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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

NEAL KELLEY, PRESIDENT Orange County Registrar of Voters 1300-C South Grand Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92705 P.O. Box 11298, Santa Ana, CA 92711-1298 714-567-7600 * Fax: 714-567-7627 E-Mail: neal.kelley@rov.ocgov.com CACEO website: www.caceo58.org

August 14, 2014

The Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Governor State Capitol Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Jacque Roberts, Deputy Legislative Secretary

Re: AB 1596

Dear Governor Brown;

The California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials wishes to advise you that it supports AB 1596. This bill requires pre-printed vote-by-mail applications to be addressed to the appropriate election official rather than to a third party.

This bill will facilitate and speed the processing of vote-by-mail applications by by-passing intermediaries who delay election officials' receipt of the request. The bill does not preclude individuals and organizations from gathering vote-by-mail applications by means other than through the mail which does not hamper their right to conduct vote-by-mail campaigns while retaining the 72 hour requirement for the applications to be submitted to the appropriate election official.

This bill will permit election officials to mail, in a timely manner, ballots to those requesting them which can often be an issue as the election nears.

We urge you to sign AB 1596 into law. Should you have questions regarding our position, please contact me at the Contra Costa County Election Division at <u>scott.konopasek@vote.cccounty.us</u> or (925) 335-7808.

Respectfully,

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Scott O. Konopasek Corresponding Secretary California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

Cc: Assembly Member Christina Garcia, Author Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates, Inc. Jill LaVine, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee Karen Rhea, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee