



2016 NEW ELECTION LAWS



**ORANGE COUNTY
REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

**Chaptered, Vetoed & Two-Year Legislation
2015–2016 Legislative Session
Updated: 11/16/2015**

Chaptered Bills

1. AB 44, Mullin. Elections: Statewide Recounts (CHAPTER 723)

[An act to amend Sections 15601, 15620, 15621, 15626, 15627, and 15632, of, to add Sections 15621.5 and 19204.5 to, and to add Article 5 (commencing with Section 15645) to Chapter 9 of Division 15 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the Secretary of State to revise and adopt regulations relating to procedures for recounting ballots, including regulations establishing guidelines for the charges a county elections official may impose when conducting a manual recount. It contains other related provisions and other current laws.

2. AB 277, Hernandez. California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CHAPTER 724)

[An act to amend Section 14026 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Amends the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CVRA) definition of "political subdivision" to include a charter city, charter county, or charter city and county. The bill would also state that it is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this bill to categorize the holding of the state courts regarding the applicability of the CVRA to charter cities.

3. AB 363, Steinorth. Closing of the Polls (CHAPTER 725)

[An act to amend Sections 14405, 14420, and 14421 of, and to add Section 14422 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows county elections official to direct the precinct board to seal the ballots and to record certain information prior to the closing of the polls. The bill would also authorize the county elections official to direct other elections officials to remove the sealed ballots prior to the closing of the polls and to deliver them to a receiving center or central counting place. Requires elections official to notify public of the dates, times, and places where ballot containers will be delivered. Requires the Secretary of State to adopt regulations addressing the secure delivery and transfer of ballots to a receiving center or central counting place.

4. AB 370, Brown, Election Campaigns: Candidate Misrepresentation (CHAPTER 105)

[An act to amend Section 18350 of the Elections Code, relating to election campaigns.]

Specifies that a candidate is guilty of a misdemeanor if they pretend or imply, by his or her campaign materials, that they are an incumbent or have been acting in the capacity of a public officer when that is not the case.

5. AB 400, Alejo. Department of Transportation: Changeable Message Signs (CHAPTER 693)

[An act to add Section 101.14 to the Streets and Highways Code, relating to highway signs.]

Requires CalTrans to allow the use of its changeable message signs to display,

among other things, reminders to register to vote and to vote.

6. AB 477, Mullin. Elections: Vote By Mail Ballots (CHAPTER 726)

[An act to amend Sections 3019 and 6901 of, to add Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6850) to Part 1 of Division 6 of, and to add Part 6 (commencing with Section 7900) to Division 7 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows voters who failed to sign their Vote-By-Mail ballot envelope to turn in an Unsigned Ballot Statement or sign the envelope at the office of their elections official before 5 pm on the 10th day after the election. Requires elections officials to attach the statement to the identification envelope, and election officials may not open the identification envelope if the signature on the statement does not match the signature(s) on record.

7. AB 547, Gonzalez. Elections: Special Elections: All-Mailed Ballot Elections (CHAPTER 727)

[An act to amend Section 4000.5 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Alters San Diego County's all-Vote-By-Mail elections pilot program to allow congressional and legislative districts with vacancies that do not wholly lie within San Diego County to qualify for the program. Allows cities of any size to hold vacancy elections all-Vote-By-Mail under certain circumstances, and allows cities, counties and districts to hold special initiative elections all-Vote-By-Mail under certain circumstances.

8. AB 554, Mullin. Elections: Precinct Board Members (CHAPTER 150)

[An act to amend Section 12302 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows students who are lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the US to serve as poll workers.

9. AB 594, Gordon. Political Reform Act of 1974: Campaign Statements (CHAPTER 364)

[An act to amend Sections 82013, 82036, 82036.5, 84101, 84103, 84200.6, 84206, 84207, 84218, and 85201 of, to repeal Sections 84200.7, 84202.5, and 84203.5 of, and to repeal and add Section 84200.5 of, the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1]

Revises filing requirements and the definitions of "late contribution" and "late independent expenditure".

10. AB 683, Low. Online Ballot Materials: Accessibility (CHAPTER 334)

[An act to amend Sections 2053, 9082.7, and 13300.7 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the Secretary of State on making election materials posted online more accessible, and requires any election materials posted online to conform to certain standards.

11. AB 786, Levine. National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (CHAPTER 780)

[An act to amend Section 4735 of the Civil Code, relating to common interest developments, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

Requires the Department of Motor Vehicles, coordinating with the Secretary of

State, to take steps to fully comply with the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 where it is not already, and requires the Department of Motor Vehicles, upon request from a voter to notify the Secretary of State of a move to a different county, to also notify the elections officials of both the voter's old and new counties of the change of address.

12. Ab 809, Obernolte. Local Initiative Measures: Ballot Printing Specifications (CHAPTER 337)

[An act to amend Section 13119 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires that for any ballot measure which would increase taxes or impose a new tax, the amount of money to be raised annually and the rate and duration of the tax be printed on the ballot.

13. AB 952, Cristina Garcia. Local Government: Vacancies (CHAPTER 185)

[An act to amend Section 36512 of the Government Code, relating to local government.]

Provides that if a city council fills a vacancy in an elective positions by appointment, the appointee shall hold the position until a replacement is elected at the next general municipal election if the vacancy occurs in the first half of the term and at least 130 days before a general election, or the appointee shall hold the position until the end of the term if the vacancy occurs in the second half of the term or less than 130 days before a general election.associated with filling such vacancies.

14. AB 990, Bonilla. Political Reform Act of 1974: advertisement disclosures. (CHAPTER 747)

[An act to amend Sections 84506.5, 84507, and 84511 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 imposes various disclosure statement requirements with respect to advertisements supporting or opposing a candidate or ballot measure. This bill would require that disclosure statements be printed in no less than 14-point bold, sans serif type font. The bill would require that an advertisement supporting or opposing a candidate that is paid for by an independent expenditure include a disclosure statement with specific content and, if the advertisement is mailed, would require that the disclosure statement be located within a quarter of an inch of the recipient's name and address and be contained within a box that meets prescribed criteria.

15. AB 1020, Ridley-Thomas. Elections: Voter Registration (CHAPTER 728)

[An act to amend Sections 2000, 2101, 2103, 2106, 2114, 2115, 2119, 2120, 2139, 2140, 2150, 2155.3, 2157, 2158, 2163, 2165, 2166, 2166.5, 2166.7, 2168, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2187, 2188, 2188.1, 2188.5, 2191, 2193, 2194, 2196, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2206, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2221, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 3009, 3010, 3011, 3019, 8401, 9030, 9114, 9115, 9308, 9309, 11224, 11225, 14202, 18104, and 18109 of, and to repeal Sections 2104, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2113, 2117, 2118, 2118.5, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2141, 2160, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2190, 2192, 2203, and 2204 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Various codes amended related to voter registration. Some changes include preregistration to vote in an election if, among other things, that person is at least 16 years of age. Modifies the procedure for the acceptance of affidavits of voter registration, reregistration, or notification of a transfer of registration for an

election. This bill will become operative when the Secretary of State certifies that the state has a statewide voter registration database that complies with the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002.

16. AB 1083, Eggman. Political Reform Act of 1974: Local Enforcement (CHAPTER 186)

[An act to add and repeal Section 83123.6 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Authorizes the City of Stockton to give the FPPC responsibility to enforce their local campaign finance ordinances.

17. AB 1100, Low and Bloom. Ballot Initiatives: Filing Fees (CHAPTER 229)

[An act to amend Section 9001 of the Elections Code, relating to ballot initiatives.]

Increases the filing fee paid by proponents of a potential initiative before circulation of title and summary from \$200 to \$2,000.

18. AB 1148, Gaines. Republican County Central Committees: Placer County (CHAPTER 111)

[An act to add Section 7400.2 to the Elections Code, relating to political party organization.]

Requires the Republican Central Committee of Placer County to be elected by supervisor district, 7 members from each district.

19. AB 1443, Chau. Voters: Language Accessibility (CHAPTER 347)

[An act to add Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 2600) to Division 2 of the Elections Code, relating to voters.]

Requires the Secretary of State to establish a Language Accessibility Advisory Committee.

20. AB 1461, Gonzalez. Voter Registration (CHAPTER 729)

[An act to amend Sections 2100 and 2102 of, and to add Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 2260) to Division 2 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Established the "California New Motor Voter Program", which requires the DMV to electronically provide to the Secretary of State the records of each person who is issued an original or renewed driver's license or state identification card if said person has submitted that they are a legal US citizen. The Secretary of State then provides these records to the appropriate county elections official. Individuals are automatically registered to vote using their motor vehicle records unless they decline to be registered to vote.

21. AB 1492, Low. Elections: In-Lieu-Filing-Fee and Political Party Qualification Petitions: Penal Provisions (CHAPTER 487)

[An act to amend and add Sections 298 and 299 of the Penal Code, relating to DNA samples.]

Makes acts which are considered crimes in relation to the circulation of initiative, referendum or recall petitions also considered crimes in relation to the circulation of political party qualification petitions and in-lieu-filing-fee petitions.

22. AB 1504, Alejo. Elections: All-Mailed Ballot Elections: Pilot Project (CHAPTER 730)

[An act to amend Section 4001 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows Monterey and Sacramento Counties to participate in the same all-VBM elections pilot program as San Mateo and Yolo Counties, and extends that pilot program until January 1, 2018.

23. AB 1535, Committee on Elections and Redistricting. Elections (CHAPTER 731)

[An act to amend Sections 17, 2102, 2103, 2107, 2119, 2142, 2155, 2158, 2162, 2194, 2196, 2250, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2408, 3019.5, 3114, 4000.5, 9054, 9094.5, 12309.5, 13107, 14026, 18108, 18108.1, 18108.5, 19240, 19242, 21500, 21550, 21601, 21620, and 22000, relating to elections.]

Makes technical changes to numerous parts of the Elections Code, updating references to Federal Law to reflect reclassifications in that law.

24. AB 1536, Committee on Elections and Redistricting. Elections (CHAPTER 732)

[An act to amend Sections 17, 2102, 2103, 2107, 2119, 2142, 2155, 2158, 2162, 2194, 2196, 2250, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2408, 3019.5, 3114, 4000.5, 9054, 9094.5, 12309.5, 13107, 14026, 18108, 18108.1, 18108.5, 19240, 19242, 21500, 21550, 21601, 21620, and 22000, relating to elections.]

Makes technical changes to numerous parts of the Elections Code, updating references to Federal Law to reflect reclassifications in that law.

25. AB 1544, Cooley. Political Reform Act of 1974; behested payments. (CHAPTER 756)

[An act to amend Section 82015 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing and related matters, including campaign contributions, as defined. This bill would provide that the provision relating to payments made by a government agency exclusively governs a payment by a governmental agency that is made principally for legislative or governmental purposes at the behest of a candidate who is an elected officer, and consequently the payment would not be subject to the reporting requirement that applies generally to payments made for legislative, governmental, or charitable purposes.

26. AJR 13, Ridley-Thomas. The Voting Rights Act of 1965 (CHAPTER 193)

[Relative to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.]

Recognizes August 6, 2015, as the 50th anniversary of the signing of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 and urges the President and Congress to continue to secure citizens' right to vote and remedy any racial discrimination in voting.

27. SB 21, Hill. Political Reform Act of 1974: Gifts of Travel (CHAPTER 757)

[An act to amend Sections 87207 and 89506 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Requires nonprofit organizations that pay for the travel of elected officials that is

reasonably related to a legislative or government purpose to disclose the names of the donors responsible for funding the payments.

28. SB 365, Pavley. Vote By Mail Ballot Drop Boxes (CHAPTER 733)

[An act to amend Section 3017 of, and to add Section 3025 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows voters to return their vote by mail ballot to the elections official they received it from at a vote by mail ballot drop-off location before election day.

29. SB 366, Nguyen. Ballot Materials: Translations (CHAPTER 144)

[An act to amend Sections 13307 and 14111 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Expands the list of acceptable translators for translation of ballot materials.

30. SB 415, Hueso. Voter Participation (CHAPTER 235)

[An act to add Chapter 1.7 (commencing with Section 14050) to Division 14 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Prohibits political subdivisions, effective January 1, 2018, from holding elections on dates other than statewide election dates if they have resulted in a turnout of at least 5 percent less than the average turnout in that political subdivision over the last 4 statewide general elections.

31. SB 439, Allen. Election Procedures (CHAPTER 734)

[An act to amend Sections 2170 and 13004 of, and to add Sections 303.4, 2550, and 13004.5 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the Secretary of State to adopt and publish electronic poll book standards and regulations governing the certification and use of electronic poll books, as defined. The bill would prohibit the use of an electronic poll book unless it has been certified by the secretary.

32. SB 493, Cannella. Elections in Cities: By or From Districts (CHAPTER 735)

[An act to add Section 34886 to the Government Code, relating to elections.]

Authorizes cities to adopt an ordinance providing for the election of members of the legislative body by district or by district with an elective mayor without submitting the amendment to the voters for approval.

33. SB 505, Mendoza. Vote By Mail Ballots: Envelopes (CHAPTER 236)

[An act to amend Section 2300 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows the Secretary of State to revise the wording of the Voter Bill of Rights in order to ensure understanding, so long as it still conveys the same message.

34. SB 589, Block. Voting: Voter Registration: Individuals with Disabilities and Conservatees (CHAPTER 736)

[An act to amend Sections 2102, 2150, 2208, and 2209 of the Elections Code, and to amend Sections 1823, 1826, 1828, 1851, and 1910 of the Probate Code, relating to voting.]

Allows an individual with a disability who is otherwise qualified to vote to

complete an affidavit of registration with reasonable accommodations as needed. Also requires the presumption that an individual is competent to vote unless the courts find by clear and convincing evidence that the person cannot communicate, with or without reasonable accommodations, a desire to participate in the voting process. Makes conforming changes to other provisions.

35. SB 704, Gaines. Public officers and employees: conflict of interest: contracts (CHAPTER 495)

[An act to amend Section 1091 of the Government Code, relating to public officers and employees.]

Current law prohibits Members of the Legislature, state, county, district, judicial district, and city officers or employees from being financially interested in any contract made by them in their official capacity, or by any body or board of which they are members. Current law identifies certain remote interests in contracts that are not subject to this prohibition and other situations in which an official is not deemed to be financially interested in a contract. This bill would include in the definition of "remote interest" the interest of a person who is an owner or partner of a firm serving as an appointed member of an unelected board or commission of the contracting agency, if the owner or partner recuses himself or herself from providing any advice to the contracting agency regarding the contract between the firm and the contracting agency, and from all participation in reviewing a project that results from that contract.

36. SCR 42, Huff. Voter Awareness Week (CHAPTER 56)

[Relative to Voter Awareness Week.]

Proclaims the week of October 18 through October 24, 2015, as Voter Awareness Week.

37. SJR 13, De Leon. Voting: apportionment (CHAPTER 160)

[Relative to voting.]

Will compel the Supreme Court of the United States to uphold the federal constitutional principle of "one person, one vote" and not deny California's children and immigrants equal protection under the law.

Two-Year Bill

AB 31, Cristina Garcia. Members of the Legislature and Congress: Domicile: Voting Fraud

[An act to amend Sections 2026 and 18560 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Clarifies that the address at which a Member of the Legislature or Representative in Congress is registered to vote shall only be presumed to be their domicile if it is a place in which the person's habitation is fixed for some period of time. Requires the Attorney General to investigate and prosecute any person who fraudulently votes or attempts to vote in a jurisdiction in which they don't reside.

AB 245, Lackey. Elections: Penal Provisions

[An act to amend Sections 18544 and 18545 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

This bill would increase the maximum fine of those associated with being or hiring an armed guard stationed or posted at a polling place. The fine for those offenses would be increased to \$16,000 and require that the fine amount be adjusted annually by any annual increase in the California Consumer Price Index.

AB 278, Hernandez. District-Based Municipal Elections

[An act to amend Section 10010 of the Elections Code, and to add Section 34885 to the Government Code, relating to elections.]

This bill requires the legislative body of a general law city with a population of 100,000 or more to adopt an ordinance for the election of members of the legislative body by district. This ordinance would not be submitted to voters for approval. The bill would require that the proposed boundaries satisfy specified criteria.

AB 372, Bigelow. Elections: Write-In Candidates

[An act to amend Section 8604 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires write-in candidates who advance to the general election for a voter-nominated office to pay the filing fee in order to appear on the general election ballot. Permits a candidate who alleges to be indigent and unable to pay the requisite fee to submit a statement of financial worth to the Secretary of State for consideration. Requires a candidate found not to be indigent to pay the filing fee within a prescribed time. Specifies that a candidate found to be indigent is not required to pay the fee to appear on the ballot.

AB 391, Gallagher. Voter Registration: Conditional Voter Registration

[An act to amend Section 2170 of, and to add Section 2170.5 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires registrants attempting to register to vote conditionally in the 14 days preceding an election to provide proof of residence in order for the conditional registration to be deemed effective.

AB 479, Harper. Elections: County Central Committees

[An act to amend Section 7670 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive change to provision relating to county central committee elections.

AB 535, Grove. Elections: County Central Committees

[An act to amend Section 9051 of the Elections Code, relating to initiative measures.]

Imposes specific requirements on the content of the ballot title and summary prepared by the Attorney General for each statewide ballot measure.

AB 609, Cristina Garcia. Members of the Legislature: Residency

[An act to add Section 8020.5 to the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

The bill would authorize the Secretary of State to post on his or her Internet Web site voluntary statements of continuing residency filed with the secretary, as described above.

AB 700, Gomez and Levine. Political Reform Act of 1974: Advertisement Disclosures

[An act to amend Section 84511 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

Requires that the disclosure statement which appears in video or TV political advertisements appear continuously.

AB 800, Gomez. Elections: Vote By Mail Ballots

[An act to amend Section 3010 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires elections officials to include return envelopes with prepaid postage with all Vote-by-Mail ballots. Does not include UOCAVA voters.

AB 834, Salas. Political Reform Act of 1974: Advertisements

[An act to add Section 89002 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Defines a "public advertisement", and prohibits these ads within 90 days of an election if they feature a candidate who will appear on the ballot in said election.

AB 884, Rendon. Initiative Petitions: Title and Summary

[An act to amend Section 9004 of the Elections Code, relating to initiatives.]

Increases the fee paid to the Attorney General by proponents of a prospective ballot measure for the preparation of circulating title and summary from \$200 to \$1,000, and authorizes the Attorney General to annually determine the actual costs of preparing the circulating title and summary and raise the fee to a maximum of \$5,000 accordingly. Also requires the Attorney General, should they determine that the measure would likely result in a violation of an individual's Constitutional rights, to include a specified statement in the title and summary.

AB 887, Ting. Electronic Ballot Transmission

[An act to add Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 3050) to Division 3 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Allows county elections officials to send a voter a ballot electronically for an election conducted wholly within their county. Voters must print out this ballot and

turn it in like they would a VBM ballot.

AB 910, Harper. Political Reform Act of 1974: Local Enforcement

[An act to add and repeal Section 83123.7 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Allows any county, city or city and county to enter into an agreement with the Fair Political Practices Commission, giving the FPPC the primary responsibility for enforcement of campaign finance laws.

AB 971, Chang. Payment of Expenses

[An act to amend Section 13001 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the state to pay for the expenses of any election to fill vacancy in the State Legislature or Congress which occur after January 1, 2015.

AB 1026, Eduardo Garcia. Secretary of State: Elections: Voter Turnout

[An act to add and repeal Section 12173.5 of the Government Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the Secretary of State to meet with elections officials, community groups and other persons to develop strategies for improving voter turnout and submit a report to the Legislature by July 1, 2016.

AB 1143, Hadley. Elections: Voter Registration Agencies

[An act to add Section 2403.5 to the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the Franchise Tax Board to send a voter registration card to any taxpayer whose tax return indicates a change of address from the previous year.

AB 1190, Cooley. Public Employees: Retirement: Elections

[An act to amend Section 20096 of the Government Code, relating to retirement.]

Authorizes an entity designated by the Secretary of State to provide certification of PERS Board of Administration election results.

AB 1200, Gordon. Political Reform Act of 1974: Lobbying: Procurement Contracts

[An act to amend Sections 82002 and 82039 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Would revise the Political Reform Act of 1974 definition of "lobbyist" to include specified conduct by an individual acting on behalf of any person other than his or her employer for the purpose of influencing administrative action that is governmental procurement, which is further defined to include various actions regarding a state procurement contract for which the total estimated cost exceeds \$250,000, thereby making the above-described lobbying requirements applicable to the specified attempts to influence governmental procurement. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

AB 1263, Mullin. Election Day Procedures: Privileges of Voters

[An act to amend Section 14000 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive change to provision allowing voters up to 2 paid

hours from work to vote in statewide elections.

AB 1271, Grove. Elections: Vote By Mail Ballots

[An act to amend Sections 3020 and 4103 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Alters provisions related to elections officials receiving vote by mail ballots up to 3 days after the election. Removes provisions which allow ballots without a postmark or with an illegible postmark to be counted under certain circumstances, and removes provisions allowing ballots to be delivered by bona fide private mail delivery companies.

AB 1273, Linder. Election: Fraud

[An act to amend Section 18500 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes nonsubstantive changes to provision related to fraudulent casting of ballots.

AB 1296, Jones. Elections: Initiative and Referendum Measures

[An act to amend Sections 9114, 9115, 9211, and 9308 of, and to repeal Section 9309 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Requires elections officials, when they have determined that the petition for a local initiative or referendum has the required number of signatures, to immediately place the initiative or referendum on the ballot for the first election which in qualifies for instead of just certifying the petition with the appropriate legislative body.

AB 1414, Grove. Voter Registration: Requirements

[An act to amend Section 2157 of the Elections Code, relating to voter registration.]

Makes a nonsubstantive change to provisions related to affidavits of registration.

AB 1457, Obernolte. Petition Circulator: Certification: Use of Signatures

[An act to amend Section 9610 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes a technical, nonsubstantive change to provisions related to signed statements required to be kept by signature gatherers for petitions.

AB 1458, Obernolte. Voters: Residency Confirmation

[An act to amend Section 2227 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes a technical, nonsubstantive change to provisions related to preelection residency confirmation procedures.

AB 1477, Burke. Elections: Vote By Mail Ballots

[An act to amend Section 3001 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive changes to provision related to vote by mail ballot applications.

AB 1494, Levine. Political Reform Act of 1974: Independent Expenditure Report Annual Fee

[An act to amend Section 85500 of, and to add Section 12179.2 to the Government Code, relating

to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Requires a committee subject to the independent expenditure disclosure requirement to pay an annual reporting fee, which will go into a Civic Engagement Fund and be distributed to, among other related activities, FPPC and local elections officials.

ACA 2, Mullin. Elections: Voting Age

[A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, by amending Section 2 of Article II thereof, relating to elections.]

Would allow a US citizen who is 17 years of age, a resident of the state, and will be 18 years of age before the next general election to vote in any intervening primary or special election.

SB 49, Runner. Elections: Special Elections

[An act to amend Section 10705 of the Elections Code, relating to elections, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

In the event that only one candidate qualifies for the ballot of a special election to fill a vacancy in legislative office and no person qualifies as an official write-in candidate, authorizes that Governor to declare the unopposed candidate elected and cancel the election. Also requires the Governor, in this case, to rescind the proclamation calling the special election.

SB 129, Anderson. Online Voter Registration

[An act to amend Section 2196 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive changes to provision related to online voter registration through Secretary of State's office.

SB 169, Gaines. Elections: Polling Places

[An act to amend Section 12288 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive changes to provision relating to the use of establishments that sell alcohol as polling places.

SB 283, Nielsen. Elections: Ballot Titles and Summaries

[An act to amend Sections 9050, 9051, 9053, 9086, 9087, 13262, 13282, and 18602 of the Elections Code, and to amend Section 88002 of the Government Code, relating to elections.]

Requires the Legislative Analyst to prepare the ballot label and ballot title and summary for measures submitted to the voters of the state instead of the Attorney General.

SB 310, Anderson. The Political Reform Act of 1974

[An act to amend Section 81001 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive change to provision which sets forth findings and declarations supporting the necessity of campaign finance regulation.

SB 437, Block. California Voting Rights Act of 2001

[An act to relating to elections.]

States the intent of the Legislature to pass legislation that ensures all elections in California comply with the California Voting Rights Act of 2001.

SB 450, Allen and Hertzberg. Elections: All-Mailed Ballot Elections

[An act to add Section 4005 to, and to add and repeal Section 4005.5 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Authorizes a county, on or after January 1, 2018, to conduct any election as an all-mailed ballot election if certain conditions are satisfied, including conditions related to ballot dropoff locations and polling centers.

SB 611, Lara. Initiative and Referendum Petitions: Circulation Requirements

[An act to amend Section 9021 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes technical, nonsubstantive changes to provision related to circulation requirements of petitions.

SB 784, Allen. Provisional Ballots

[An act to amend Section 14217 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Makes a technical, nonsubstantive change to provision related to casting of a provisional ballot.

Federal Bills to Watch

H.R. 195, Gregg Harper. Election Assistance Commission Termination Act.

Amends the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to terminate the Election Assistance Commission (EAC), the EAC Standards Board, and the EAC Board of Advisors. Requires the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to perform EAC functions with respect to certain existing contracts and agreements during the transition period for winding up EAC affairs.

Transfers specified election administration functions of the EAC to the Federal Election Commission.

Terminates the Technical Guidelines Development Committee.

H.R. 885, James Sensenbrenner Jr. Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2015.

Amends the Voting Rights Act of 1965 with respect to the requirement that a federal court retain jurisdiction for an appropriate period to prevent commencement of new devices to deny or abridge the right to vote. Expands the types of violations triggering the authority of a court to retain such jurisdiction to include certain violations of the Act as well as violations of any federal voting rights law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, or membership in a language minority group.

Excludes from the list of violations triggering jurisdiction retention authority any voting qualification or prerequisite which results in a denial or abridgement of the right to vote that is based on the imposition of a requirement that an individual provide a photo identification as a condition of receiving a ballot for voting in a federal, state, or local election.

Revises requirements for determining which states and political subdivisions are covered or not covered by criteria for declaratory judgments that they have not used devices to deny or abridge the right to vote.

Subjects to the requirements for making such a determination any state (and all of its political subdivisions) during a calendar if five or more voting rights violations occurred in the state during the previous 15 years, at least one of which was committed by the state itself (as opposed to a political subdivision within it).

Specifies application of such new coverage requirements to any specific political subdivision if: (1) three or more voting rights violations occurred in it during the previous 15 calendar years; or (2) one or more voting rights violations occurred in it during the previous 15 calendar years and the subdivision had persistent, extremely low minority turnout during that period.

Provides that, if a state obtains a declaratory judgment that it has not used a device to deny or abridge the right to vote, the requirements for a new declaratory judgment generally will not apply, unless the new coverage requirements of this Act apply to the state solely on the basis of voting rights violations occurring after the declaratory judgment was issued.

Prescribes transparency requirements, including reasonable public notice, regarding any changes to: (1) voting prerequisites, standards, or procedures; (2) polling place resources; or (3) demographics and electoral districts.

Modifies authority to assign observers, including authorizing the assignment of observers to enforce bilingual election requirements.

Revises requirements for injunctive relief, including its scope and the persons authorized to seek relief as well as the grounds for granting it.

H.R. 1617, Susan Davis. Federal Election Integrity Act of 2015.

Federal Election Integrity Act of 2015 Amends the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to make it unlawful for a chief state election administration official to take active part in political management or in a political campaign with respect to any election for federal office over which the official has supervisory authority. Waives application of this Act if the chief state election administration official himself or herself, or an immediate family member, is a candidate.

H.R. 2694, David Cicilline. Automatic Voter Registration Act.

This bill amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require state motor vehicle authorities (MVAs), upon receiving certain identifying information with respect to any individual requesting MVA services, to transmit it to the appropriate state election official.

The appropriate state election official shall then notify the individual that unless he or she notifies the official, before 21 calendar days elapse after issuance of the notification, that the individual declines to be registered to vote in federal elections in the state, the individual shall be considered to have submitted a completed voter registration application and be considered automatically registered unless:

The official determines that the individual does not meet voter registration eligibility requirements, or the individual is already registered to vote. A state may not use any identifying information regarding an individual's citizenship status for any purpose other than determining whether the individual is eligible to vote in federal elections.

H.R. 2887, Matthew Cartwright. Time off to Vote Act

Entitles an employee to two hours of paid leave on the day of any federal election in order to vote.

Gives the employer the right to determine the two-hour-period, excluding any lunch break or other break.

Prohibits the loss of benefits for any employee taking such leave under this Act.

Makes it unlawful for any employer to interfere with, restrain, or deny the exercise of or the attempt to exercise, the right to take leave under this Act, or to discriminate against an employee in any manner for taking leave under this Act.

Makes it unlawful for any employer to discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any individual for: (1) opposing any practice made unlawful by this Act; (2) filing any charge, or instituting or causing to be instituted any proceeding, under or related to this Act; or (3) testifying or preparing to testify in any inquiry or proceeding relating to any leave provided under this Act.

Specifies the penalties for any employer who violates this Act.

H.R. 3522, Donald Beyer. Pre-Registration of Voters Everywhere Act.

This bill amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require each state to implement a pre-registration process under which individuals age 16 may

apply to register to vote in federal elections in the state, which shall ensure that the individual is registered to vote in elections held on or after the date the individual turns age 18.

The Election Assistance Commission shall make grants to enable eligible states to carry out a plan to increase the involvement of individuals under age 18 in public election activities in the state.

S. 68, David Vitter. Voter Integrity Protection Act.

Amends the Immigration and Nationality Act to make voting in a federal election (unless otherwise provided for under the federal criminal code) by an alien who is unlawfully in the United States an aggravated felony and a deportable offense. Introduced in Senate (07/30/2015) and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. 212, Barbara Boxer. Line Act of 2015.

Lines Interfere with National Elections Act of 2015 or the LINE Act of 2015 Amends the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require each jurisdiction where a substantial number of voters waited more than 30 minutes to cast a vote in the federal election held on November 6, 2012, or any federal election held after that date, to comply with a state remedial plan to minimize voter waiting times.

S. 1912, Jon Tester. Native American Voting Rights Act of 2015.

This bill prohibits states and local governments from:

- eliminating the only polling place or voter registration site on an Indian reservation;
- moving or consolidating a polling place or voter registration site located on an Indian reservation to a location one mile or further from the existing one;
- moving or consolidating a polling place on an Indian reservation to a location across a natural boundary if that makes travel difficult for a voter, regardless of distance;
- eliminating in-person voting on an Indian reservation by designating an Indian reservation as a permanent absentee voting location, unless the entire state is or becomes a permanent absentee voting state or the Indian tribe requests such a designation;
- removing an early voting location or otherwise diminishing early voting opportunities on an Indian reservation; or
- decreasing the number of days or hours that an in-person or early voting location is open on an Indian reservation or changing the dates of in-person or early voting on an Indian reservation.

Requirements for exceptions to such prohibitions are prescribed.

Each of the states whose territory contains all or part of an Indian reservation shall designate, for each Indian tribe of each Indian reservation, an officer within that state responsible for compliance with this Act.

Any state whose territory contains all or part of an Indian reservation shall provide one or more polling places for each Indian tribe satisfying certain obligations.

In states that provide for early voting a state or local election official shall provide upon request at least one early voting location on an Indian reservation.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 is amended to require the Office of Personnel Management to assign an appropriate number of observers whenever the Attorney General receives a written complaint from an Indian tribe that efforts to deny or abridge the right to vote under the color of law on account of race or color, or in contravention of specified guarantees, are likely to occur.

S. 1950, Charles "Chuck" Schumer. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to provide for online voter registration and for other purposes.

This bill amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to direct the Election Assistance Commission (EAC) to: (1) develop an online voter registration application platform; and (2) forward automatically completed online voter registration application forms and cancellation requests to the appropriate chief state election officials and, acting through such officials, to appropriate state and local election officials in the state.

The EAC shall automatically connect registration applicants to the state platform in lieu of the federal platform in any state that has developed one meeting the requirements of this Act.

Allows a state to require a first time voter registered online to vote in person.

The Postmaster General shall ensure that the U.S. Postal Service Online Change of Address process incorporates the online voter registration platform and allows individuals to register to vote during the process.

The National Voter Registration Act is amended with respect to administration of voter registration to change the voter registration application deadline from the lesser of 30 days or the period provided by state law before the date of election to the lesser of 28 days or the period provided by state law.

S. 1952, Charles "Chuck" Schumer. A bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to modify the procedures for change of address.

This bill amends the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to revise requirements for notifying a voting registrar of a change of address before the date of an election.

If a registrant has failed to notify the registrar of a change of address within a state before an election day, the registrant shall all the same, upon an oral or written affirmation before an election official, be permitted to vote at either the polling place of the registrant's current address or a central location within the same registrar's jurisdiction.

Vetoed Bills

AB 10, Galto. Political Reform Act of 1974: Economic Interest Disclosures.

[An act to amend Sections 82033, 82034, 87103, 87206, and 87207 of, and to add Sections 87206.5 and 87211 to, the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

This bill would increase the thresholds at which a public official has a disqualifying financial interest in sources of income from \$500 to \$1,000, in investments in business entities from \$2,000 to \$5,000, and in interests in real property from \$2,000 to \$10,000.

AB 182, Alejo. California Voting Rights Act of 2001

[An act to add the heading of Article 1 (commencing with Section 14025) and the heading of Article 2 (commencing with Section 14027) to, and to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 14040) to, Chapter 1.5 of Division 14 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

This bill would prohibit the use of a district-based election in a political subdivision if it would impair the ability of a protected class, as defined, to elect candidates of its choice. It would require a court to implement specified remedies upon a finding that a district-based election was imposed or applied in a manner that impaired the ability of a protected class to elect candidates of its choice.

AB 254, Hernandez and Calderon. Election Dates

[An act to amend, repeal, and add Sections 1000, 1301, and 13112 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

This bill would eliminate the established election dates in March (odd-numbered years) and April (even numbered years). It would begin January 1, 2020.

AB 562, Holden. Elections: Ballots

[An act to amend Section 13109 of the Elections Code, relating to ballots.]

Requires the office of Superintendent of Public Instruction to be listed under the STATEWIDE EDUCATION heading on ballots, instead of the SCHOOL heading.

AB 1301, Jones-Sawyer and Alejo. Voting Rights: Preclearance

[An act to add Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 400) to Division 0.5 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Creates a state preclearance system, requiring any political subdivision that wishes to change a specified voting-related law, regulation of policy to have that change approved by the Secretary of State before it can go into effect.