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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.

**Barbara Boxer** is serving her fourth term as a United States senator from California. She was first elected to the Senate in 1992, after serving ten years in the House of Representatives and six years on the Marin County Board of Supervisors. She is the ranking member on the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. She is also vice chair of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics and a senior member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where she founded the first subcommittee ever to focus on global women's issues. She has served as the Senate Democrats' chief deputy whip since 2005. She has led efforts to improve the nation's infrastructure while creating and protecting jobs, and supported investments and targeted tax cuts to revitalize the economy. She has also written measures to end taxpayer bailouts of Wall Street and help protect homeowners against foreclosure. She has long been an advocate for women's health and medical research to find cures for diseases. A champion of quality public education, she wrote landmark legislation establishing federal funding for afterschool programs. She has also worked to address challenges faced by US service members and their families. She has helped preserve more than a million acres of California wilderness and won many awards for her efforts to create a cleaner, healthier environment and address the threats of climate change.

**Mas Masumoto** is a third-generation California organic farmer and the author of numerous books and articles. He was elected to PPIC's Board of Directors in 2009. He is a columnist for the *Fresno Bee* and has written for the *New York Times Magazine*, *USA Today*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. He was a founding member of the California Association of Family Farmers and has served on the research boards of the California Tree Fruit Agreement and the Raisin Advisory Committee. He received an Award of Distinction from the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences at the University of California, Davis, in 2003, the California Central Valley Excellence in Business award in 2007, and the Steward of Sustainable Agriculture award from the Ecological Farming Association in 2008. He was appointed to the California Council for the Humanities board in 1994, serving as co-chair from 1998 to 2001. He was appointed to The James Irvine Foundation board of directors in 2002 and has served on the board of the Campaign for College Opportunity. He holds a master's degree in community development from the University of California, Davis.