### **OFFICERS 2010-2012**

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CATHY DARLING ALLEN VICE PRESIDENT Shasta County

NEAL KELLEY TREASURER Orange County

DEAN LOGAN SECRETARY Los Angeles County

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### COUNTY CLERK:

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# CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

### GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT

Santa Cruz County Clerk 701 Ocean St., Room 210, CA 95060 831-454-2419 \* Fax 831-454-2445 \* Cell 408-316-9745

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March 10, 2011

State Senator Leland Yee State Capitol, Room 4074 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Yee:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials' Elections Legislative Committee has reviewed **SB 88** (as amended March 9, 2011), allowing phonetic transliteration of candidates' names in character-based languages.

The Committee voted to Oppose this bill, unless amended to remove subsection (a)(3) of Elections Code Section 13217.1, which specifically allows a jurisdiction to establish a local appeal process to challenge the translation of a candidate's name. We are aware that at least one jurisdiction currently has such a process, and we find nothing in the law that would prohibit individual jurisdictions from establishing a local process. However, specifically setting forth this option in the Elections Code would result in undue pressure being exerted on those jurisdictions that feel the appropriate venue for challenges is the court system as set forth in Section 13314.

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

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cc: 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