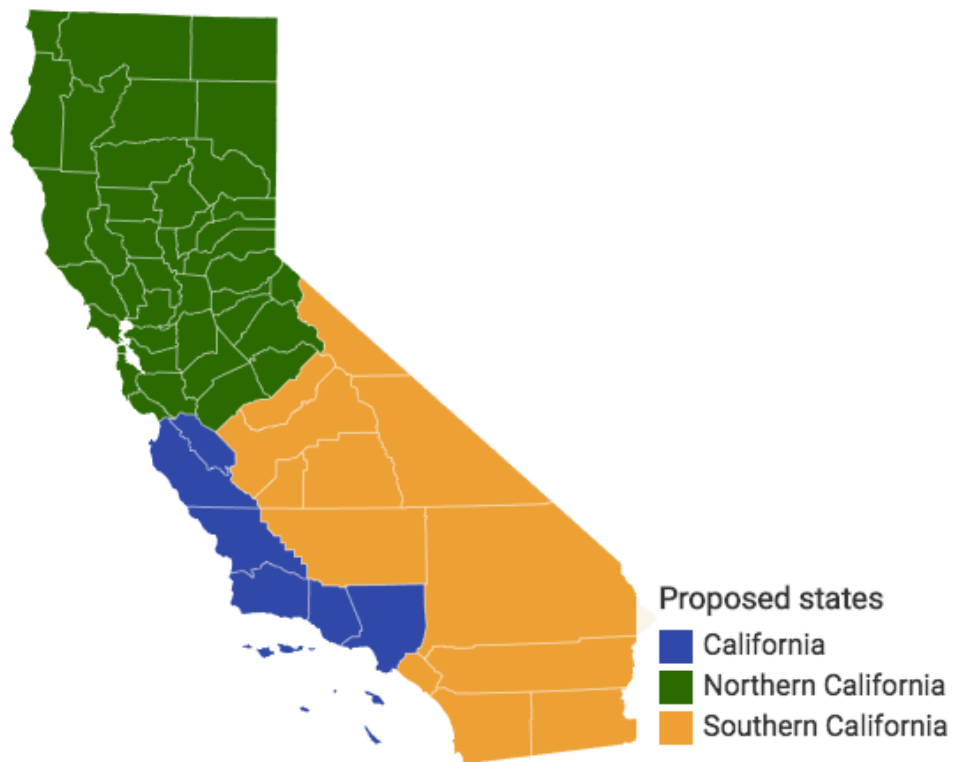


CALIFORNIA THREE STATES INITIATIVE

California Proposition 9, the Three States Initiative, or Cal 3 Initiative was supposed to be on the ballot for the California election held in November 2018. The California Supreme Court removed the proposition from the ballot pending resolution of the initiative's constitutionality. The initiative would have divided California into three states: California, Northern California, and Southern California as shown on the map below. The people of each new state would be allowed to choose a different name for their state. Congress would have had to approve the division into three states, as required by Section 3 of Article IV of the federal Constitution.

California Three States Initiative (Proposed)



Source: [Ballotpedia](#)

BALLOTPEDIA

As many members of the California Map Society know, other states have been divided. Kentucky was formed out of Virginia in 1792, Main out of Massachusetts in 1820, West Virginia out of Virginia in 1863. Also, Vermont's territory was disputed by New York and New Hampshire during the colonial-era, and Vermont only became a sovereign state in 1791 after it paid New York to give up its land claims.

California has been the subject of more than 220 proposals to divide it into multiple states since its [admission to the United States](#) in 1850 including at least 27 significant

proposals in the first 150 years of statehood. Maps of some of the proposals appear in the 3rd reference below.

For more, visit:

1. [https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_9,_Three_States_Initiative_\(2018\)](https://ballotpedia.org/California_Proposition_9,_Three_States_Initiative_(2018))
2. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_U.S._state_partition_proposals
3. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partition_and_secession_in_California

David Kalifon April 8, 2019