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Dear Kambiz,

Our **top six** ProCon.org research updates for this newsletter include: a new website on local elections in Santa Monica; local candidates forum in Santa Monica; gay marriage and the Supreme Court actions; international treaties and declarations recognizing the right to health care; FDA requirements for prescription drug ads; and information on fossil fuel divestment.

## 1. ProCon.org Goes Local

**NEW WEBSITE - Local Elections** - Since our presidential election websites helped millions of voters evaluate the candidates, many readers have asked ProCon.org to cover local elections. For the first time ever, we have brought our unique brand of election coverage to local elections starting with Santa Monica, California.

Our 52nd website gathers views from the [Santa Monica City Council](#), [School Board](#), and [College Board](#) candidates on important community issues.

Click on a candidate, click on an issue, or take the quiz to see which candidate best matches your views. More than 600,000 people took a similar version of our quiz for the 2012 presidential election.

## 2. Squirm Night - Oct. 13

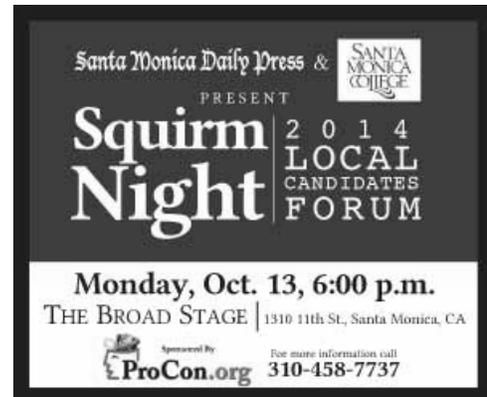
If you live in Santa Monica, we invite you to Squirm Night where you can watch a live candidates forum for Santa Monica City Council, SMMUSD School Board, and SMC College Board. The event is Monday Oct. 13 at 6:00 at the Broad Stage on 11th and Santa Monica Blvd. The event is free and refreshments are provided. Squirm Night is hosted by the Santa Monica Daily Press and co-sponsored by Santa Monica College and ProCon.org.

## 3. Gay Marriage

**US Supreme Court Clears Way for Same-Sex Marriage in Five States, More Expected to Follow** - On Oct. 6, 2014, the US Supreme Court declined to hear appeals from five states where same-sex marriage bans had been ruled unconstitutional. The decision allowed Indiana, Oklahoma, Utah, Virginia, and Wisconsin to begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Colorado has also recognized gay marriage, thus bringing the total number of states where gay marriage is legal to 25. Kansas, North Carolina, South Carolina, West Virginia, and Wyoming, were also affected by the decision and are expected to begin issuing marriage licenses in the near future.

## 4. Right to Health Care

**Six US-Signed Treaties and Declarations Recognizing a Right to Health Care** - Since 1946 the United States has signed at least six treaties and international declarations recognizing a right to health care, although only two have been ratified. Our new resource provides detailed information on these treaties and declarations, including dates of implementation, legal status, excerpts from the text, and links to



the full documents.

## 5. Prescription Drug Ads

**FDA Requirements for Prescription Drug Ads** - Prescription drugs ads are regulated by the FDA and fall into one of three categories: product claim ads, help-seeking ads, and reminder ads. Find the requirements for each type of ad on our new page.

## 6. Alternative Energy

**Rockefellers and over 800 Global Investors Announce Fossil Fuel Divestment**

### From Our Headlines

**Gay Marriage Now Legal in 25 States, More States Expected Soon**

**Children's Vaccination Rates Fall in West Los Angeles**

**Prisoner Granted Euthanasia Request by Belgian Court**

### TEACHERS' CORNER

Teachers, librarians, and administrators in more than **5,200 schools** use ProCon.org.

Educators, if you have not already done so, please take our **2-minute survey** and let us know how YOU use ProCon.org. As a thank you, you can choose a ProCon.org hat or a chance at a \$100 Amazon gift card.

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Please forward these updates to others who may be interested. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Kamy Akhavan  
President & Managing Editor, ProCon.org

"Promoting Critical Thinking, Education, and Informed Citizenship"

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