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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

June 5, 2015

The Honorable Ben Allen Chairman, Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee State Capitol, Room 2054 Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 477 (MULLIN) -SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen:

The California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials wishes to advise you that it supports AB 477. This bill provides a remedy for voters who returned their vote by mail ballot to the election official by the required deadline but who failed to sign their return envelope as required. The bill requires election officials to retain the unsigned envelope and notify the voter of the omission and provide the voter the means to correct the deficiency so the ballot may be counted.

The current version of the bill permits the voter to correct the deficiency up to ten days after the election. We ask that this period be reduced to 8 days which will provide adequate time for the voter to correct the omission while not adding an unreasonable delay in certifying the results of a special election.

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

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California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

Cc: Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting

Assembly Member Mullin, Author

Darren Chesin, Chief Consultant, Senate Elections and C.A. Committee

Cory Botts, Republican Caucus Consultant

Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates, Inc.

Jill LaVine, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee Karen Rhea, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee