



County of Santa Cruz

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

MARK W. STONE
FIFTH DISTRICT

April 27, 2010

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL THE VACANCY
IN THE 15TH SENATE DISTRICT

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

We are writing to request that you give serious consideration to the process associated with electing a new Senator to represent Senate District 15 as a result of the confirmation of Abel Maldonado as Lieutenant Governor.

It is our understanding that you have the authority to wait until May 6, 2010, to order the special vacancy election with the November 2, 2010, Statewide General, which would result in the Primary election taking place on August 31, 2010. If you do not choose to exercise that option, the five affected counties will be required to conduct two separate elections during the summer in between the June 8 Primary and the November 2 General. Clearly, this action would be an extraordinary burden on elections officials in all five counties, who would then be required to conduct four elections in six months.


Voters are looking for State and local governments to reduce government spending wherever possible. If the special vacancy election is called prior to May 6, voters will be outraged that scarce monies are being spent during a year in which we are already conducting two statewide elections. As you are aware, local governments throughout the state are facing enormous fiscal pressures. And, in Santa Cruz County we are still awaiting reimbursement for costs associated with the May 19, 2009, special election.

Again, we would urge you to take action to consolidate the special vacancy election in Senate District 15 with the November 2, 2010, General Election. We would also urge that in calling the election, you include a provision in the order stipulating that the State will reimburse counties in a timely manner for the cost of conducting these elections.


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Thank you for considering our comments. Please feel free to contact us if we can provide any further information.

Sincerely,



TONY CAMPOS, Supervisor
Fourth District



NEAL COONERTY, Supervisor
Third District

TC/NC:ted

cc: Senator Joe Simitian
Assemblymember Bill Monning
Assemblymember Anna Caballero
Gail Pellerin, Santa Cruz County Clerk

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