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**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS**

Rebecca Martinez, President
Madera County Clerk-Recorder
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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* non-voting member

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ELECTIONS:

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San Diego County

August 28, 2009

Senator Dean Florez
State Capitol, Rm. 313
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Florez:

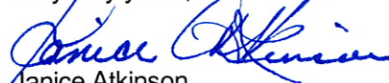
The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) Elections Legislative Committee has reviewed SB 172 (as amended July 14, 2009), your proposed legislation regarding voter file maintenance. This proposal would increase the length of time voters are kept on the inactive list of voters from two federal general elections following an address confirmation mailing, to a period of four presidential elections after the mailing.

This proposal would swell the list of inactive voters, by prohibiting cancellation for a period of 16 years. Many counties either print this list and send it to the polls, or intersperse the inactive voters with the voters on the active file. Allowing these inactive voters to remain on the list for 16 years will make the Rosters and Indexes at the polls cumbersome and unwieldy, not to mention the increased printing costs. The option to not include the inactive voters in the materials sent to the polls would ultimately result in an increase in the number of provisional ballots issued, which would also add to costs.

Despite the fact the bill contains language concerning the imposition of a state mandate, local governments have not had a positive experience in recouping costs via the state mandate process.

The Committee has voted to Oppose SB 172. If you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me at 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 Loni Hancock, 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

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