

A Resolution of the City of San Clemente, CA

A Resolution Calling on The California Legislature to Enhance the  
Confidence of The Voting Public in  
Election Outcomes Through Improved Election Processes

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

WHEREAS, faith in our election process is the foundation upon which our republic rests; and

WHEREAS, the processes around elections should be designed to encourage voter participation while protecting against election fraud; and

WHEREAS, when irregularities are identified in the course of an election, they can undermine the legitimacy of our elected leaders; and

WHEREAS, there have been many changes in election laws in recent years to increase voter participation; and

WHEREAS, some of these changes have increased the risk of election fraud; and

WHEREAS, other measures such as photo voter identification have been left out of current policy despite being overwhelmingly supported by the public; and

WHEREAS, California has long struggled to effectively and efficiently remove inactive voters from the voter rolls; and

WHEREAS, allowing those who have either moved or passed away to remain on the voter rolls creates an unacceptable risk that other votes can be nullified through the theft of a previous voter's identity; and

WHEREAS, the distribution of vote by mail ballots to voters – while necessary to include those who are unable to go to the polls in person due to illness, disability, or military deployment – creates a higher level of risk for voter fraud; and

WHEREAS, we are unaware of any jurisdiction in California that requires a valid ID in order to submit a ballot;

WHEREAS, the lack of a clear chain of custody that shows who has handled vote by mail ballots may enable fraud; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council of the City of San Clemente to improve both the actual security of elections, and the perceived security of elections in order to restore and maintain the faith in our election system.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SAN CLEMENTE CITY COUNCIL that it requests the California State Legislature adopt the following changes to the California Election Code:

1. Photo ID. Voters shall provide a valid photo identification demonstrating current United States citizenship that may include any identification issued by a government agency, passport, or driver's license. The law should allow those who cannot provide one of the previous forms of identification to

submit an affidavit that the voter is the person on the registration rolls with the voter's date of birth and the last 4 digits of the voter's social security number.

2. Efficient Removal of Inactive Voters. California law and the National Voter Registration Act, Section 8 provides for active voters to be moved to the inactive voter roll list after the failure to vote in two consecutive general elections and the removal of inactive voters from the voter rolls after the failure to vote in two consecutive general elections. Inactive voters should be removed from the registered voter rolls prior to the next municipal, primary, or general election. The Legislature should require the Secretary of State or the County Registrar of Voters to use, on an on-going basis, The California Electronic Death Registration System (CA- EDRS) to find voters who have died, as well as data-matching software to find voters who have moved or died and to flag those registrations for review.
3. Prohibit the Use of Unsupervised Ballot Drop Boxes. Unattended ballot drop boxes – even those who are electronically surveilled – pose an unacceptable risk to the election process by making illegal ballot harvesting easier and should be prohibited.
4. Vote by Mail Ballot Chain of Custody and Photo ID. Voters casting vote by mail ballots should be subject to the same voter identification requirements as proposed above for in-person voting. There should be an enhanced chain of custody process for returning vote by mail ballots that includes identifying those who return absentee ballots on behalf of others.
5. Post-election Audit. An automatic post-election audit involving at least ten percent (10%) of all of the precincts involved in a given municipal, primary, or general election, prior to election certification. Precincts shall be chosen at random and any deviation greater than 2% shall trigger an automatic recount.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of August \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

Mayor city of San Clemente

Clerk of the City of San Clemente