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# CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

# **GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT**

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May 10, 2011

State Assembly Member Stephen Knight State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Knight:

The Elections Legislative Committee of the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) has re-reviewed **AB 193** (as amended April 26, 2011), your proposal to require elections officials to consult the Megan's Law sex offenders' database no more than 60 days prior to establishing a single-family residence as a polling place, verifying the polling place is not the current address of a registered sex offender. The Committee would like to acknowledge the amendments that have improved your proposal (specifying single-family residences and a set time-frame for which the polling place must be designated). While the Committee remains concerned about AB 193 for the reasons posed in the March 7, 2011 letter, it has not taken a formal position on the bill.

The Committee would like to offer an amendment that may provide some relief for election officials who have difficulty locating an alternate polling place within a high residential precinct that has few or no accessible facilities from which to choose. Evaluating polling places under the American's with Disabilities Act is not only time consuming, but often reveals public buildings may not be suitable for voting. Relocation of polling places must be completed in time to meet state law requiring the polling place location be listed on the back cover of the voter information pamphlet mailed out to voters beginning 40-days prior to a scheduled election. Large counties, such as Los Angeles and San Diego who utilize many voters' residences for polling places will not only have hundreds, if not thousands, of single-family residences up for review, but may also find there are no other willing voters and no suitable physically accessible location, such as a church, school or other community facility located within the high residential precinct that can be used for voting. In this case, the election official would be allowed to designate that precinct as an all mail ballot precinct for the scheduled election. We are providing a suggestion for including this amendment in your proposal:

"12287.5 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an election official may designate a precinct as an all mail ballot precinct if there are no physically accessible polling place facilities available to the election official for voting purposes."

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

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

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