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CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF CLERKS AND ELECTION OFFICIALS

GAIL L. PELLERIN, PRESIDENT

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April 12, 2012

Senator Gloria Negrete McLeod, Author
State Capitol
Room 4061
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

RE: **SB 1346** Elections: Election Day Procedures. Ballot Containers - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Negrete McLeod:

The California Association of Clerks and Election Officials Elections Legislative Committee is pleased to convey **Support of SB 1346** (as introduced February 24, 2012). This urgent legislation would allow election officials in larger counties to modify specific Election Day procedures relating to the removal of sealed ballot containers and securing uncounted voted ballots for transport to the central count location prior to the close of polling places in the county.

SB 1346 contains urgency provisions for the conduct of the 2012 Presidential elections in counties greater than 5,000 square miles: San Bernardino, Inyo, Kern, Riverside, Siskiyou, and Fresno counties. More specifically, SB 1346 allows the county election official in those counties to implement procedures that allow a trained ballot security team to remove a sealed ballot container containing voted and untallied ballots and transport the container to a receiving center or central counting location within the county for processing. This bill would prohibit the county election official from tallying the voted ballots or releasing any results prior to the close of polls on Election Day.

SB 1346 will assist county election officials in larger counties, especially at elections with multiple ballot cards and ballot containers with limited capacity, coupled with a high turnout of voters, to accomplish Election Night ballot tabulation and release of results more efficiently to the Secretary of State, media, and the general public.

If you or your staff has 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 Paul Fong, Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting
Honorable Lou Correa, Chair, Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments
Deborah Seiler, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
Jill Lavine, Co-Chair, CACEO Elections Legislative Committee
Barry Brokaw, Sacramento Advocates