

Elections-Related Bills Approved by the Legislature in 2018 – Assembly Bills

Bill	Author	Description	Status
AB 216	Gonzalez-Fletcher	Requires an elections official, when delivering a vote by mail ballot to a voter, to include a return envelope with postage prepaid.	Signed 7/18/18 Chapter 120
AB 306	Gonzalez-Fletcher	Requires a person who is designated by a vote by mail voter to return the voter's ballot to return the ballot in person or to put it in the mail no later than three days after receiving it from the voter or before the close of the polls on election day, whichever is sooner. Provides that a ballot will not be disqualified from being counted solely because it is returned or mailed more than three days after the designated person receives it from the voter.	Signed 8/27/18 Chapter 203
AB 664	Steinorth	Prohibits a candidate controlled committee from paying an amount greater than fair market value for goods, services, facilities, or anything else of value if the payment is made to specified family members of the candidate or elected officer who controls the committee.	Vetoed 8/27/18 Click for Veto Message
AB 666	Aguiar-Curry	Requires a county elections official, if he or she posts a form on the Internet that candidates may use to submit candidate statements, to accept that form if it is submitted in accordance with timelines and procedures in state law. Requires an elections official to accept a candidate statement form from a candidate's county of residence for candidates who are running in multicounty districts, if the candidate provides a hard copy of the candidate statement form and pays the required fee to each county.	Signed 8/20/18 Chapter 160
AB 1013	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, beginning in 2020, as specified.	Signed 9/29/18 Chapter 906
AB 1407	McCarty	Provides for every eligible person to be pre-registered to vote automatically when that person applies for a driver's license or state identification card, unless the person opts out.	Signed 2/26/18 Chapter 4
AB 1678	Berman	Requires the Secretary of State to adopt regulations that describe the best practices for storage and security of voter registration information. Requires a person who has received voter registration information, as specified, to disclose breaches in the security of the storage of that information. Makes it a misdemeanor to distribute specified false or misleading information regarding elections and voting with actual knowledge and intent to deceive.	Signed 7/16/18 Chapter 96

AB 1947	Low	Prohibits a person or organization that pays circulators to collect signatures on an initiative, referendum, or recall petition from paying those circulators on a per-signature basis.	Vetoed 9/18/18 Click for Veto Message
AB 2095	Quirk-Silva	Provides that a special election to fill a vacancy in the office of Representative in Congress, State Senator, or Assembly may be conducted within 180 days following the Governor's election proclamation in order to consolidate the election or primary election with <i>any</i> regularly scheduled statewide or local election instead of limiting that flexibility to situations where the special election can only be consolidated with the <i>next</i> regularly scheduled statewide or local election.	Signed 8/27/18 Chapter 210
AB 2123	Cervantes	Permits a prospective plaintiff and a political subdivision to agree to extend the deadline by up to 90 days for completing the transition from an at-large to a district-based election system in accordance with the California Voting Rights Act of 2001.	Signed 9/6/18 Chapter 277
AB 2125	Quirk	Creates a risk-limiting audit pilot project and permits a county elections official to conduct risk-limiting audits in lieu of conducting a 1% manual tally.	Signed 9/29/18 Chapter 913
AB 2155	Mullin	Makes various changes to state law governing the content and format of disclosure statements that are required to appear on communications sent by candidates and committees.	Signed 9/26/18 Chapter 777
AB 2172	Weber	Makes various changes to provisions of state law regarding the determination of where individuals who are in the custody of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation are counted for the purposes of drawing district lines for Congress, the State Legislature, and the State Board of Equalization.	Signed 8/28/18 Chapter 232
AB 2188	Mullin	Requires online platforms that sell political ads to make specified information about those political ads available to the public. Makes various changes to the format for disclosures that are required by existing law to appear on electronic media ads.	Signed 9/26/18 Chapter 754
AB 2218	Berman	Requires the Secretary of State, no later than January 1, 2020, to establish a system that a county elections official may use to allow a vote by mail (VBM) voter to track and receive information about his or her VBM ballot as it moves through the mail system and as the VBM ballot is processed by the county elections official.	Signed 9/17/18 Chapter 432
AB 2245	Berman	Requires the registration information of a person who has pre-registered to vote pursuant to current law to be confidential, and prohibits the information from being disclosed to any person. Requires a county elections official to provide the Secretary of State with information about the number of persons who have pre-registered to vote.	Vetoed 9/18/18 Click for Veto Message

AB 2352	Low	Requires a county elections official to document reportable events, as defined, and submit information on these events to the Secretary of State for review and guidance.	Vetoed 9/29/18 Click for Veto Message
AB 2540	Mullin	Requires a governing body with jurisdiction over school buildings or other public buildings, as defined, to allow those buildings to be used as vote centers beginning up to 10 days prior to an election day.	Signed 9/11/18 Chapter 343
AB 2552	Berman	Requires ballot instructions that state the number of candidates to be nominated or elected to be printed in boldfaced type or in a contrasting color. Requires the Secretary of State to establish a ballot design advisory committee.	Vetoed 9/7/18 Click for Veto Message
AB 2592	Berman	Requires the Secretary of State to include messages that promote awareness of and encourage participation in the census in state election materials.	Signed 9/21/18 Chapter 652
AB 2665	Salas	Permits any jurisdiction having the necessary computer capability to start processing write-in votes on vote by mail ballots on the 10th business day before an election.	Signed 9/6/18 Chapter 282
AB 2689	Gray	Prohibits a Governor's appointee who is subject to Senate or Assembly confirmation from making contributions or gifts to Senators, members of the Assembly, or candidates for the Senate or Assembly while the appointee's confirmation is pending.	Vetoed 9/30/18 Click for Veto Message
AB 2707	Mullin	Requires the Secretary of State to request proposals to establish a voter information Internet Web site that provides voters information on their elected federal, state, and local officials.	Signed 9/29/18 Chapter 920
AB 2835	Calderon	Makes changes to ballot layout provisions of law to accommodate new voting technologies.	Signed 6/28/18 Chapter 57
AB 2880	Harper	Authorizes the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to administer and enforce a local campaign finance ordinance or government ethics law upon mutual agreement between the FPPC and a local agency with a population of less than three million people.	Signed 9/14/18 Chapter 394
AB 3075	Berman	Creates the Office of Elections Cybersecurity within the Office of the Secretary of State.	Signed 8/28/18 Chapter 241
AB 3258	E&R Committee	Makes various minor, technical, and corresponding changes to the Elections Code.	Signed 9/5/18 Chapter 269
AB 3259	E&R Committee	Makes various minor, technical, and corresponding changes to the Elections Code.	Signed 6/28/18 Chapter 58

Elections-Related Bills Approved by the Legislature in 2018 – Senate Bills

Bill	Author	Description	Status
SB 25	Portantino	Requires the county elections official for the County of Los Angeles to conduct elections using an alternate ballot order, as specified, under which local offices generally appear on the ballot before state and federal offices.	Signed 9/29/18 Chapter 927
SB 759	McGuire	Allows a voter whose signature on his or her vote by mail ballot identification envelope does not match the signature on file in the voter's record to return a completed signature verification statement, as specified, in order to have his or her ballot counted.	Signed 9/17/18 Chapter 446
SB 1018	Allen	Allows local jurisdictions to establish hybrid redistricting commissions. Allows school, community college, and special districts to establish redistricting commissions. Modifies the conditions for individuals who are permitted to serve on independent redistricting commissions.	Signed 9/17/18 Chapter 462
SB 1153	Stern	Permits the proponent of a county, municipal, or special district initiative to withdraw the initiative at any time before the 88th day before the election, whether or not the petition has already been found sufficient.	Signed 7/20/18 Chapter 155
SB 1171	Stern	Authorizes a county elections official to use a provisional ballot envelope as an affidavit of registration, as specified, and updates the definition of an "elector."	Signed 7/16/18 Chapter 113
SB 1239	Hertzberg	Makes numerous substantive and technical changes related to the procedures associated with filing campaign and lobbying reports through the state's new online campaign and lobbying activity disclosure system, also known as the Cal-Access replacement system.	Signed 9/21/18 Chapter 662
SB 1250	Bradford	Specifies, for the purposes of determining the domicile of a Member of the Legislature or a Representative in Congress for voting purposes, that the existence of certain conditions at one of the person's residences do not override an existing conclusive presumption that establishes the person's domicile.	Signed 9/29/18 Chapter 911

Bill Signed by Governor

Bill Vetoed by Governor