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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

Rebecca Martinez, President
Madera County Clerk-Recorder
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March 20, 2010

State Senator Carol Liu
State Capitol Rm. 5061
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Seantor Liu:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials, Elections Legislative Committee is happy to inform you of its **Support of SB 1102** (as introduced February 17, 2010). This proposal would allow special elections to fill vacancies in the legislature or congress by all mailed ballot election under certain conditions.

Due to the unprecedented economic situation, all jurisdictions are looking for ways in which required services can be provided in a more economical manner. All mailed ballot elections have proven to save money and increase voter turnout. This would be an added advantage, as special vacancy elections often suffer from dismal voter turnout. The bill has several safeguards in place, including the requirement that the election or elections not be held on established election dates, thus avoiding the problem of concurrent polling place and all mailed ballot elections in the same territory, a requirement that the Board of Supervisors authorize the use of all mailed ballot for the election, and notice to the voters that the election will be conducted in this manner.

A minor amendment to an existing all mailed ballot section is requested, that being the form of notice required in SEC. 3 Elections Code Section 4101. Current law requires that the elections official mail a postcard notice. It was suggested that the word "postcard" be deleted, thus allowing the elections official to mail any form of notice, such as a letter, or including the notice in the Voter Information Pamphlet for the election in the event such pamphlet is mailed separate from the official ballot.

Again, thank you for your support of expanding the all mailed ballot provisions of the California Elections Code. 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,

Janice 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
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Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
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