June 8, 2020

California LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION

SB 225

It is the intent of the Legislature to **remove barriers to service and authorize all California residents, including those without lawful immigration status, to serve** on California's diverse local and state boards and commissions so that their perspectives and voices are

Who are citizens of the state of California?

Answer:
They are all persons born in the state and residing in it, except the children of alien public ministers and consuls, and all persons born out of the state who are citizens of the United States and residing within the state.

It is state law that:

- a person is eligible to hold an **elective civil office** if, at the time of election, **the person is 18 years of age a**nd **a citizen of the state**.
- **a person, regardless of citizenship or immigration status, is eligible to hold an appointed civil office** if the person is 18 years of age and a resident of the state.
- that a person appointed to civil office, **regardless of citizenship or immigration status, may receive any form of compensation** that the person is not otherwise prohibited from receiving pursuant to federal law, **including, but not limited to, any stipend, grant, or reimbursement of personal expenses** that is associated with carrying out the duties of that office.

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

-is the largest and most diverse state in the nation, total population -40 million people, and a total immigrant population of 10 million people from over 60 different countries.

-prides itself on its great racial, ethnic, and cultural diversity, its diverse backgrounds benefit the state providing a diversity of experiences and expertise, and this diversity is especially beneficial in creating public policy that supports and protects all people.

-has made great strides in integrating our immigrant population in all aspects, including passing laws that authorize health care for all children, professional licenses, driver's licenses, college grants, loans, and in-state tuition for eligible residents, regardless of their immigration status.

-has numerous local and state boards and commissions that, together, cover a broad range of issues and policy topics and oversee many of the programs and services provided by the state, which are comprised of highly experienced, qualified individuals with a desire to uphold the values and advance the work of the institutions they serve.

-California's democratic values of equal representation are upheld when our local and state government is diverse and representative of the people who reside in the state, and access to positions on governmental boards and commissions creates an avenue for people from multiple backgrounds and different experiences to serve the communities in which they live and beyond.