

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

February, 2008

LEGISLATION

AB 1654 (Huffman, DeSaulnier and Saldana) - Vote Centers. The original mail ballot bill has morphed to a bill for Vote Centers. The bill passed the Assembly and was sent to the Senate Elections, Redistricting & Constitutional Amendments Committee on February 7th.

Welcome-Back Breakfast - The Legislative Committee held a breakfast on January 30, 2008 for the Assembly and Senate Elections Committees and the Secretary of State. In attendance were: Ronda Paschal, Deputy Secretary of State, Legislative & Constituent Affairs; Ethan Jones, Assembly Elections Committee Consultant; Lisa Ramer, Legislative Director for Assembly Member Lois Wolk; several League of California Cities staff members including Anthony Thomas, Legislative Representative; and Natasha Karl; several City Clerks including Shirley Concolino, Sacramento; Randi Johl, Lodi; Margaret Roberts, Davis; Cheryl Morse, El Cerrito; Rod Diridon, Santa Clara; and Kay Vinson, Murrieta. Following the breakfast Rod Diridon and I met with Darren Chesin, Consultant for the Senate Elections Committee. Our advisor Anthony Thomas suggested building rapport with our legislators in order to have better attendance in the future.

Legislative Committee Conference Call - Six committee members and Natasha Karl, League Staff, held a meeting on February 11th and discussed eight proposals and added four more proposals. On a February 25, 2008 conference call, by consensus CCAC Board agreed with the committee recommendations. Proposals supported are:

1. Agency Shop – Eliminate reference in G.C. 3502.5 to 3502.6 since it does not exist. [Currently included in Senate Judiciary Committee bill S.B. 1498.](#)
2. Clarify E.C. 9286 that it is just the 14 day time period from calling the election to the argument filing deadline that does not apply to consolidated cities, E.C. 9286.
3. Revise G.C. 50022.6 by eliminating requirement to maintain a “reasonable” supply of Primary/Secondary Codes. [Expected to be included in an amendment to Local Government Committee omnibus bill SB 1124.](#)
4. Amend E.C. 10226 to require Affidavit of Nominee for City Candidates with residence address.
5. Clarify E.C. 9202 to delineate what components are required to be included in the publication of Notice of Intent for Initiative Petition.
6. Amend E.C. 4005 to include option for Mail Ballot elections.
7. Clarify that the issuance of nomination papers is public record.
8. Require written authorization for someone to pick up nomination papers.
9. Define bonafide organization and clarification for selection of arguments.
10. Require recertification for adjudicated newspapers.

Proposals not supported were:

1. Closure of Elections Officials Office on ‘dark’ Fridays.
2. Reduction in Number of Required Ballots at Polling Places.

CACEO (California Association of Clerks & Elections Officials)

The next CACEO meeting is being held March 7th in Sacramento.

LEAGUE OF CALIFORNIA CITIES

The Board met February 8-9 in LaJolla.

Strategic Priorities - The Board received status reports on the following goals:

Protecting funding for vital community services - League President Jim Madaffer reported on meetings with the Governor to discuss budget concerns and increasing infrastructure investment to spur the economy. The Governor's budget does not propose borrowing property taxes from local governments through Proposition 1A or Prop. 42/Prop. 1A transportation funds. However, cities will be impacted from reductions such as the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) and release of non-violent prisoners.

Support green and sustainable cities – The Institute for Local Government distributed copies of a publication "Climate Action Network Best Practices Framework." The Board approved League Climate Change Principles.

Expand infrastructure investment - Efforts will continue for committing 2006 infrastructure bonds including Department of Finance allocation of the Prop. 1B local street and road funds, full funding of Prop. 42 for FY 2008-09, proposals for use of the spillover funding for the Public Transportation Account, and the Governor's proposed \$771 million in Prop. 1C funding for FY 2008-09. The Governor has also proposed issuing new bonds and other initiatives under his Strategic Growth Plan.

Enact honest and responsible eminent domain reform – Two measures are on the June 3, 2008 Statewide Direct Primary Election Ballot. Proposition 98, California Property Owners and Farmland Protection Act, funded by wealthy apartment owners and mobile home park owners, eliminates rent control, guts local use planning and environmental protections and undermines public water projects. In contrast, Proposition 99, the Homeowners Protection Act, sponsored by the Eminent Domain Reform Now coalition, supported by seniors, homeowners, business, labor, environmentalists, affordable housing advocates, public safety leaders and local government (League of California Cities), provides solid protections for homeowners by prohibiting governments from taking an owner-occupied home to transfer to a private property.

SB 375 – Steinberg's bill requires green house gas (GHG) emissions, from cars and light trucks, be addressed through the regional transportation planning process. The Board has worked with numerous groups to address some of the League's major concerns. In addition the Board heard from the California Building Industry Association on their ideas/alternatives on the bill. Following discussion, the League Board changed their position to oppose unless amended.

Tribal and City Governments Collaborative - The Board approved League participation in this Collaborative based on a special task force recommendation. Issues to be discussed include the Indian Tribal Gaming Special Distribution Fund, federal transportation issues, and off-reservation gaming issues.

Nominating Committee for League Board of Directors – The Board approved nomination of Jere Melo, Fort Bragg, to chair the 2008 Nominating Committee.

2-1-1 San Diego – A presentation was made on 2-1-1 San Diego, a free, 24-hour community, health and disaster information referral service. In California, 18 different 2-1-1s cover 90 percent of the state. Across the country, 2-1-1 reaches 198 million people. A live person

answers each call and directs people to the various services they for financial assistance, physical and mental health services, job training, disaster response and more.

Next Board Meeting will be April 17-18 in Sacramento.

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.