

## Elections-Related Bills Approved by the Legislature in 2019 – Assembly Bills

Bill	Author	Description	Status
AB 17	Salas	Prohibits an employer from requiring or requesting an employee to bring their vote by mail (VBM) ballot to work or to vote their VBM ballot at work.	Signed 9/5/19 Chapter 223
AB 49	Cervantes	Requires an elections official to send a vote by mail (VBM) ballot to a voter within five days of receiving the request for a VBM ballot, or within five days of the 29th day before the election for voters who requested a VBM ballot by the 29th day before the election.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 553
AB 57	Low	Requires a candidate’s alphabet-based name to be phonetically transliterated when the jurisdiction is required to translate ballot materials into character-based languages, unless certain conditions are met.	Signed 7/12/19 Chapter 82
AB 59	Kalra	Requires an elections official, when developing the draft plan for the administration of elections conducted pursuant to the California Voter’s Choice Act, to consider placing a vote center location on a public or private university or college campus.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 554
AB 201	Cervantes	Requires a text message that supports or opposes a candidate or ballot measure to disclose the name of the candidate or committee that paid for the text message and, in certain circumstances, the top contributors to the committee.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 555
AB 220	Bonta	Permits candidates to use campaign funds for childcare expenses incurred while the candidate is engaging in campaign activities.	Signed 9/30/19 Chapter 384
AB 299	Salas	Requires a county elections official to provide updated information to the Secretary of State about the status of a vote by mail ballot at the same time that the county updates its election management system or a voter look-up tool on the county’s internet website with that information.	Signed 9/5/19 Chapter 224
AB 334	Obernolte	Repeals statutory requirements governing the length and dates of terms of members of county central committees of the California Republican Party.	Signed 5/23/19 Chapter 6
AB 504	Berman	Clarifies residency confirmation procedures that elections officials must follow. Allows a voter to confirm their residency for the purposes of voter list maintenance procedures by verifying their registration record on the Secretary of State’s website.	Signed 9/6/19 Chapter 262
AB 566	Berman	Requires county elections officials to send regular updates to the Secretary of State after elections detailing the number of unprocessed ballots left to count.	Signed 7/12/19 Chapter 91
AB 571	Mullin	Establishes default campaign contribution limits for county and city office at the same level as limits for Senate and Assembly candidates, beginning in 2021.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 556
AB 623	Berman	Makes numerous changes to ballot formatting requirements and requires the Secretary of State to establish a ballot design advisory committee.	Signed 10/13/19 Chapter 863

Bill	Author	Description	Status
AB 679	Gonzalez	Specifies that a person's domicile for voting purposes may be the same place at which the person does business.	Signed 7/9/19 Chapter 63
AB 681	Gonzalez	Requires a county elections official, before a presidential primary election, to send a notification to voters informing them of their political party preference and the ballot they are eligible to cast. Permits a voter to change their party preference or residence address without re-registering to vote. URGENCY MEASURE.	Vetoed 10/13/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
AB 693	Berman	Allows the use of non-provisional ballots for conditional voter registration (a.k.a. "same day" registration) if certain conditions are met.	Signed 7/12/19 Chapter 99
AB 698	Obernolte	Prohibits the invalidation of a signature on an initiative or referendum petition because of a variation of the signature caused by the substitution of initials for the first or middle name, or both, of the person signing the petition.	Signed 6/26/19 Chapter 14
AB 730	Berman	Prohibits the distribution of materially deceptive audio or visual media with actual malice with the intent to injure a candidate's reputation or to deceive a voter into voting for or against a candidate, unless the materially deceptive audio or visual media includes a disclosure that it has been manipulated.	Signed 10/3/19 Chapter 493
AB 773	Gonzalez	Requires the Secretary of State, in coordination with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, to develop educational programming for pupils in grade 12 on voter registration and participation. Requires each public high school to implement the educational programming during a presentation or assembly at the school.	Vetoed 10/7/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
AB 849	Bonta	Revises and standardizes the criteria and process to be used by counties and cities when adjusting the boundaries of the electoral districts. Requires counties and cities to comply with substantial public hearing and outreach requirements as part of the process for adjusting the boundaries of electoral districts.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 557
AB 864	Mullin	Makes numerous, mostly technical changes to the Disclose Act and other provisions of state law governing the content and format of disclosure statements that are required to appear on communications from candidates and committees.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 558
AB 902	Levine	Codifies various regulations that have been adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission.	Signed 9/20/19 Chapter 312
AB 903	Levine	Makes various minor and clarifying changes to the Political Reform Act of 1974.	Signed 7/12/19 Chapter 102
AB 909	Gallagher	Requires the treasurer or assistant treasurer of a campaign committee to sign a statement acknowledging they must comply with the Political Reform Act and regulations adopted by the Fair Political Practices Commission.	Signed 9/20/19 Chapter 313

Bill	Author	Description	Status
AB 946	Elections & Redistricting Committee	Makes various minor and technical changes to the Political Reform Act of 1974.	Signed 9/20/19 Chapter 315
AB 1036	Aguiar-Curry	Authorizes the Yolo County Elections Office to conduct a mock election pilot program to elect members of a school's student government. Revises existing regulations governing counties' voter registration and outreach programs.	Vetoed 10/13/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
AB 1043	Irwin	Permits campaign funds to be used for costs related to the cybersecurity of electronic devices of a candidate, elected officer, or campaign worker.	Signed 7/1/19 Chapter 46
AB 1044	Irwin	Permits the Secretary of State to require applicants for voter registration information to complete an online cybersecurity course.	Signed 7/12/19 Chapter 106
AB 1150	Gloria	Requires candidates for the governing boards of the San Diego Community College District and the Grossmont-Cuyamaca Community College District to collect at least 40 signatures on nomination papers in order to qualify to appear on the ballot.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 624
AB 1391	Bonta	Requires vote by mail ballot applications to permit the applicant to specify the language in which the applicant wants to receive election materials. Requires voter notifications to include the voter's recorded language preference, and instructions for how the voter can receive materials in the voter's preferred language.	Vetoed 10/13/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
AB 1451	Low	Prohibits a person or organization that pays circulators to collect signatures on an initiative, referendum, or recall petition from paying circulators on a per-signature basis. Requires 10% of signatures on a state initiative petition to be collected by unpaid circulators or employees or members of nonprofit organizations.	Vetoed 10/7/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
AB 1666	Reyes	Requires the California Complete Count – Census 2020 Office to partner with local educational agencies to make information about the 2020 federal census available to students and their parents or guardians at schools. URGENCY MEASURE.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 560
AB 1707	Berman	Clarifies that a voter may use an electronic device at a polling place, as specified.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 561
AB 1829	Elections & Redistricting Committee	Makes various minor, technical, and corresponding changes to the Elections Code.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 562

Bill Signed by Governor

Bill Vetoed by Governor

## Elections-Related Bills Approved by the Legislature in 2019 – Senate Bills

Bill	Author	Description	Status
SB 27	McGuire	Requires a candidate for United States President or for California Governor, as a precondition for appearing on a California primary election ballot, to file copies of their income tax returns with the Secretary of State. URGENCY MEASURE.	Signed 7/30/19 Chapter 121
SB 47	Allen	Requires individuals who are asked to sign state or local initiative, referendum, or recall petitions be provided with information about the committee that is paying for the petition to be circulated, if any, and the top campaign contributors to that committee.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 563
SB 71	Leyva	Requires a candidate or elected officer to reimburse any campaign or legal defense funds used for legal expenses related to a claim of sexual assault, abuse, or harassment against the candidate or officer if the candidate or officer is found liable for the claim. Prohibits campaign or legal defense funds from being used to pay penalties or settlements related to a claim of sexual assault, abuse, or harassment by a candidate or elected officer.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 564
SB 72	Umberg	Requires conditional voter registration (a.k.a., "same day" registration) to be available at all polling places.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 565
SB 139	Allen	Requires a county with a population of 400,000 or more to establish an independent redistricting commission to adopt the county's supervisorial districts after each federal decennial census.	Vetoed 10/13/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
SB 151	Umberg	Permits the target of a recall who holds a voter-nominated office to have their party preference listed on the ballot at the recall election. Repeals a prohibition on county voter information guides being sent to voters more than 40 days before an election.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 566
SB 212	Allen	Permits a city, county, or an educational district, subject to voter approval, to conduct local elections using ranked choice voting or using a "top-two" election system.	Vetoed 10/13/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
SB 268	Wiener	Permits the proponents of a local initiative, or a local jurisdiction submitting a local ballot measure, that imposes or increases a tax with more than one rate, or authorizes the issuance of bonds, to choose to include the phrase "See voter guide for tax rate information" in the ballot label instead of including the estimate of the amount of money to be raised annually and the rate and duration of the tax levied.	Vetoed 10/13/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>
SB 359	Moorlach	Permits a municipal referendum petition to contain an impartial summary of the ordinance instead of the text of the ordinance or the portion of the ordinance that is the subject of the referendum.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 567

Bill	Author	Description	Status
SB 505	Umberg	Requires a candidate for President to submit specified documentation to the Secretary of State in order to be considered a "generally advocated for" or "recognized candidate" for President who is placed on the primary election ballot without the need to collect signatures on nomination papers. URGENCY MEASURE.	Signed 7/30/19 Chapter 149
SB 523	McGuire	Aligns the timelines and procedures for processing an unsigned ballot statement from a voter who did not sign their vote by mail (VBM) ballot with those governing a signature verification statement submitted by a voter whose signature on their VBM ballot identification envelope does not match the signature on file in the voter's record.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 568
SB 641	Allen	Provides the Governor with additional flexibility in scheduling a special election to fill a vacancy in Congress or the Legislature if the special election can be consolidated with another election occurring at least partially within the same territory as the vacancy.	Signed 9/20/19 Chapter 328
SB 681	Stern	Permits the proponent of a local referendum or charter amendment initiative to withdraw the referendum or initiative at any time before the 88th day before the election. URGENCY MEASURE.	Signed 10/8/19 Chapter 569
SB 696	Umberg	Prohibits a political party from including "no party preference," "decline to state," or "independent" in its name. Requires an existing political party that uses any of these terms in its name to change its name or lose its qualification as a political party. URGENCY MEASURE.	Vetoed 10/9/19 <a href="#">Click here for veto message</a>

Bill Signed by Governor

Bill Vetoed by Governor