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# CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

### **CATHY DARLING ALLEN, PRESIDENT**

Shasta County Clerk 1643 Market Street, Redding, CA 96001 530-225-5166 \* Fax 530-225-5454 \* Cell 530-604-2655

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May 6, 2013

Senator Alex Padilla, Author State Capitol Room 4038 Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Dear Senator Padilla:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee has reviewed **SB 362** (as amended April 8, 2013), your proposal to extend voting options for registered voters working as emergency workers in an out of state disaster. While the Committee favors the expansion of voting options for "emergency workers" who are officially engaged in responding to out-of-state emergencies, the Committee has voted a **Support if Amended** position to extend this voting option to **all** California voters whose ability to vote is affected by an out-of-state natural disaster.

Existing law permits any voter to apply to receive a vote by mail ballot beginning the 29<sup>th</sup> day and ending the 7<sup>th</sup> day prior to a scheduled election and to have that ballot mailed to them wherever they may be during that time. Current law does not authorize the Secretary of State or county election officials to establish procedures to specifically allow residents affected by an out of state disaster to vote.

In 2012, many California residents were affected by Hurricane Sandy and were unable to cast a ballot at the Presidential General Election. This proposal would permit the Secretary of State and county election officials to, upon the declaration of an out-of-state disaster, establish procedures to allow an "emergency worker" as defined to cast a ballot outside of their home precinct.

If you or your staff have 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 Mike Gatto, Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee Honorable Kevin de León, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Karen Rhea, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates

Officium Populi - Office of the People