

CITY CLERKS DEPARTMENT OF THE LEAGUE
CCAC Legislative Director Report
A. Kay Vinson, MMC

April, 2008

LEGISLATION

SB 1124 (Senate Local Government Committee omnibus bill) includes a provision requested by the City Clerks via Natasha Karl, League of California Cities, to delete the requirement that the clerk of the legislative body shall at all times maintain a reasonable supply of copies of the primary and secondary codes incorporated by reference. Remaining is the requirement that at least one copy of each primary and secondary code adopted by reference shall be filed in the office of the clerk of the legislative body.

AB 984 (Price) Vote by Mail Voter's Ballots: Postage. Requires that the elections official provide a notification to the voter of how many first-class stamps or equivalent postage is required if it is determined that more than one first-class stamp is required to return the vote by mail voter's ballot. The notification shall consist of a notice printed on the identification envelope or an insert included with the ballot. To Senate Committee on Elections, Redistricting & Constitutional Amendments. 02/07/08.

AB 1819 (Price) Voter Registration: 16 Years of Age. Authorizes a person who is at least 16 years of age and otherwise meets all voter eligibility requirements to submit his or her affidavit of registration. Provides that the affidavit of registration would be deemed effective as soon as the affiant would be 18 years of age at the time of the next election. The county election official shall be notified monthly by the registrar of births and deaths of all deceased persons 16 years of age and over. Operative January 1, 2010. 05/07/2008 to Appropriations suspense file.

AB 1828 (Huff) Jury Service Exemption for Pollworkers. Provides that a person who has served in the state as a precinct officer or precinct board member on a statewide or local election during the previous 12 months shall be excused from jury service upon request. Failed passage.

AB 1914 (Torrico) Initiative, Referendum and Recall Petitions. Provides that if a circulator of an initiative, referendum, or recall petition is found guilty of intentionally misrepresenting or making any false statement concerning the contents or purported effect of the petition, the proponents of the petition which was circulated by that circulator shall notify, by first-class mail or telephone, each person that signed a section of the petition of 1) the circulator's conviction, 2) the reason for the circulators conviction and 3) the ability of the person to withdraw his or her signature from the petition. On 05/05/2008 to Assembly for third reading.

AB 1928 (Anderson) Vote by Mail Identification Envelope. Requires that the vote by mail identification envelope includes a warning that informs the voter that the ballot must be actually received by the elections officials before the polls close on Election Day in order for the ballot to be counted and that an envelope postmarked by the day of the election is not sufficient. To committee on Rules for assignment on 05/08/2008.

AB 2218 (Gaines) Local Government Assessment and Fee Ballots. Revises provisions relating to security of the ballot process in local government assessment elections. Requires ballot envelopes to contain a preprinted declaration, under penalty of perjury, stating that the person returning the ballot is an owner of the parcel and to include in a conspicuous place and font a warning that the voter must complete and sign the envelope in order for the ballot to be counted. Provides that if an agency chooses to submit an increase in an existing fee or charge for a property related service to the electorate, the election may be held by mailed ballot but shall be conducted by the city clerk or the registrar of voters if the agency is a city or by the registrar of voters in the case of any agency other than a city. On 05/08/2008 to Committee on Rules for assignment.

AB 2227 (Furutani) Prohibits Payment for Voting. Prohibits a person, a political party, or a controlled committee, directly or through any other person or controlled committee, from paying, lending, or contributing, or offering or promising to pay, lend, or contribute, any money or other valuable consideration to or for any voter or for any other person to induce or reward the voter for voting at an election. These provisions shall not be construed to prohibit a person from offering or accepting transportation to or from a polling place or other location where a ballot may be cast. On 05/08/2008 to Committee on Rules for assignment.

AB 2371 (Coto) Voter Registration Through DMV and Franchise Tax Board. Provides that all applicants for a new or renewed driver's license, instruction permit, junior permit, or identification card or who file a Personal Income Tax form with the Franchise Tax Board be registered to vote, unless the person declines to be registered. Requires, among other things, that completed applications that cause a person to become registered to vote be used for verification purposes in the same manner as affidavits of registration, with the exception of political party affiliation. Allows a county elections official to duplicate completed applications of the DMV and Franchise Tax Board that cause a person to become registered to vote and store the information contained in the applications and forms by way of data processing equipment. The DMV shall develop new applications not later than July 1, 2009. 05/07/2008 Referred to Appropriations suspense file.

AB 2633 (Torrico) Consolidated Election Precincts. This bill proposes consolidation of six county precincts into one voting precinct. However, it also requires each group not exceed 1000 voters and each group must have it own precinct board, supplies, ballot box and set of returns. Scott Martin has proposed an exemption for local municipal elections that are conducted by the local jurisdiction. Natasha Karl, League staff, indicated they will review the amendments and address any issues that negatively impact local government. 05/05/2008 To third reading in Assembly.

AB 2758 (Krekorian) Voting Systems. Requires that upon approval of a new voting system by the Secretary of State, the vendor of the voting system shall cause an exact copy of the approved source code for each component of the voting system, including complete build and configuration instructions and related documents for compiling the source code into object code, to be directly transferred and deposited into an approved escrow facility. 05/08/2008 Referred to Committee on Elections, Redistricting and Constitutional Amendments.

AB 2786 (Salas) Return of Special Absentee Ballots. Extends the provision allowing a special absentee voter to return their ballot by facsimile transmission to January 1, 2011. Also amends related provisions to reflect extension. 05/08/2008 referred to Committee on Elections, Redistricting and Constitutional Amendments.

AB 2958 (Karnette) Permanent Vote by Mail Voters; Notice of Polling Place. Requires elections official to send notice of the polling place to a permanent vote by mail voter that includes additional information regarding vote by mail requirements. 05/05/2008 to third reading in Assembly.

AB 2959 (Brownley) Itemized Cost of Recount. Requires the elections official to provide an itemized account of costs to a voter requesting a recount not later than one day prior to the commencement of the recount and at the beginning of each day following its commencement. Specifies that the sum deposited by the voter seeking the recount shall not exceed the amount reflected in the most current itemized account of costs for the recount. 05/08/2008 to Committee on Rules for assignment.

AB 2964 (Levine) Vote by Mail Ballots. Requires the elections official to establish a free access system that allows a vote by mail voter to find out whether his or her ballot was counted. 05/08/2008 to Committee on Rules for assignment.

AB 3014 (Mullin) Voting Booth Time Limit. Deletes provisions that limits a voter to either 5 or 10 minutes in the booth, as specified and the provision that allows a voter to stay longer if no other voter is inconvenienced. 05/05/2008 to Committee on Rules for assignment.

AB 3026 (Saldana) Voting Systems. Specifies that no voting system or part of a voting system shall: 1) be connected to the Internet at any time, 2) electronically receive or transmit election data through an exterior communications network, including the public telephone system when the communication originates from or terminates at a polling place, satellite location or counting center and 3) receive or transmit wireless communications or wireless data transfers. Deletes these restrictions from provision relating to a direct recording electronic voting system. 05/08/2008 referred to Committee on Elections, Redistricting and Constitutional Amendments.

AB 3068 (Committee on Elections and Redistricting) Voting System; Parallel Monitoring: Vote by Mail Reference. Provides that the Secretary of State conduct the required parallel monitoring only in precincts that have more than one unit from a direct recording electronic voting system. Changes statutory references from "absentee ballots" to "vote by mail ballots". 05/08/2008 referred to Committee on Elections, Redistricting and Constitutional Amendments.

AB 3069 (Committee on Elections and Redistricting) Election process. 1) Clarifies that the county elections official shall cancel the voter registration of any person that the clerk of the superior court's statement includes those convicted felons who have been sentenced to prison; 2) Nonsubstantive changes to requirement that a ballot designation worksheet be submitted with a candidate's declaration of candidacy; 3) Shifts the responsibility for refunding or billing for under or overpayment of a candidate's statement to the agency providing the estimate. 04/30/2008 Read second time.

SB 1235 (Oropeza). Notice of Polling Place Change. Provides that when the location of a polling place is changed, notices shall be placed at the former polling place location informing voters of the new location even when there is time to mail out a notice of the change of location. 05/01/2008 to Committee on Elections and Redistricting.

SB 1686 (Denham) Improper Signature Gathering Tactics. Imposes felony penalties on a person, company, organization, company official, or other organizational officer in charge of a person who circulates a local initiative, referendum, or recall petition who knowingly directs or

permits the person to make a false affidavit concerning any such petition or the signatures appended thereto. 05/08/2008 held at desk.

SB 1694 (Florez, Perata & Ridley Thomas) Primary Election Voting: Nonpartisan Voters. Enacts the Elections Reform Act of 2008 which would: 1) require an election official to provide a sufficient number of ballots of each qualified political party in each precinct to reasonably meet the needs of the voters not registered as intending to affiliate with one of the parties, 2). require the precinct board to provide a notice to those voters at a primary election that identifies those ballots the voter is eligible to cast at that election and 3). Require the board to enclose and seal specified information regarding the ballots those voters received. 05/13/2008 held at desk.

SB 1696 (Yee) California Public Records Act: disclosure. It prohibits making an agreement, i.e. regarding personnel matters, confidential by the other party agreeing to that. To Committee on Governmental Organization.

SB 1749 (Oropeza) Precinct Board: Recruitment/Training. Authorizes the Secretary of State to adopt uniform standards for the recruitment and online training of precinct board members. 05/08/2008 to Committee on Rules for assignment.

CACEO (California Association of Clerks & Elections Officials)

The CACEO Annual conference will be celebrating 100 years of CACEO in Long Beach July 7-11, 2008. Registration forms can be found at caceo58.org under the "Forms" tab or through the CACEO calendar under the "Community" tab.

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

League Legislative Action Days was held in Sacramento April 16-17. Meetings with legislators focused on the State budget; eminent domain reform; housing, infrastructure & local services; telecommunications; and transportation. There were many speakers including Finance Director Mike Genest; Assembly Member Anna Caballera, Chair of the Local Government Committee; Senator Alex Padilla; Senate Republican Minority Leader Dave Cogdill; Speaker Elect Karen Bass; Cynthia Bryant, Office of Planning & Research; and James Tilton, Secretary of CA Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. Senator Alan Lowenthal sought support for SB 974, a \$30 fee/container to be used for congestion management.

Shalice Reynoso, CCAC Past President, and I met with Darren Cheshin, Senate Elections Committee Consultant; Ethan Jones, Assembly Elections Committee Consultant, and Jane Steele, Secretary of State Debra Bowen's Scheduling Secretary.

League Board Meeting followed Legislative Action Days on April 17-18. State Treasurer Bill Lockyer explained his efforts for municipal bond rating system reform. A panel composed of Finance Director Mike Genest; Diane Cummins, Office of Senate Pro Tem Don Perata; and Rick Pratt, assistant executive director, California School Boards Association provided their perspectives on the state budget crisis. The League has scheduled a Budget Action Day on Wednesday, May 21 so city officials can lobby their legislators on the impact of the State's budget on cities.

The Board received updates on its priorities including: 1) protect funding for vital community services; 2) support green and sustainable cities including work on SB 375 (Steinberg); 3)

expand infrastructure investment; and 4) enact honest and responsible eminent domain reform. The Board was apprised of recent opposition to Prop. 98 by organizations and State officers including Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger. Vote by mail ballots were sent May 5 for the June 3, 2008 Statewide Direct Primary Election for Prop. 98, the California Property Owners and Farmland Protect Act, funded by wealthy apartment owners and mobile home park owners and Prop. 99, the Homeowners Protection Act, supported by seniors, homeowners, business, labor, environmentalists, affordable housing advocates, public safety leaders and local government (League of California Cities).

The next League Board meeting will be July 25-26 in Santa Cruz.

04/04/2008 CITY ELECTIONS

Scott Martin shared the following information regarding the percentage by ballots cast by mail:

Arcadia	70.19%	Long Beach	66.65%
Avalon`	34.02%	Malibu	52.52%
Bradbury	29.58%	Santa Clarita	69.66%
Culver City	42.56%	Sierre Madre	32.58%
El Segundo	53.36%	Walnut	68.85%
Lancaster	49.06%	Whittier	52.57%
Lawndale	48.69%	Rancho Mirage	87.97%

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

If you come across statutes that need clarified or changed; and want to propose some needed legislation, please complete the following form and forward to any member of the legislative committee. The form and committee members are available on this website.