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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

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March 27, 2023

The Honorable Assemblymember Isaac G. Bryan
 Chair, Assembly Elections Committee
 1020 N Street, Room 365
 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: AB 1762 (Committee on Elections) Elections omnibus bill - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblymember Bryan:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1762 (Committee on Elections), an Elections omnibus bill.

Existing law provides rules for counting words for the purposes of the Elections Code generally and for the purposes of ballot designations. Existing law provides that hyphenated words that appear in a standard reference dictionary, are considered as one word. This bill would provide that for the purposes of the Elections Code and for ballot designations, hyphenated words that appear in a reputable online dictionary are also considered as one word.

Existing law allows a candidate for elective office to have the designation "incumbent" appear under their name on an election ballot if they are a candidate for the same office that they currently hold. This bill would prohibit a candidate who was elected in an at-large election from using this designation if they are a candidate in a district-based election.

Existing law establishes procedures for how a voter may request a recount of the votes cast in an election and how a voter may contest an election. Former law, which was repealed on January 1, 2019, authorized the Secretary of State to create a postcanvass risk-limiting audit pilot program. This bill would remove obsolete references to the pilot program.

Existing law requires, upon the Governor or Secretary of State ordering a recount, the Secretary of State to notify the elections official of each county and direct the county elections officials to recount all the votes cast for the office or for and against the state ballot measure, as specified. This bill would make a technical change to this provision.

CACEO greatly appreciates the Committee's introduction of this bill. We respectfully request the committee's AYE vote on AB 1762.

If you or your staff has any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at bob.page@ocvote.gov or (714) 567-7620, or my co-chairs James Kus, at jkus@fresnocountyca.gov or (559) 600-1730 or Tricia Webber at tricia.webber@santacruzcounty.us or (831) 454-2409.

Respectfully,

Bob Page
 Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
 California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

cc: Rob Grossglauser, Pinnacle Advocacy LLC
 James Kus and Tricia Webber, Co-Chairs, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee