

OFFICERS 2006-2008

STEVE WEIR
PRESIDENT
Contra Costa County
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VICE PRESIDENT
Madera County

MIKEL HAAS
TREASURER
San Diego County

GAIL PELLERIN
SECRETARY
Santa Cruz County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APPOINTED:

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Sonoma County
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Shasta County
CANDACE GRUBBS
Butte County
JOSEPH HOLLAND
Santa Barbara County
DEAN LOGAN
Los Angeles County
JOHN MCKIBBEN
Los Angeles County
KATHIE MORAN
Colusa County
DOLORES PROVENCIO
Imperial County
ELMA ROSAS
Santa Clara County
KAY VINSON*
City Clerk, Murrieta
* non-voting member

ELECTED:

JULIE BUSTAMANTE
Northern Area
Lassen County
BARBARA DUNMORE
Southern Area
Riverside County
CANDY LOPEZ
Bay Area
Contra Costa County
LEE LUNDRIGAN
Central Area
Stanislaus County
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Mother Lode Area
Placer County

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Los Angeles County

COUNTY CLERK:

KATHIE MORAN
Colusa County
VICKI PETERSEN
Sonoma County

ELECTIONS:

JILL LAVINE
Sacramento County
DEBORAH SEILER
Solano County



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

March 21, 2007

Senator Jenny Oropeza
State Capitol, Room 4074
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Oropeza:

The Elections Legislative Committee of the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials reviewed **SB 382** (as introduced February 21, 2007), your proposed legislation eliminating the seven day period prior to an election in which a newly sworn citizen is not allowed to cast a ballot, and allowing election officials the option of designating an alternate location to the election official's office in which a new citizen may cast a ballot.

California's Election Officials **Support** your proposal to allow new citizens to cast their first ballots by coming to the office of the election official or other location designated by the election official between the 14th day before the election and the close of polls Election Day. The existing seven-day blackout period for new citizen voting serves no purpose, in light of the provision that the new citizen vote at the election official's office or at another location designated by the election official.

Election officials across California have all encountered the disappointment of a newly sworn citizen who is unable to participate in the democratic process simply because the citizenship ceremony occurred within a week of an election. When a new citizen's first encounter with voting is one of denial, it undoubtedly leaves a negative impression on the voter and discourages further participation in the democratic process.

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: Senator Ron Calderon, Chair, Elections, Reapportionment and Constitutional Amendments Committee
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