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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

CATHY DARLING ALLEN, PRESIDENT
Shasta County Clerk

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April 7, 2014

The Honorable Christina Garcia, Author
Member of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5164
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1596 (Garcia) – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Garcia:

The California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials wishes to advise you that it is pleased to support AB 1596, which would require 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 appreciate your leadership and thoughtful consideration of issues important to our association and your support of efforts to streamline and make election processes more secure and efficient.

Should you have questions regarding our position, please contact me at the Contra Costa County Election Division at scott.konopasek@vote.cccounty.us or (925) 335-7808.

Respectfully,

Scott O. Konopasek

Corresponding Secretary

California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

- Cc: Assembly Member Paul Fong, Chair, Committee on Elections and Redistricting
- Senator Norma Torres, Chair, Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments, Attention Darren Chesin, Chief Consultant
- Ethan Jones, Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting
- Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates, Inc.
- Jill LaVine, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee
- Karen Rhea, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee