

Pasadena Star-News

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Our View: Good choices on June 5 ballot

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The state primary election a week from today - Tuesday, June 5 - returns California to its former open-primary system.

Just as with legislative and congressional redistricting, one hope is that the move could make possible the election of more moderate candidates from each of the two main political parties. Democrats could appeal to Republicans, Republicans to Democrats - and to do so, candidates would have to budge somewhat from the dull orthodoxy of the party bosses.

The contested races for Assembly, state Senate and Congress will culminate in November with the top two finishers from whichever party - could be two from the same party, or someone from a minor party against one of the two mainstays.

Our primary endorsements in selected races from throughout the San Gabriel Valley and Whittier areas will sometimes list the two candidates we think best-suited to wage a campaign toward the runoff election.

Our recommendations for the lower and upper state chambers and the House of Representatives:

27th Congressional District: Judy Chu, Democrat, and Jack Orswell, Republican. Longtime local elected official Chu is the first Chinese-American woman in Congress. Her current 32nd District has been changed to create a Pasadena-centric, and also heavily Asian - Alhambra, San Gabriel, Rosemead, South Pasadena - one that then jogs all the way east to Claremont. She is a sharp and effective legislator...

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