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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT

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March 7, 2011

Assembly Member Sandré R. Swanson State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0016

Dear Assembly Member Swanson:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials' Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to convey its Support of AB 1357 (as introduced February 18, 2011).

This proposal authorizes county election officials to provide voter registration forms via the county's Internet Web site. This bill would require the voter registration form used by the county to meet the format provided by the Secretary of State and existing state law, and require it to be provided in languages mandated by Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act. Voter registration forms would be accessible online for voters 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 in use 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 .It also fails to provide the voter with the complete list of qualified political parties, Registration forms missing critical information cannot be completely processed, delaying the eligibility of the voter and the voter's receipt of essential voting materials.

If you or your staff have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me in the Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor's Office at (707) 565-1876.

Very truly yours.

Janice Atkinson

Correspondence Secretary California Association of Clerks

and Election Officials

Assembly Member Paul Fong, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting Senator Lou Correa, Chair, Senate Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments

Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee

Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates