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* non-voting member

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Sacramento County

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San Diego County



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT

Santa Cruz County Clerk

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May 10, 2011

State Assembly Member Mike Gatto

State Capitol

P.O. Box 942849

Sacramento, CA 94249-0043

Dear Assembly Member Gatto:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) Elections Legislative Committee has reviewed **AB 547 (as amended May 5, 2011)**, your proposal that makes it a misdemeanor crime for any person, while providing care or direct supervision to an elder in a state-licensed or state-subsidized facility or program, to coerce or deceive an elder (as defined) into voting for or against a candidate or measure contrary to the elder's intent, or absence of intent.

The Committee voted to **Support** this bill, if **amended to remove the requirement that the voter be an "elder", as defined, or that the voter be in the care of a state-licensed or state-subsidized facility or program.** The Committee believes that the rights of all voters, regardless of their age or whose care they are under, whether a state-licensed or subsidized or private facility or program, should be protected against coercion.

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 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