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**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS**

Rebecca Martinez, President
Madera County Clerk-Recorder
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September 22, 2009

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor, State of California
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee requests your signature on **AB 1440** (Swanson), a proposal that would provide provisional voting to disaster workers who are attending to a declared emergency out of their county of residence.

Disasters, whether earthquakes, wildfires, floods, mudslides, or other calamities, strike without warning, and cause numerous workers to leave their county of residence to respond. When this happens near election times, these individuals are often denied their right to vote because they cannot access their county of residence. This proposal allows, in the event of a declared disaster and the issuance of an executive order so permitting, elections officials to issue provisional ballots to emergency responders and to transmit the ballot back to the voters' counties of residence within 10 days following the election. The costs associated with the implementation of these procedures are considered to be minor, and are more than offset by restoring the right to vote to those who often put their lives on the line responding to disasters.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. Please contact me at the Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor's Office (707) 565-1876, should you have any questions in this regard.

Very truly yours,

Janice Atkinson
Correspondence Secretary
California Association of Clerks
and Election Officials

c: Assembly Member Sandré Swanson, Author
Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates

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