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NEAL KELLEY
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Orange County
DEAN LOGAN
SECRETARY
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Mendocino County
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DEBORAH SEILER
San Diego County
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Fremont City Clerk
* non-voting member

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Madera County

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Los Angeles County
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VICKI PETERSEN
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ELECTIONS:

JILL LAVINE
Sacramento County
DEBORAH SEILER
San Diego County



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT

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E-Mail: gail.pellerin@co.santa-cruz.ca.us
Website: www.caceo58.org

April 12, 2011

State Senator Lou Correa
State Capitol
Room 5052
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001

Dear Senator Block:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) Elections Legislative Committee has reviewed **SB 183** (as **introduced February 7, 2011**), your proposal to require the elections official to duplicate and count any ballot where the voter placed personal information on the ballot that identifies the voter.

The Committee voted to **Support** this bill, if **amended to remove the requirement that the elections official duplicate all ballots with identifiable information, and only require the ballot to be duplicated in order to capture the voter's intent**. The elections official would still be required to duplicate all ballots in situations where the voter has made a correction to their ballot and the intent of the voter must be captured, in addition to ballots that were torn, damaged or otherwise unreadable. Concerns of voter privacy would be unwarranted as most official ballots are never seen by the public and the identity of the voter who has placed marks on their ballot will not be disclosed. In the event of a recount, it would be necessary to prove that the identifiable marks on the ballot were actually meant to identify the voter, and because the voted ballot is separate from the vote by mail ballot return envelope or the voter's signature on the roster, this would be near impossible. Amending the bill to avoid unnecessary ballot duplication steps saves costs associated with staff and additional election supplies, as well as expedites the canvass of the vote and certification of results.

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