



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

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May 10, 2017

The Honorable Marc Berman
State Capitol Building, Room 6011
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assembly Member Berman:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to support **AB 606**, your proposed legislation which would modernize and provide a more useful Statewide Voter Information Guide (Statewide VIG).

In November 2016 the Statewide VIG was 224 pages, the largest book that has been printed and sent from the State for an election. Current law requires that all citizen initiatives be placed on a November statewide election ballot, so the November 2016 Statewide VIG may become the normal rather than the exception. Much of the Statewide VIG is the full text of each proposed measure. Although that is helpful information to the voter to make an informed decision, most voters rely on the shorter analysis and/or summary prepared by the LAO or the AG and they have to wade through over 200 pages to find them.

Your proposal allows the Secretary of State to provide the full text of each measure on their website and print in the Statewide VIG only the summaries and analyses, and offers the option to voters to ask for a hard copy of the full text to be mailed to them. More importantly, your proposal conforms the Statewide VIG to the County VIG requirements, which allow county elections officials to post the full text of a measure on their website. Several counties have found success with this model, especially San Diego who had an election with the full text being 685 pages long.

If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at tricia.webber@santacruzcounty.us or (831) 454-2409, or Jill LaVine, Sacramento County Registrar of Voters at lavinej@saccounty.net or (916) 875-6060.

Respectfully,

Tricia Webber

Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee
California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

cc: Ethan Jones, Chief Consultant, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting
Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy
Nick Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates, Inc.
Silvio Ferrari, Sacramento Advocates, Inc.
Jill LaVine, Co-Chair, CACEO Election Legislative Committee