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Sacramento County
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San Diego County



# CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

## GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT

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March 7, 2011

Assembly Member Das Williams State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0035

Dear Assembly Member Williams:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials' Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to convey its **Support** of **AB 985** (as introduced February 18, 2011).

Existing law requires a random selection and manual tally of ballots cast at one percent of the voting precincts, including vote by mail ballots. This proposal authorizes local election officials to conduct the public manual tally of votes cast by mail using an alternate "batch" process. By allowing counties to conduct separate manual tallies for polling place and vote by mail ballots, election officials will reduce the cost of conducting the manual tally through a reduction of labor-intensive sorting processes requiring staff and time, while continuing to provide transparency and confidence in the final election results.

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