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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

CATHY DARLING ALLEN, PRESIDENT

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April 2, 2013

Assembly Member Diane L. Harkey, Author P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0073

Dear Assembly Member Harkey:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to convey its **Support** for **AB 1316** (as introduced February 22, 2013), your proposal to permit a candidate, who believes another candidate has a similar name, to file a statement requesting a distinguishing mark next to their name on the official ballot.

In supporting AB 1316, the Committee would like to request an amendment to section (b) of section 13118, requiring the distinguishing mark to be placed to the *right* of the name rather than the left. This technical amendment is necessary and directly relates to the ability to design the official ballot.

We would like to thank you for consideration of the amendment above. If you or your staff has any questions, 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: Honorable Paul Fong, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting Honorable Lou Correa, Chair, Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Karen Rhea, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates