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KEVIN FAULCONER

1. Terminate Newsom's State of Emergency (government-imposed lockdowns, masks, tests, injections): YES?

Faulconer, who has long distinguished himself across California GOP-dom as a relative moderate, stressed that he and his entire family had been vaccinated and he encouraged everyone who hasn't been to get the jab, too. But encouragement is as far as the state should go. "I do not favor mandates, I favor education," he said. "You're not going to mandate your way out of the coronavirus." Evidently, that wasn't quite far enough for co-moderator Hugh Hewitt, a conservative commentator, who asked Faulconer whether he would outright ban schools from requiring students to wear masks. "I will look into doing it, 100%," said Faulconer without unequivocally saying that he would.

-- Cal Matters, August 5, 2021, "Four things to know about the Newsom recall debate"

<https://calmatters.org/politics/2021/08/newsom-recall-republicans-debate>

"I strongly oppose mask mandates in public schools. Our parents are the right ones to make the choices for our kids." (Q: Will you use your authority to bar mask mandates, not oppose them, but to forbid them?) "That's something I will look into doing, 100 percent"

-- Kevin Faulconer, August 4, 2021 debate at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library (video at 1:15:23)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwEMO-K22uQ>

FAULCONER: I'm the only candidate in the race who was in elected office when the pandemic hit. I worked to ensure we protected both lives and livelihoods, fighting this pandemic with common sense solutions. I would have been more transparent than Gavin Newsom about the data the state was receiving, explained why the decisions being made were being made, and ensured that consistent public health instructions were provided to the public instead of confusing and conflicting advice. I would have provided more support for small businesses as they were being shut down just as we did in San Diego, where we rushed to establish a small business relief fund that helped people stay afloat. And just as I did as mayor, I would have helped businesses to expand outdoors, working with the Legislature to remove the necessary red tape to make it happen, especially after the experts made clear that being outdoors was much, much safer. This would have helped to protect people from the virus, while keeping businesses afloat and giving employees the ability to put food on the table.

-- "What say Cox, Faulconer, Jenner and Ose?" Times of San Diego, June 7, 2021

<https://timesofsandiego.com/politics/2021/06/07/what-say-cox-faulconer-jenner-and-ose-top-gop-rivals-in-recall-tackle-tough-qs/>

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Faulconer pointed to CDC data regarding school reopenings. CDC Director Rochelle Walensky recently said that it is possible for schools “even in areas of the highest community spread” to reopen safely—at least in a hybrid fashion—without teachers getting vaccinated first. “Gov. Newsom rolled out a plan in December and said schools would open in February. Another broken promise, more rhetoric and no action,” Faulconer said. “There’s a massive gap that is occurring, and it’s threatening an entire generation of students ... for no reason.” Newsom’s four children went back to in-person learning at a private school in October, according to Politico.

-- Calif. governor hopeful Faulconer ‘appalled’ by Oakley school board members’ mockery of parents,” e.Today.US, February 18, 2021
<https://e-today.us/calif-governor-hopeful-faulconer-appalled-by-oakley-school-board-members-mockery-of-parents>

2. Order schools to stop masking children or let parents decide: NO

(video at 15:43) MODERATOR: “Mr. Faulconer, how about you? On local school districts, should they be allowed to impose mask mandates?”

FAULCONER: “Local school districts, with the consultation of parents - that’s how it’s supposed to work. That’s why you want that local authority and local control.”

(video at 16:31) FAULCONER: “That’s why [I] firmly believe [in] local health officials, local school districts, working with parents, to make that decision based upon what the facts on the ground are. I think that’s the right way to govern, I think that’s the best way to get parental involvement -- and local elected officials, whose job it is to do that.” MODERATOR: “Even if that is a mask mandate imposed at the local level.” FAULCONER: “We’ll let them have that authority to do that.”

-- Kevin Faulconer, California Governor Recall Debate in San Francisco, August 19, 2021

<https://www.kron4.com/news/california/school-choice-vaccine-mandates-and-the-latino-community-highlights-from-the-recall-debate/>

3. Veto ALL the bad bills passed by the Democrat-controlled California State Legislature: NO

If elected governor, Faulconer has already pledged to not oppose abortion expansion and his favor of LGBTQIA+ legislation is already public (see below). What percentage of bad bills on moral or social issues he would veto is unknown. However, his fiscal commitment is as follows: As governor, Kevin Faulconer will fight so you can keep more of the money you earn. He will veto any tax increase that comes to his desk. And he will defend Proposition 13 to support homeowners and small businesses. You work hard to live within your means, and he will run a fiscally responsible government that does the same.

-- Campaign website, KevinFaulconer.com “Respecting Your Hard-Earned Money,”

<https://www.kevinfaulconer.com/respecting-your-hard-earned-money>

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4. Including vetoing abortion expansion bills: NO

Kevin Faulconer is the pro-choice, pro-same-sex marriage, climate-change acknowledging, Mexico-embracing, Spanish-speaking mayor of San Diego who didn't vote for President Trump.

-- "This pro-choice, Mexico-embracing mayor could be California GOP's future," San Francisco Chronicle, September 5, 2019

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/This-pro-choice-Mexico-embracing-mayor-could-be-14416685.php>

Faulconer: "I promise you, ladies, that I see you and hear you. I will not act to restrict abortion rights in San Diego. Or, for that matter, in any other place: in California, or America, or even Alabama. I know that as a Republican, this is something of a controversial position for me to take. But it also seems risky to just ignore you guys...gals...ladies...women...people. I had advisers who counseled me against getting into bed with, er, hooking up with, um, aligning myself with you. But in the end, it's my choice, and here I am."

-- "In wake of #StopTheBans protests, Kevin Faulconer pledges support for abortion rights in Georgia, Alabama, and Missouri," San Diego Reader, May 31, 2019 <https://www.sandiegoreader.com/news/2019/may/31/sdqt-wake-stopthebans-protests-kevin-faulconer-ple/>

5. Including vetoing LGBTQIA+ agenda bills: NO

Mayor Kevin Faulconer and his staff also became supporters of the rainbow crosswalk project ... Both the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus and the San Diego Women's Chorus performed as well as special drag queen performances led by the infamous "Tootie" of Lips Nightclub. Mayor Faulconer and "Honorary Mayor" Murray Ramirez were given the honor to walk across the rainbow after the official ribbon-cutting ceremony that was also attended by Congresswoman Susan Davis, state Assemblywoman Lorena Gonzalez, County Supervisor Nathan Fletcher, City Council President Georgette Gomez, City Council member Dr. Jen Campbell and LGBTQ leaders Cara Dessert, Fernando Lopez, Susan Jester, Big Mike Phillips, Nick Serrano and many others.

-- "The history behind the rainbow crosswalk," LGBTQ San Diego County News, January 17, 2020

<https://lgbtqsd.news/the-history-behind-the-rainbow-crosswalk>

As San Diego Mayor, Kevin Faulconer marched in the "2014 San Diego LGBTQ Pride Parade"

-- Kevin Faulconer, Wikipedia, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Faulconer#Social_issues

Mayor Kevin Faulconer marked the 40th anniversary of San Diego Pride by hanging rainbow pride flags above the streets. The celebration took place Wednesday afternoon on the corner of 5th Avenue and L Street. The mayor climbed into a scissor lift and helped raise the 124

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flags in support for gay rights. Faulconer, a Republican, is chairman for the Mayors for the Freedom to Marry coalition.

-- "Rainbow Flags Displayed Downtown for Pride Month," NBC 7 (KNSD), July 9, 2014

<https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/rainbow-flags-displayed-downtown-for-pride-month/56181/>

6. Advocate for private school choice for parents: ?

No specific information on Faulconer's position on private school choice is currently available.

7. Oppose higher taxes, fees, and assessments, and work to lower them: YES

Under Faulconer's plan, there would be a 0% marginal income tax rate on the first \$50,000 in income for individuals and \$100,000 for households. That means people making those amounts or less wouldn't pay state income tax, while those making up to \$1 million would see a low effective tax rate. Faulconer estimated his proposed cuts would reduce state revenues by about \$15 billion annually and pointed to the state's expected \$76 billion surplus this year as evidence the state can afford it. California's budget relies heavily on personal income tax from the wealthiest Californians — those making more than \$1 million annually — and their taxes would not change under Faulconer's plan. ... Faulconer also pledged not to raise taxes if he wins. But a governor also lacks that power. He could veto legislation raising taxes, but the Legislature could override him with two-thirds votes in both chambers. He would also exempt veterans' income from military retirement from being taxed.

-- Palm Springs Desert Sun, May 12, 2021, "Sunshine state not so beautiful today, gubernatorial candidate John Cox says during stop in Palm Desert" <https://www.desertsun.com/story/news/politics/elections/2021/05/12/california-recall-john-cox-brings-campaign-palm-desert/5046082001/>

8. Deploy California's National Guard troops to guard California-Mexico border: NO

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Faulconer supports a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants who live in the United States

-- Wikipedia, Kevin Faulconer on Social Issues, https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kevin_Faulconer#Social_issues and <https://www.latimes.com/politics/la-pol-ca-kevin-faulconer-san-diego-20160211-htmlstory.html>

Faulconer, who campaigned in both English and Spanish during his 2014 mayoral campaign, said he is a strong supporter for providing a “pathway to citizenship” for the estimated 11 million undocumented immigrants in the country illegally.

-- “Is state GOP pinning hopes on Faulconer?” San Diego Union-Tribune, February 11, 2016

<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/politics/sdut-faulconer-republican-hope-for-future-2016feb11-story.html>

9. Declare war against harmful “recreational” drugs: YES?

“As Governor, I’m going to be victims first and I’m going to put criminals in jail. That’s as succinctly as I can put it ... I will take a very strong ... approach” -- Kevin Faulconer, August 4, 2021 debate at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library (video at 19:02)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QwEMO-K22uQ>

10. Restore death penalty for convicted murderers: YES

“Well, I tell you, I strongly support the death penalty in California. I think it’s incredibly important. I would reverse it. It should never have been changed.”

-- Kevin Faulconer interview, KQED, February 3, 2021

<https://www.kqed.org/news/11858456/kevin-faulconer-on-running-for-governor-tackling-the-pandemic-and-voting-for-trump>