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**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF
CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS**

CATHY DARLING ALLEN, PRESIDENT
Shasta County Clerk
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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* non-voting member

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August 3, 2012

Assembly Member Richard S. Gordon, Author
P.O. Box 942849, Room 5175
Sacramento, CA 94249-0021

Dear Assembly Member Gordon:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to convey its **Support of AB 2080** (as amended June 26, 2012).

Existing law confuses voters who are attempting to participate in democracy, and who see these additional limitations as needless. This proposal would remove the requirement that a voter be ill or have a physical disability in order to authorize his or her spouse, parent, child, grandchild, sibling or person living in the household to return their vote by mail ballot. AB 2080 allows any vote by mail voter to authorize a representative to both receive and return his or her ballot. The proposal also maintains important protections to guard against fraud, such as written authorization by the voter; restrictions against campaigns and committees acting as such representatives, and verification of the voter's signature upon the receipt of the voted ballot.

This proposal will also streamline the process for poll workers who accept vote by mail ballots at the polls and who are tasked with implementing and explaining confusing provisions to voters.

If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at the Monterey County Elections Department, at (831) 796-1499.

Very truly yours,

Linda Tulett
Correspondence Secretary
California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

- c: Honorable Lou Correa, Chair, Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments
- Honorable Paul Fong, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting
- Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
- Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
- Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates