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## PARTICIPANTS

**Mark Baldassare** is president and CEO of the Public Policy Institute of California, where he holds the Arjay and Frances Fearing Miller Chair in Public Policy. He is a leading expert on public opinion and survey methodology, and has directed the PPIC Statewide Survey since 1998. He is an authority on elections, voter behavior, and political and fiscal reform, authoring ten books and numerous reports on these topics. He often provides testimony before legislative committees and state commissions, and regularly hosts PPIC's Speaker Series, a public forum featuring in-depth interviews with state and national leaders. Previously, he served as PPIC's director of research. Before joining PPIC, he was a professor of urban and regional planning at the University of California, Irvine, where he held the Johnson Chair in Civic Governance. He has conducted surveys for the *Los Angeles Times*, the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and the California Business Roundtable. He holds a PhD in sociology from the University of California, Berkeley.

**Kevin de León** is president pro tem emeritus of the California State Senate; he was the first Latino to serve as president pro tem in more than a century. In the race to represent California in the US Senate, he is the officially endorsed candidate of the California Democratic Party. In his three years leading the senate, he focused on maintaining California's global leadership role in fighting climate change and building a clean-energy economy; rebuilding the state's infrastructure; improving public education; ensuring workplace and health care equity for women, immigrants, and low-wage workers; and enhancing public safety. His efforts have made California the largest economy in the world to move toward a 100% clean energy future. He has been a leader in setting the most ambitious renewable energy goals in the nation, creating a first-of-its-kind retirement-savings program for low-income workers, and requiring a quarter of all cap-and-trade revenue to be spent in disadvantaged communities. He has an extensive record on women's rights, gun-violence prevention, and worker's rights. He has also worked toward solutions to the state's transportation, housing, and infrastructure challenges. He attended the University of California, Santa Barbara, and graduated from Pitzer College.

**Dianne Feinstein** is California's senior US senator; she was first elected in 1992. Her distinguished record of bipartisan legislative accomplishments includes increasing vehicle fuel economy standards; protecting amateur athletes from sexual abuse; preserving the Mojave

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Desert, Lake Tahoe, and California's forests; consumer protection, food safety, and cyber security; drought relief; and commonsense gun laws such as the assault weapons ban. In June, she authored the Keep Families Together Act to end the Trump administration's policy of separating children from their families at the border. She is a member of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, which oversees the nation's sixteen intelligence agencies; previously, she was the first woman to chair the committee. She is also the first woman—and the first Californian—to serve as ranking member (and, previously, as chair) of the Senate Judiciary Committee. She is a senior member of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, which she chaired during the 110th Congress. She serves on the Senate Appropriations Committee and as ranking member of its Subcommittee on Energy and Water. A native of San Francisco, she was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1969 and served two and a half terms as board president. After becoming mayor of San Francisco in 1978, she was elected to serve two terms.

**Donna Lucas** is founder and CEO of Lucas Public Affairs, a California-based strategic consulting, public affairs, and communications firm. She has served on PPIC's board of directors since 2007; she chaired the board from 2013 to 2016. Over the course of her career, she has provided strategic counsel to large corporate clients, labor unions, nonprofits, and political candidates. She also has worked on several statewide initiative campaigns on a variety of policy issues, including gaming, housing, education, local government, campaign finance, and energy. Prior to forming Lucas Public Affairs in 2006, she served as a deputy chief of staff for strategic planning and initiatives for Governor Schwarzenegger and chief of staff to First Lady Maria Shriver. Previously, she was the global and public affairs practice leader for Porter Novelli and CEO of the Nelson Communications Group. She also served as deputy press secretary for Governor George Deukmejian, deputy treasurer for Tom Hayes, and California press secretary for President George H.W. Bush. In addition, she was the chairperson of the American Association of Political Consultants. Currently, she serves on the boards of the California Chamber of Commerce, the College Futures Foundation, Maria Shriver's A Woman's Nation Foundation, and the Scripps Institute of Oceanography. She is a graduate of the University of Southern California's School of Journalism.