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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

NEAL KELLEY, PRESIDENT

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July 7, 2015

The Honorable Ben Allen
Chairman, Senate Elections and
Constitutional Amendments Committee
State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814

AB 1020 (Ridley-Thomas) -SUPPORT

Dear Senator Allen:

The California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials wishes to advise you that it supports AB 1020 which updates voter registration provisions in preparation for the implementation of California's state-wide voter registration system, VoteCal, in 2016. The federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA) requires states to develop and implement a statewide voter registration system.

This bill changes the county-centric provisions in the code to state-centered provisions which result in a "portable" voter registration which transfers a voter's status, history and requests automatically when moving between counties.

This bill also cleans up voter registration language and provisions which have been superseded by the state's implementation of the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA) such as the elimination of deputy registrars.

We are appreciative of the efforts of the Office of the Secretary of State in proposing these thoughtful and important changes in the Election Code. This legislation is critical to the successful implementation of VoteCal.

Should you have questions regarding our position, please contact me at the Contra Costa County Election Division at scott.konopasek@vote.cccounty.us or (925) 335-7808.

Respectfully,

Scott O. Konopasek
Corresponding Secretary
California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

Cc: Assembly Member Ridley-Thomas, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting
Darren Chesin, Chief Consultant, Senate Elections and C.A. Committee
Cory Botts, Republican Caucus Consultant
Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates, Inc.
Jill LaVine, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee
Karen Rhea, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee
Jana Lean, Secretary of State, Elections Chief