

OFFICERS 2006-2008

STEVE WEIR
PRESIDENT
Contra Costa County
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REBECCA MARTINEZ
VICE PRESIDENT
Madera County

GAIL PELLERIN
TREASURER
Santa Cruz County

CATHY DARLING
SECRETARY
Shasta County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

APPOINTED:

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Sonoma County
DARLENE BLOOM
Orange County
CANDACE GRUBBS
Butte County
JOSEPH HOLLAND
Santa Barbara County
NEAL KELLEY
Orange 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
JIM MCCAULEY
Mother Lode Area
Placer County

ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Los Angeles County
MARSHA WHARFF
Mendocino County

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES

CLERK OF THE BOARD:

SACHI A. HAMAI
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

May 4, 2007

Senator Joe Simitian
State Capitol, Rm. 2080
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Simitian:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials (CACEO) Elections Legislative Committee would like to thank you for introducing **SB 967** on February 23, 2007. The Committee has voted overwhelmingly to **Support** this proposal.

Subtracting the number of permanent absentee voters from the total number of voters when establishing precincts makes good sense for election officials, poll workers, voters and taxpayers. Prior to the increase in permanent absentee voters, it was typical for 500 or more voters to vote at a polling place in Sonoma County. In the November 2006 general election, Sonoma County's turnout at the polls ranged from a low of 67 voters to a high of 333 voters, despite the fact that overall voter turnout was over 75%.

This bill would allow election officials to assign more voters to polling places that are commonly recognized, highly visible, safe, secure, and accessible to voters with disabilities, such as community centers, veterans' memorial buildings, and schools. These locations are also more likely to be situated on major thoroughfares and transit routes, improving access to the polls.

Finding sufficient volunteers to staff the polls has been a problem for many years. Under the provisions of this proposal, fewer poll workers would be needed. Fewer poll workers would allow for better training of the remaining poll workers. The result would be better trained poll workers to assist voters on Election Day. Voters deserve the services of well-trained, considerate poll workers.

Thank you for assisting our Association in reducing barriers to 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, at 707-565-1876.

Very truly yours,

Janice Atkinson
Correspondence Secretary
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, C

Officium Populi – Office of the People