



Give Peaceful Protest a Chance



Photo by [Teodor Drobot](#) via [Unsplash](#)

With the November election just six months away, Republicans have seized on campus protests against the Gaza War to frighten voters into electing Donald Trump. They've hauled college and school administrators before Congress, equated speaking out against the Gaza War with antisemitism, and cited bad behavior by some to paint all as lawless.

We agree with President Biden that protests must be peaceful, and must steer clear of harassment, discrimination, violence, and hate. At the same time, students have a right to be heard and protected from harm. Protests are part of America, and we can't throw out the First Amendment casually.

Fundraiser for CD-22 nets \$22,000 and counting

We continue our work to help flip a crucial swing district: Central Valley's CD-22.

On Saturday, we hosted a fundraiser for the Democratic Party committees in the three Central Valley counties that CD-22 cuts across: Kings, Kern, and Tulare. The event raised over \$22,000, exceeding our initial \$15,000 goal.

Our partners will use the money for voter outreach, campaign materials and postcard-writing campaigns.

Thank you to our donors and to our organizing team, which included SCCDP Chair Bill James and our Finance Director James Kim, as well as Rebecca Sayed, Ana Mendez, and other leaders of our national team.

It's not too late to [donate](#). Help us retake the House!

Every vote matters in CD-13

Think your vote doesn't matter?

Laura Murphy-Wilkens offers Exhibit A: [the 5-vote margin](#) that kept Evan Low in the race for retiring Congresswoman Anna Eshoo's seat.

"Elections are becoming that close," said Murphy-Wilkens.

This is what keeps her canvassing and phone banking – knowing that every time she connects with someone, encouraging them to vote, she could be making a crucial difference.



She's been active with SCCDP's national team since it formed in 2018. The team started out focusing on Central Valley congressional races, then expanded to calling into battleground states.

Starting May 31 and leading up to November, they will be spearheading 16 canvasses for Adam Gray in Merced and Modesto.

For Murphy-Wilkens, Gray is yet more proof that every vote matters: In 2022, he lost his bid to represent the 13th congressional district by just [564 votes](#).

Sign up [here](#) to join a canvass.

Interest in running for local office runs high

The filing period for local offices doesn't open till July, yet we already have hundreds of interested Democrats.

Some 95 people joined the monthly candidate training series we launched in April with the San Mateo County Democrats.

And when the state party started a texting campaign to identify potential candidates, more than 800 Democrats in our county expressed interest. About 100 of them went further, connecting with a candidate "coach."

Prospective candidates who missed these events, check out the [candidate information session on Zoom](#) on Saturday, June 8, 10am-11:30am.

We hope the interest in running for office reflects a high level of engagement in the November 2024 election. A lot is at stake!

State party makes endorsements

Congratulations to Patrick Ahrens for receiving the sole endorsement of the California Democratic Party in the race to replace Evan Low in the State Assembly (AD-26).

Ahrens won the endorsement in a May 4 caucus of state party delegates in his district.

Low and former San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo are competing to succeed retiring Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (CD-16). The endorsing caucus for that race concluded yesterday, and the results are not yet available.

More ways to get involved

- Congratulations to Pamela Campos, our endorsed candidate for San Jose City Council, District 2. As one of the top two vote-getters in the March

- jungle primary, Campos will be advancing to the general election in November. [Check out her website](#) to get involved in her campaign!
- Our annual [Youth Takeover](#) of the Santa Clara County Democratic Central Committee will take place on July 11. Apply [here](#) to serve as a delegate.
 - We have ongoing [opportunities to phonebank and canvass](#) in the Central Valley and beyond.

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