

Elections-Related Measures Approved by the Legislature in 2017

Assembly Measures

Bill	Author	Description	Status
AB 4	Waldron	Permits an elections official to notify an individual by text message or email when an affidavit of registration is submitted or updated in accordance with existing law.	Signed 6/28/17 Chapter 29
AB 187	Gloria	Requires a recipient campaign committee that makes contributions or independent expenditures of \$5,000 or more in support of or in opposition to the qualification of a single <i>local</i> initiative or referendum measure to file a campaign disclosure report, as specified, within 10 business days of making the contributions or expenditures.	Signed 9/1/17 Chapter 183
AB 195	Obernolte	Requires the ballot statement for <i>all</i> local ballot measures that impose a tax or raise the rate of a tax to include specified information about the tax, instead of making such a requirement applicable only to local initiative measures.	Signed 7/24/17 Chapter 105
AB 249	Mullin	Changes the content and format of disclosure statements required on specified campaign advertisements in a manner that generally requires such disclosures to be more prominent. Establishes new requirements for determining when contributions are considered to be "earmarked."	Signed 10/7/17 Chapter 546
AB 467	Mullin	Provides that the entire text of an adopted county transportation expenditure plan is not required to be printed in the voter information guide at an election where voters consider a tax for transportation purposes, as specified, if the local transportation authority posts the entire adopted county transportation plan on its Internet Web site in an accessible manner and mails a copy of the plan to any voter that requests it.	Signed 10/10/17 Chapter 640
AB 469	Cooper	Decreases the number of signatures required on an in-lieu-filing-fee petition. Deletes the authorization that allows a candidate to submit a supplemental petition to cover any deficiency, and instead only permits the candidate to pay a pro rata portion of the filing fee. Requires in-lieu-filing-fee petitions to be made available 60 days, instead of 45 days, before the first day for circulating nomination papers.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 839
AB 551	Levine	Prohibits a former local elected official or top administrator for a local agency, for a year after leaving that position, from appearing before or communicating with the former agency, for compensation, as an independent contractor for another government agency.	Signed 9/1/17 Chapter 196

AB 606	Berman	Deletes provisions of law that require the state voter information guide to contain the complete text of each state measure, as specified, and instead requires the state voter information guide, before each state measure, to have a conspicuous notice identifying the location on the Secretary of State's (SOS) Internet Web site of the complete text of the state measure, among other provisions.	Signed 10/11/17 Chapter 656
AB 765	Low	Eliminates the requirement that a special election be held to vote on a local initiative measure if certain conditions are met, and instead generally provides for the measure to be submitted to voters at a regularly scheduled election.	Signed 10/13/17 Chapter 748
AB 801	Weber	Repeals existing provisions of law requiring a redistricting commission made up of former or retired judges to adjust the boundary lines of supervisorial districts in San Diego County after each decennial federal census, and instead establishes a Citizens Redistricting Commission in the county and charges it with adjusting the boundaries of supervisorial districts. Changes the criteria to be used when the boundaries of supervisorial districts in San Diego County are adjusted.	Signed 10/12/17 Chapter 711
AB 837	Low	Makes significant changes to partisan primary election processes and procedures to improve the voting process for voters that decline to disclose a political party preference.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 819
AB 840	Quirk	Permits a voter who did not sign his or her vote by mail identification envelope to return a completed unsigned ballot statement by email, as specified. Specifies that the one percent manual tally of ballots cast are those canvassed during the semiofficial canvass and do not include provisional ballots.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 820
AB 867	Cooley	Recasts various provisions of the Political Reform Act (PRA) that are located within the definition of the term "contribution" such that other terms and substantive reporting requirements are relocated to their own sections of the PRA.	Signed 10/13/17 Chapter 749
AB 890	Medina	Prohibits certain land use approvals and designations from being made through the initiative process, and instead delegates exclusive authority over those decisions to the city council or board of supervisors.	Vetoed 10/15/17 Click for Veto Message
AB 894	Frazier	Increases the penalty for a candidate in an election, or an incumbent in a recall election, who is convicted of knowingly making a false statement of a material fact in a candidate's statement, from a fine not to exceed \$1,000 to a fine not to exceed \$5,000.	Vetoed 10/15/17 Click for Veto Message

AB 895	Quirk	Eliminates the requirement for entities that file campaign statements online or by electronic means to file a copy of those statements in a paper format, effective once the Secretary of State certifies a new online filing and disclosure system, as specified.	Signed 7/24/17 Chapter 111
AB 901	Gloria	Authorizes San Diego County to require general elections to be conducted for county elective offices, as specified.	Signed 10/12/17 Chapter 713
AB 918	Bonta	Significantly expands the availability and accessibility of facsimile ballots in languages other than English in situations where such facsimile ballots are required to be made available pursuant to existing law.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 845
AB 973	Low	Requires a county elections official to permit a voter with a disability, or a military or overseas voter, to cast his or her ballot using a certified remote accessible vote by mail system. Provides that these provisions do not apply to a county that conducts an election using vote centers, instead of polling places, pursuant to the California Voter's Choice Act. Provides for these provisions to become operative on January 1, 2020.	Vetoed 10/15/17 Click for Veto Message
AB 1004	Calderon	Requires the Secretary of State to establish an online, searchable database of elected federal, state, and local officials.	Vetoed 10/14/17 Click for Veto Message
AB 1044	Quirk	Requires the Secretary of State to include an Internet Web site address in the state voter information guide at which a voter may access to check the status of his or her vote by mail or provisional ballot.	Signed 7/21/17 Chapter 85
AB 1104	Chau	Expands California's political cyberfraud law, which currently only covers ballot measure campaigns, to include candidate campaigns.	Signed 10/12/17 Chapter 715
AB 1154	Nazarian	Prohibits elections officials from randomly choosing the initial precincts or selecting an additional precinct for the one-percent manual tally, which is required by existing law, until after the close of the polls on election day.	Signed 7/21/17 Chapter 88
AB 1194	Dababneh	Requires the fiscal statement that is required to be included in the sample ballot for local bond measures to include the best estimate from official sources of the average annual tax rate that would be required to be levied to fund the bond issue over the entire duration of the bond debt service, as specified. Requires the estimate to identify the final fiscal year in which the tax is anticipated to be collected.	Signed 10/14/17 Chapter 795

AB 1367	Berman	Provides that a person, company, organization, company official, or other organizational officer in charge of a person who circulates an initiative, referendum, or recall petition who knowingly directs an affiant to make a false affidavit or who knows or reasonably should know that an affiant has made a false affidavit concerning an initiative, referendum, or recall petition or the signatures appended thereto is punishable by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 848
AB 1403	Obernolte	Permits a military or overseas voter who has moved after the closing date of registration to register to vote, as specified.	Signed 10/14/17 Chapter 797
AB 1620	Dababneh	Extends the length of the "revolving door" ban when a member of the Legislature resigns from office so that it remains in effect until a year has passed since the end of the legislative session in which the member resigns.	Signed 10/14/17 Chapter 800
AB 1729	E&R Committee	Requires a county elections official to preserve initiative and referendum petitions until one year from the date that the proponents of a measure last examined the petition.	Signed 9/28/17 Chapter 354
AB 1730	E&R Committee	Makes various minor and technical changes to provisions of law governing elections.	Signed 7/24/17 Chapter 118
ACA 17	Mullin	Provides that an initiative statute, referendum, or constitutional amendment or revision approved by a majority of votes cast shall take effect on the fifth day after the Secretary of State files the statement of the vote, instead of going into effect the day after the election as is the case under existing law. Provides that a measure may become operative after its effective date. Makes technical changes. This measure will become effective only if approved by the voters at the next statewide election that is held at least 131 days after its adoption by the Legislature; currently, it is expected that this measure will be submitted to the voters at the June 5, 2018 statewide primary election.	Chaptered 9/25/17 Res. Chapter 190
AJR 1	Low	Urges the United States Congress to propose and send to the states for ratification a constitutional amendment to abolish the Electoral College, and provide for the direct election of the President and Vice President of the United States by the popular vote of all eligible citizens of the United States.	Chaptered 8/28/17 Res. Chapter 122

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Senate Measures

Bill	Author	Description	Status
SB 45	Mendoza	Prohibits a mass mailing from being sent at public expense by or on behalf of a candidate within 60 days preceding an election at which the candidate will appear on the ballot, as specified. Codifies a regulation that implements a statutory ban on mass mailings sent at public expense.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 827
SB 149	McGuire	Requires, as a precondition for appearing on a California primary election ballot, a candidate for United States President to file copies of his or her income tax returns with the California Secretary of State, as specified.	Vetoed 10/15/17 Click for Veto Message
SB 226	Hertzberg	Increases the minimum size and specifies the format and location of a disclosure that is required to appear on a slate mailer that identifies itself as representing a public safety organization in a manner that generally requires such disclosure to be more prominent.	Signed 10/15/17 Chapter 855
SB 235	Allen	Limits the ballot designations that candidates for judicial office are permitted to use, as specified.	Signed 10/5/17 Chapter 512
SB 267	Pan	Permits the City of Sacramento and the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), until January 1, 2023, to enter into an agreement that provides for the FPPC to enforce a local campaign finance ordinance passed by the City Council of the City of Sacramento.	Signed 10/9/17 Chapter 622
SB 286	Stern	Permits a voter who is unable to surrender his or her vote by mail (VBM) ballot to receive and cast a regular (i.e., non-provisional) ballot if the elections official is able to verify that the voter has not returned the VBM ballot and ensures that the VBM ballot is not counted. Requires the copies of the roster of registered voters for a precinct that are posted at the polling place to be listed by street address in numerical order. Makes various, mostly minor or technical, changes to state election laws to facilitate the conduct of elections using vote centers in lieu of polling places, and to facilitate the use of electronic poll books and ballot on demand printers.	Signed 10/14/17 Chapter 806

SB 358	Stern	Requires the Secretary of State's (SOS) Internet Web site to include conspicuous hyperlinks to local government agency web sites that contain publically disclosed campaign finance information. Requires the SOS to update these hyperlinks no later than December 31 of each year.	Signed 10/9/17 Chapter 624
SB 511	Stern	Requires the Secretary of State to make reasonable efforts to promote voter registration and voting.	Signed 9/30/17 Chapter 394
SB 568	Lara	Moves California's primary elections from June to March, beginning with the 2020 election.	Signed 9/27/17 Chapter 335
SB 628	Lara	Deletes the requirement that the Los Angeles Community College District members be elected at large, and instead authorizes the members to be elected by trustee area.	Signed 9/11/17 Chapter 243
SB 665	Moorlach	Requires an organization or association that submits an argument for or against a ballot measure to submit additional information to the applicable elections official to enable that official to determine if the organization or association qualifies as a bona fide association of citizens, as specified.	Signed 7/17/17 Chapter 75
SJR 3	Hill	Urges other states to participate in the National Popular Vote interstate compact in which each member state agrees to award its electoral votes to the Presidential ticket that receives the most votes nationwide.	Chaptered 7/7/17 Res. Chapter 100
SJR 11	Stern	Urges each state's Secretary of State and other relevant state elections officials to join California in refusing to provide their state voter data to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity.	Chaptered 9/22/17 Res. Chapter 189

Bill Signed by Governor

Resolution or Constitutional Amendment Approved by Legislature

Bill Vetoed by Governor