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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

Rebecca Martinez, President Madera County Clerk-Recorder 200 West 4th Street, Madera, CA 93637 (559) 675-7721; FAX (559) 675-7870 E-Mail: rmartinez@madera-county.com

Website: www.caceo58.org

May 5, 2009

Assembly Member Paul Krekorian State Capitol P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0043

Dear Assembly Member Krekorian:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee has reviewed **AB 1271** (as introduced February 27, 2009), your proposal removing the requirement that a voter be ill or disabled in order to authorize another person to return the voter's vote by mail ballot.

The Committee is in **Support** of this bill. Many vote by mail voters find themselves in a situation where they are unable to return their ballots personally, and if they have waited until it is too late to return the ballot by mail, they are disenfranchised. In some instances the voter's spouse, or parent may prefer to vote at the polls and offer to deliver the voter's ballot on their behalf. This bill will remove a barrier to voting by mail and will help to increase voter turnout.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at the Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor's Office at 707-565-1876.

Very truly yours, anice Atkinson

Correspondence Secretary
California Association of Clerks

and Election Officials

c: Assembly Member Paul Fong, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting Senator Loni Hancock, Chair, Senate Committee on Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments

Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates

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