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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

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July 28, 2011

The Honorable Jerry Brown Governor, State of California State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

The Elections Legislative Committee of the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials urges your approval of **AB 1357 (Swanson)** which awaits your signature. This proposal authorizes the county election officials to provide voter registration forms via the county's Internet Web site, as long as the county's form meets the format provided by the Secretary of State and existing state law, and is provided in languages mandated by Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act.

Voter registration forms would be accessible online to print, complete, sign and return to the county election official's office. This bill will allow voters and county election officials to reduce their reliance on the current federal form provided on the Secretary of State's Internet Web site. The national form is missing critical information required under California law, such as state or country of birth and voter option to become a permanent vote by mail voter, and fails to provide the registrant with the complete list of qualified political parties from which to choose. Registration forms missing critical information cannot be processed until the individual provides the missing data, delaying the eligibility of the voter and the voter's receipt of essential voting materials.

Please consider our support when determining whether or not to sign AB 1357 into law. If you or your staff have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact me at the Monterey County Elections Department at (831) 796-1499.

Very truly yours,

Linda Tulett Correspondence Secretary California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

c: Assembly Member Sandré R. Swanson, Author Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates