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SACHI A. HAMAI

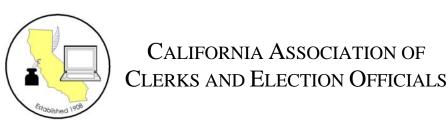
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March 24, 2008

Assembly Member Bob Huff State Capitol, Room 4098 Sacramento, CA 94249-0060

Re: AB 1808

Dear Assembly Member Huff:

The Elections Legislative Committee of the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) reviewed AB 1808 (as introduced January 16, 2008), allowing candidates for federal office to purchase space from a local agency or the Secretary of State to place a statement of qualifications in the voter information pamphlet or state ballot pamphlet.

In reviewing this proposal it was noted that the bill should specify that statements of qualifications from candidates for those federal offices voted for throughout the state should be filed with the Secretary of State and appear in the state ballot pamphlet, and statements of candidates for U.S. Representative should be filed with the county election official(s) in the county or counties in which the candidate(s) wish the statement to appear, and should be printed in the county voter information pamphlets. This distinction is made due to the fact the State does not have the ability to print different versions of the state ballot pamphlet, by congressional district. Currently the State is handling only statements for statewide candidates. All offices that run by district file statements with the county election officials.

Further it should be considered that state and state legislative candidates who purchase space to file a statement of qualifications must agree to adhere to expenditure limits (G.C. §§85600, 85601). This may be perceived as being unfair to those candidates as candidates for federal office will have no such requirement.

Should you have any questions in this regard, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor's Office, (707) 565-1877.

Very truly yours,

Janice Atkinson, Correspondence Secretary Elections Legislative Committee California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

 c: Assembly Member Curren Price, Chair, Committee on Elections and Redistricting Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Barry Brokaw and Donne Brownsey, Sacramento Advocates, Inc.