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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT
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* non-voting member

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March 7, 2011

Assembly Member Susan Bonilla
State Capitol
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0011

Dear Assembly Member Bonilla:

The Elections Legislative Committee of the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials has reviewed **AB 461 (as introduced February 15, 2011)**, your proposal to require that write-in votes be counted in a manual recount if voter intent can be established, regardless of whether the voting instructions have been followed.

The Committee has voted to **Support** your bill and **requests technical clarification that the write-in votes in question would only be counted in the case of a manual recount requested pursuant to California Elections Code §§15610, 15620 or 15621**. Without this clarification, the concern is that the section could be interpreted to apply to the 1% manual tally or other auditing procedure.

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

- c: 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