tuned...

#### **WILL SAGA OF ELIAN IMPACT ON CAMPAIGN 2000??**

Editor's note: It's now time for Calpeek's spin on the perils of young Elian Gonzales. Here's our analysis & commentary...

... Here in Calif., forget it! Californians for the most part are bored to tears with this story. Just let Elian be with his dad, whether it's here or in Cuba. But for Congressional GOPers such as U.S. Sen. Bob Smith and House Whip Tom Delay, the saga of Elian and how he was rescued by the INS from his relatives on Miami, it's just too much. These guys can't help themselves – they've got to hold hearings. As such, if they do, it'll be Senate & House Republicans lining up in a *circular firing squad*. To date, every time Congressional

Republicans have held hearings on a controversial issue, it has blown up in their face...

... The Calif. connection: Calif. Demo Party advisor Bob Mulholland, on his own personal letterhead, faxed U.S. Senator Trent Lott. The April 25<sup>th</sup> fax reads: "*Dear Senator Lott: I beg you – please hold Senate hearing through the Fall on Elian Gonzalez. Make sure U.S. Senator Bob Smith testifies. Sincerely...*" And of course Mulholland CCed George W. Bush Jr. and Smith – not that they would know who Mulholland is. But Calpeek readers do!!!

... Of course the real policy issue here is not Elian, but getting rid of Cuba's leader, Fidel Castro, now in his mid 70s. Before the Elian thing blew up, a number of level headed GOP types were starting to urge a total reexamination of our country's Cuba policy. But as soon as the Elian saga began to dominate the tv news and print media, all the reevaluation stuff went up in smoke – because of political concern over fallout in Florida and to a lesser extent in New Jersey...

... The U.S. has been trying for more than 40 years to get rid of Castro, with no success. During the Kennedy years, former AG Bobby Kennedy wanted the CIA to kill Castro. And when that didn't work, there was an attempt to get the Mob involved in an assassination attempt. Read about it in *The Dark Side of Camelot* by Seymour Hersh. It's all there in Chapter 17 (Target Castro)...

... At this point, aside from Little Havana, there is no one yelling for a Haiti-styled invasion to dump Castro. So a new policy is in order to prepare for the day when Castro leaves. The main reason for the "dictatorship mentality" in many Latin American countries is because there is no vibrant middle/business class. In almost all of these nations, 1% of the elite own 99% of the wealth. When Latin American nations transition to democracy, the precondition has almost always been the emergence of a strong middle class. That's what happened in Argentina, Chile, and Nicaragua...

... In order to promote a vibrant middle class, the U.S. should open full commercial ties with Cuba (great for Calif.). Do this and it might mean an earlier end to Castro than all the huffing and puffing in Little Havana. As the saying goes, *how are you going to keep them down on the collective farm after they've heard rock & roll*. Stay tuned...

#### **TO CALPEEK SUBSCRIBERS: CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**

If you've moved or if there's a **name change**, please send Calpeek a change of address notice WITH your current Calpeek mailing label. The label contains a code and allows us to process your request quickly. Or call or fax us the code info...

**CAMPAIGN 2000: CALIFORNIA INITIATIVE UPDATE.**

Editor's note: Here's an update on some of the more controversial initiatives trying to make the Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> ballot...

◆ ***Son of Prop. 26*** – If you're a likely voting Demo, then you probably got a blue envelope mailer from Gov. Gray Davis which included a petition to put the School Improvement and Accountability Act on the ballot. The direct mail, along with a blitz of tv ads urging voters to sign the petition, are all part of a \$4-5 million campaign to qualify this spin-off of Prop. 26, which was narrowly defeated by voters Mar. 7<sup>th</sup>. Sending out the direct mail was very gutsy, because the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn. had filed a lawsuit, claiming the ballot's title and summary was misleading. It was a technical lawsuit and the Sacto County judge wouldn't go along. But had the judge ruled in favor of HJTA, this direct mail effort and all the signatures gathered on the street thus far might have been tossed out. Despite the win by Taxpayers for Accountability & Better Schools, our sources still say the initiative faces an uphill fight for qualification – because time is working against this proposal to require a 55% vote (instead of a 50%) to approval local school bonds...

◆ ***Son of 187 DOA*** – GOP insiders are delighted that an initiative to replace Prop. 187 is off the street and won't make the November 2000 ballot. For Hispanics, 187 was a turning point in their political evolution. Prior to 187, Hispanic voters in Calif., who are by nature moderate to conservative on social issues and very entrepreneurial, had been giving GOP candidates about 25-30% of their vote. After 187, Republicans were lucky to get 10-15%. The last thing the CA Republican Party needed was this new initiative...

◆ ***Cops Against Drug Rehab Initiative*** – No shock here, as law enforcement groups are lining up against the Substance Abuse & Crime Prevention Act of 2000. Initiative petitions, being circulated by Progressive Campaigns, should be ready for turn in very soon. The proposal is authored by S.F. criminal attorney Cliff Gardner, but the funding is being supplied by the folks who backed Prop. 215 (Medical Marijuana): *deep pocketed* businessmen John Sperling, Peter Lewis and George Soros...

...In order to defeat this new initiative, it will take not only money, but a solid campaign. What the opponents are doing right now is looking for flaws and soft spots in this measure. And they think they may have found one: date rape drugs. In fact, there are some law & order types who call Gardner's proposal the Date Rape Initiative. These drugs, Rohypnol and GHB, are dangerous drugs which have been placed in schedule 4 and 2 of Health & Safety Code section 11057 and

11054. Opposition sources say under this initiative, someone in possession or transporting these drugs can only be given probation plus *treatment*. Initiative campaign mgr. Bill Zimmerman says the opponents are just trying to change the subject and that if someone tries to slip such a drug to a female, the initiative wouldn't apply. We'll update this measure again after it has qualified. Stay tuned...

**CAMPAIGN 2000: U.S. HOUSE RACES-FOLLOW THE \$\$**

Editor's note: There are still a number of U.S. House races which Calpeek has yet to cover, but for now let's take a look at the Money Game – contributions in some of the key U.S. House races in Calif. Here's our update taken from the FEC website on contributions reports through 3/31/2000...

☒ ***10<sup>th</sup> CD*** – This is the Bay area CD represented by U.S. Rep. Ellen Tauscher(D). Her GOP rival is Claude B. Hutchison Jr. Tauscher raised \$872,402 and had cash on hand of \$331,679. Hutchison, who had a contested primary race, raised \$321,527 and had coh of \$48,588...

☒ ***15<sup>th</sup> CD*** – This is one of those key races for the open seat of U.S. Rep. Tom Campbell(R-San Jose), who is running for the U.S. Senate. On the Demo side, Assemblyman Mike Honda of San Jose raised \$547,373 and had coh of \$102,599. He also had debts of \$188,668. Honda's GOP rival, Assemblyman Jim Cunneen, had no serious primary opposition. He raised \$430,885 and has coh of \$178,562...

☒ ***20<sup>th</sup> CD*** – This CD in the Central Valley represented by U.S. Rep. Cal Dooley(D-Visalia) is on our watch list. However, as of now Dooley is favored to defeat tv news and sports announcer Rich Rodriguez of Fresno. Neither had primary opposition. Dooley raised \$489,766 and had coh of \$434,984. Rodriguez is up against it, because he only raised \$20,675 and had coh of just \$10,633...

☒ ***22<sup>nd</sup> CD*** – U.S. Rep. Lois Capps(D-Santa Barbara) is probably safe for another term, but she can't take former County Sup. Mike Stoker(R) for granted. Capps raised \$749,263 and had coh of \$634,124. Stoker raised a total of \$270,029 and had coh of \$76,984. He had debts of \$69,945. Stoker had nominal GOP opposition in the primary...

☒ ***23<sup>rd</sup> CD*** – This is the CD of U.S. Rep. Elton Gallegly (R-Simi Valley). Gallegly's CD is on our watch list. He faces well-connected attorney Michael Case(D). Gallegly raised a total of \$587,792 and coh of \$891,460, with debts of just \$12,308. Case raised a total of \$313,858 and had coh of \$213,988, with debts of \$62,000...

**CALPEEK'S CALENDAR OF POLITICAL EVENTS**

May 4	Coro So. Calif.'s 25 <sup>th</sup> Annual Public Affairs awards dinner, Sheraton Universal Hotel, L.A.
May 11	Central City Assn. of L.A. Annual luncheon at Bonaventura Hotel, L.A.
June 2	24 <sup>th</sup> Annual Field Institute workshop, S.F.
June 8	VICA's 23 <sup>rd</sup> Annual dinner, Universal City.
June 22-24	17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conf. of Nat'l Assn. of Latino Elected & Appointed Officials, Denver, CO.

**CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.**

Editor's note: Here are a few items, political & otherwise, worth noting...

■ **CA Senate GOP Website** – The State Senate GOP Caucus has launched a new website with links to all 15 members of the Caucus. It will include info on bills, committee schedules and news releases. The website is at <http://republican.sen.ca.gov/...>

■ **Correction** – In last week's issue, Calpeek said that Demo Assemblyman Jack Scott of Pasadena was a member of the Assembly Demo Business PAC. Although he may have attended a meeting or two, Scott says he was not a member of this group...

■ **The Quack's Quagmire** – CA Insurance Comm. Chuck Quackenbush's situation continues to slide from very bad to worse. There are more revelations about these foundations he helped to set up with moneys from insurance companies in lieu of massive fines for mishandling claims from the 1994 Northridge earthquake. But he's got some guts for not ducking interviews. It's part of his fight-back strategy to "blame his political enemies," the Demos. Last week on Adelphia Cable's Week In Review, Mr. Q was given the 3<sup>rd</sup> degree by political columnist Sherry Jeffe, who asked why he took insurance company contributions. "Because everyone takes contributions." That was a room temperature IQ response...

■ **Calif. News Service** – Something new is in the works based in Sacto: it's Calif. News Service, a regional tv news operation. Sources say Ed Turner, former top exec at CNN, and former KABC-TV news director Terry Crowfoot are part of the new team. CNS is currently building a studio in Sacto and sources say they'll try to be up and running prior to the DNC presidential convention in L.A....

■ **Pirozzi New San Berdu GOP Leader** – Attorney Elia Pirozzi, who is running against Demo U.S. Rep. Joe Baca in November, has been elected chair of the San Bernardino County GOP Central Committee. James Lindley, mayor of Hesperia, was elected 1<sup>st</sup> vp, while Elizabeth Rider of Ontario, an aide to State Sen. Jim Brulte, was elected 2<sup>nd</sup> vp...

**CALPEEK'S NEW JOBS AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.**

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Gov. Davis has named David Rosenberg, 53 of Davis, as director of intergovernmental relations & sr. advisor. Rosenberg is a member of the Yolo Co. Bd. of Supes...
- Gov. Davis has appointed 62-year-old Murray L. Galinson of San Diego to the CSU Board of Trustees. Galinson is chair of the San Diego Nat'l Bank...
- Leslie Goodman has moved her Strategic Communications Services to 1029 "K" Street, #43, Sacramento, CA 95814. ☎(916)443-8900. [www.politicalaccess.com...](http://www.politicalaccess.com...)
- Gov. Gray Davis has appointed Steven Nissen as acting director of the Off. of Planning & Research. Nissen was acting staff director prior to this new posting...
- Veteran Sacto lobbyist Peter Kellison has opened his own office – Kellison Co. at 1112 "I" Street, Ste. 320, Sacramento, CA 95814. ☎(916)441-1011...
- S.F.-based Solem & Associates has hired Frank J. Gallagher as an AE. Previously he was a political reporter with the *S.F. Independent*...

**CALPEEK'S MARKETPLACE NETWORK**

- **Statewide membership organization** seeks Communications/Press contractor in Sacramento to coordinate message development and press activities concerning legislative efforts. Extensive experience with the Capitol Press Corps required. Replies and inquiries to 980 Ninth Street., #200, Sacramento, CA 95814, ATTN: Press/Communications Search.
- **San Francisco direct mail firm** needs account executive with field organizing or print production experience. Hiring immediately. Fax resume to (415)285-8372.

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