

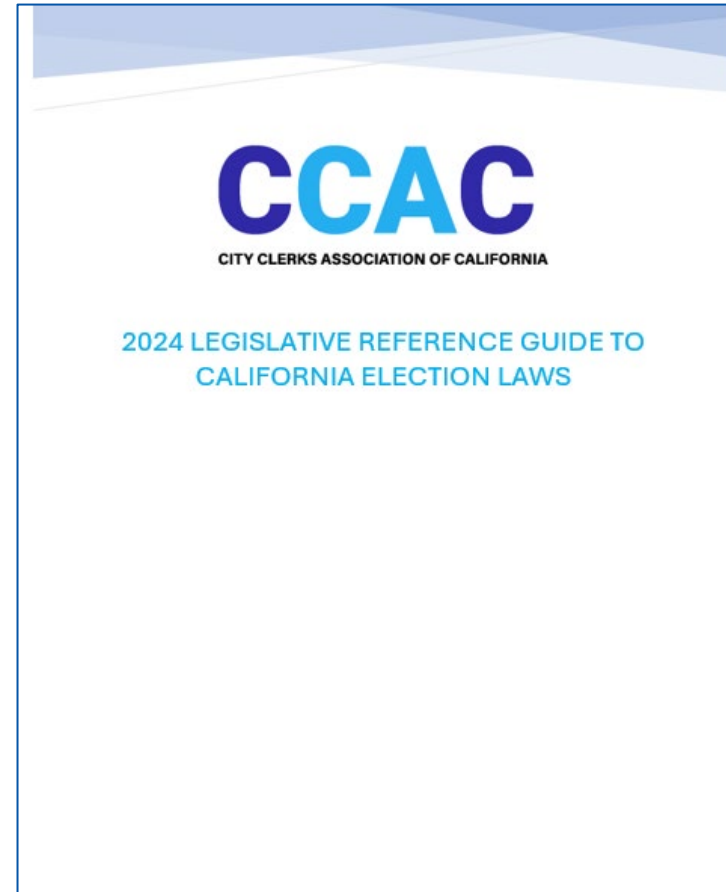


2024 City Clerk New Law Seminar

Presented by Dane Hutchings and Andrew Shen

Comparisons

2024 City Clerk New Law Your user guide



Overview

- Elections, Polling, and Ballots
- Public Records Act
- Political Reform Act of 1974
- Governmental Bodies and Candidates
- Miscellaneous Measures
- Elections Chairs and Looking Ahead
- Appendix (slides not covered)
 - Elections Officials and Voter Registration
 - Artificial Intelligence
 - Political Reform Act of 1974
 - Redistricting
 - Miscellaneous Measures



Elections, Polling, and Ballots

AB 453 (Cervantes) District-Based Elections

- This new law mandates that when a political subdivision holds a public hearing regarding district-based elections and chooses to consolidate the hearing with a regular meeting, that the item have a set start time. Additionally, the governing body is required to notify the public about this hearing in advance in accordance with Brown Act Requirements.

AB 453 Considerations

- *This bill seeks to ensure public participation in hearings regarding district-based elections by requiring a “time certain” for such agenda items rather than a time that may be impacted by the pace of the meeting. A similar requirement for agenda items related to redistricting exists in current law and is said to have helped with public engagement.*

AB 1784 (Pellerin) Primary elections: candidate withdrawals

- This bill allows candidates for non-statewide offices to withdraw their nomination during the filing period, provided they submit an irrevocable statement under penalty of perjury. While filing fees are nonrefundable, withdrawn candidates may file for a different office in the same primary election. The bill prohibits filing for multiple offices simultaneously. If an incumbent withdraws by 5 p.m. on the 88th day before the primary, other candidates have until 5 p.m. on the 83rd day to submit their nominations

AB 1784 Considerations

- *This measure is in response to the Rep. Vince Fong (CD-20/AD 32) Issue whereby the candidate withdrew from his Assembly race and instead wanted the voters to consider him for Congress.*
- *This bill includes a provision that specifies that the position of member of a political party county central committee is not an "office," for the purpose of the prohibition on a person filing declarations of candidacy for more than one office at a primary election. This provision is consistent with a longstanding interpretation by the SOS that the position of member of a county central committee is not an "office" for the purpose of the prohibition on filing nomination papers for more than one office at a primary election.*

AB 2582 (Pellerin) Elections omnibus bill

- This bill repeals the specific procedures for new residents and new citizens to register and vote. As of January 1, 2027, the bill repeals the requirement for an elections official to preserve the list of new resident voters voting in accordance with these provisions for 22 months.
- Note: CCAC supported bill.

AB 2642 (Berman) Elections: intimidation

- This bill prohibits intimidation, threats, or coercion related to election activities. It allows affected individuals, election officials, or the Attorney General to file civil actions against violators. Openly carrying firearms near election activities is presumed intimidation unless proven otherwise. Successful plaintiffs can recover legal fees and expenses.

AB 2655 (Berman) Defending Democracy from Deepfake Deception Act of 2024

- The Defending Democracy from Deepfake Deception Act of 2024 requires large online platforms to block deceptive election-related content and label inauthentic material before and after California elections. It mandates reporting procedures for non-compliant content and allows officials and candidates to seek injunctive relief for violations. The act applies to platforms with over 1 million California users in the past year, including websites, web applications, digital applications, social media, video sharing platforms, advertising networks, and search engines.
- Note: This bill is already facing litigation.

AB 2839 (Pellerin) Elections: deceptive media in advertisements

- This bill prohibits a person, committee, or other entity from knowingly distributing an advertisement or other election communication that contains certain materially deceptive content with malice subject to specified exemptions. The bill applies this prohibition within 120 days of an election in California and, in specified cases, 60 days after an election. The bill authorizes a recipient of materially deceptive content distributed in violation of this section, candidate or committee participating in the election, or elections official to file a civil action to enjoin the distribution of the media and to seek damages against the person, committee, or other entity that distributed it. The bill requires a court to place such proceedings on the calendar in the order of their date of filing and give the proceedings precedence.
- Note: This bill has already been enjoined.

AB 3184 (Berman) Elections: signature verification statements, unsigned ballot identification statements, and reports of ballot rejections

This bill requires county election officials to provide a unified online form that serves two purposes:

1. It allows voters to verify their signature on a vote-by-mail ballot.
2. It allows voters to identify themselves if they forgot to sign their ballot envelope.

Election officials must post this combined form on their website, along with instructions on how to complete it. This single form can be used to satisfy requirements for both signature verification and unsigned ballot identification. Election officials must accept this combined statement for either purpose.

AB 3184 (Berman) Considerations

- *In November 2022, nearly 50% of rejected vote by mail ballots were for either a missing or non-matching signature. That amounted to nearly 60,000 ballots.*
- *Vote by mail ballots were for either a missing or non-matching signature. That amounted to nearly 60,000 ballots. In 2022, if there was a mismatching or missing signature on the vote by mail ballot envelope, our elections officials notify the voter of the problem, how to correct the issue, and that the voter has until 5 p.m. two days prior to the certification of the election.*
- *However, because there is not a uniform date when counties certify elections, a voter may not have a date certain by which to make the correction and could inadvertently miss the deadline. AB 3184 provides voters with greater certainty if they are notified of signature issues moving forward—ensuring that everyone is operating on a level playing field.*

AB 3197 (Lackey) Elections

- This bill allows a county elections official to require the use of a standardized form for all elections petitions and papers circulated in the county related to elections for local government. Further, this measure allows a county elections official that conducts an election for another local agency to permit candidates in that election to submit candidates' statements for the purpose of electronic distribution.
- Note: Sponsored by LA County BOS

SB 1328 (Bradford) Elections

SB 1328 bolsters California's election security by expanding the Secretary of State's oversight on election technology and reducing vendor reporting time for equipment flaws from two days to 24 hours. It extends preservation periods for election materials to 22 months for federal elections and 6 months for others, including electronic data. The bill requires immediate notification and removal of compromised voting equipment, strengthens penalties for unauthorized access, and prohibits internet connectivity in voting systems. It mandates secure storage of election materials and proper disposal of outdated technology. Sealed ballot containers can only be opened for shredding or recycling. SB 1328 aims to modernize and protect California's election infrastructure, ensuring a more secure voting process.

SB 1450 (Allen) Elections

This bill reestablishes the taskforce established by the Secretary of State to review all-mailed ballot or voter center elections, reporting within 6 months of each election. It requires vote center to post language assistance information and mandates advisory committee meetings before drafting election plans. Counties with over 500,000 voters must create outreach committees until December 31, 2029. After 6 statewide all-mailed elections, officials can reduce contacts with voters if funds are redirected to underrepresented voters. Final election plans must be adopted 120 days pre-election, after a 14-day review period.

SB 1450 Considerations

- *This bill streamlines administration and reduces the costs of conducting elections under the VCA. The bill requires mailings to be sent to each household, rather than to every registered voter, and addresses situations where irregularly scheduled special elections and overlapping special districts result in duplicative and potentially confusing informational mailers. To improve election management, the bill also establishes a deadline for counties to finalize election administration plans and requires advisory committees to provide expertise on voter education and community outreach strategies. SB 1450 will maintain vital voter accessibility provisions while reducing costs and administrative barriers for counties to more efficiently and effectively conduct elections under the VCA model.*



Public Records Act

AB 1785 (Pacheco) California Public Records Act

- This bill prohibits a state or local agency from publicly posting the home address, telephone number, or both the name and assessor parcel number associated with the home address of any elected or appointed official on the internet without first obtaining the written permission of that individual.

AB 1785 Considerations

- *This bill closes a loophole in the current law which prohibits posting of a public official's home address, but not the elected official's parcel number, which can easily be linked to the official's home address. Now it is also illegal to post a parcel number without permission.*

SB 1034 (Seyarto) California Public Records Act: state of emergency

- This bill adds an unusual circumstance exception that allows for a 14-day extension during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor in the jurisdiction where the agency is located when the state of emergency currently affects, due to the state of emergency, the agency's ability to timely respond to requests due to staffing shortages or closure of facilities where the requested records are located.

SB 1034 Considerations

- *This bill adds to the existing list of reasons a PRA request may respond to a request from 10 days to 24 days (an additional 14 days) the declaration of a state of emergency by the Governor. The existing list is comprised of administrative challenges (e.g. having to consult another agency) and did not contemplate a state of emergency such as was experienced during the COVID-19 pandemic.*



Political Reform Act of 1974

AB 1170 (Valencia) Political Reform Act of 1974: filing requirements

- This bill permits a filing officer to retain a report or statement filed in a paper format as a copy on microfilm or other space-saving materials or as an electronic copy without a two-year waiting period. The bill also permits a filing officer to retain a report or statement as an electronic copy before the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system. Once the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system, this bill permits a filing officer to retain a report or statement filed in a paper format as an electronic copy without a two-year waiting period.

AB 1170 (Valencia) Considerations

According to the FPPC, the Sponsor of the Measure: *"Existing law under the PRA provides that the FPPC is the filing officer for statewide elected officers and candidates and other specified public officials. Generally, these public officials file Form 700s with their agency or another person or entity, who retain a copy of the statement and then forward the original statement to the Commission. AB 1170 would instead require public officials for whom the Commission is the filing officer to file their Form 700s directly with the Commission using the Commission's electronic filing system.*

"Existing law also requires redaction of private information on the Form 700 that is made available on the FPPC's website, including the signature of the filer. AB 1170 would list the specific information that may be redacted. AB 1170 would modernize and streamline the filing process for these important public documents."

AB 2001 (Gallagher) Political Reform Act of 1974

- AB 2001 introduces several key updates to the Political Reform Act (PRA) that directly impact local agencies overseeing campaign finance. It mandates that local agencies must post campaign finance documents within 72 hours of receipt, even for late filings. If a document is mistakenly submitted to the wrong agency, that agency is not required to post it but must notify the filer of the error.
- The bill also streamlines posting requirements to apply uniformly across all filing methods (electronic, paper, email, or fax). Additionally, it clarifies that certain social media ads are exempt from specific disclosure requirements in defined circumstances.

AB 2041 (Bonta) Political Reform Act of 1974: campaign funds: security expenses

- The bill allows candidates or elected officers to use campaign funds for security-related expenses, including installing and monitoring electronic security systems and providing personal security for themselves, their families, or staff if a threat arises from their official activities. A maximum of \$10,000 can be spent for these purposes during their lifetime, but the funds cannot be used for firearms. Any security items purchased must be returned or reimbursed to the campaign fund, with detailed records and receipts required. Additionally, candidates must submit a form to the Fair Political Practices Commission to document the safety threat that justified the security expenditure under penalty of perjury.



Governmental Bodies and Candidates

AB 2302 (Addis) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences

- This bill revises the limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location, instead prohibiting such participation for more than a specified number of meetings per year, based on how frequently the legislative body regularly meets. The bill, for the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference, defines a “meeting” as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

AB 2302 Considerations

- *The new limits on teleconferencing by a member are: (1) two meetings per year for a body that meets once a month or less; (2) five meetings per year for body that meets regularly twice per month; (3) seven meetings per year for a body that meets three or more times per month.*

AB 2631 (Fong, Mike) Local agencies: ethics training

This bill requires the Fair Political Practices Commission, in consultation with the Attorney General, to create, maintain, and make available to local agency officials an ethics training course.

- Note: CCAC supported bill.

AB 2631 Considerations

- *This bill makes the free online ethics training currently provided and managed by the FPPC and implicitly supports an increased budget to do so. The FPPC had previously provided the course on its own initiative. The FPPC will need additional funding to provide the training when additional elected officials (those who are not paid, e.g. school board members) become subject to the ethics training requirement in 2025.*

AB 2715 (Boerner) Ralph M. Brown Act: closed sessions

- This bill authorizes a legislative body to hold a closed session with other law enforcement or security personnel and to hold a closed session on a threat to critical infrastructure controls or critical infrastructure information relating to cybersecurity.
- Note: CCAC supported bill.

AB 2715 Considerations

- *This bill explicitly confirms that the existing justifications for a closed session under the Brown Act to include a cybersecurity threat.*

AB 2803 (Valencia) Campaign expenditures: criminal convictions: fees and costs

- This bill prohibits campaign funds from being used to reimburse expenditures for attorney's fees and other costs in connection with criminal litigation if the litigation results in a conviction of the candidate or elected officer for a felony involving certain types of offenses. The bill prohibits the use of campaign funds to pay or reimburse a candidate or elected officer for a fine, penalty, judgment, or settlement relating to a conviction for a felony involving such specified offenses. The bill requires the candidate or elected officer, if convicted, to reimburse the campaign for all funds used in connection with other legal costs and expenses related to claims of criminal acts.

SB 1181 (Glazer) Campaign contributions: agency officers

- This bill exempts a city attorney or county counsel providing legal advice to the agency who does not have the authority to make a final decision in the proceeding from the definition of “officer” for purposes of these provisions. The bill specifies that certain types of contracts, including the periodic review or renewal of development agreements and competitively bid contracts, unless there are material modifications or amendments to the agreement, are not considered a license, permit, or other entitlement for these purposes.

SB 1181 Considerations

➤ *In 2022 the Legislature enacted SB 1439 (Glazer, Chapter 848, Statutes of 2022), This measure prohibited political contributions over \$250 from parties seeking contracts with local governments to the elected local officials who make contracting decisions. While the intent of the bill was to protect the integrity of the decisions of local officers, there were unintended implementation issues that were costing the FPPC and local jurisdictions time and money to correct. Business associations and local elected officials sued the FPPC seeking to have SB 1439 declared unconstitutional. In the end, the court ruled that SB 1439 does not violate the United States Constitution or the California Constitution and the ruling was not appealed by the plaintiffs. (Family Business Association of California vs. Fair Political Practices Commission). SB 1181 is a clean-up bill which intends to ease implementation issues.*

SB 1243 (Dodd) Campaign contributions: agency officers

- This bill raises the threshold for contributions regulated by these provisions to \$500. The bill extends the period during which an officer may cure a violation to within 30 days of accepting, soliciting, or directing the contribution, whichever is latest. The bill specifies that a person is not a “participant” for the purposes of these provisions if their financial interest in a decision results solely from an increase or decrease in membership dues. The bill exempts from these provisions contracts valued under \$50,000, contracts between 2 or more government agencies, contracts where no party receives financial compensation, and the periodic review or renewal of development agreements from these provisions.



Miscellaneous Measures

SB 399 (Wahab) Employer communications: intimidation

- This bill prohibits an employer from subjecting, or threatening to subject, an employee to discharge, discrimination, retaliation, or any other adverse action because the employee declines to attend an employer-sponsored meeting or affirmatively declines to participate in, receive, or listen to any communications with the employer or its agents or representatives, the purpose of which is to communicate the employer's opinion about religious or political matters and requires an employee who refuses to attend a meeting to continue to be paid. The bill imposes a civil penalty of \$500 on an employer who violates these provisions. The bill authorizes the Labor Commissioner to enforce the bill's provisions. The bill also authorizes any employee who has suffered a violation of the bill's provisions to bring a civil action and to petition for injunctive relief.

SB 1514 (Committee on Local Government) Local Government Omnibus Act of 2024

- This bill specifies that when attesting to a digital signature, a county clerk or a city clerk may presume that the signature is genuine and attributable to the signatory if the digital signature complies with specified requirements.

SB 400 (Wahab) Peace officers: confidentiality of records

- This bill clarifies that the confidentiality of personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers does not prohibit an agency that formerly employed a peace officer or custodial officer from disclosing the termination for cause of that officer.

Assembly Elections Chairs

Assemblymember Gail Pellerin (D-Santa Cruz)

- Elected 2022 (Chair of Assembly Elections, June 2023)
- District 28 (Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties)
- Chief elections official in Santa Cruz County 1993-2020
- President of CACEO 2010-2012



Senate Elections Chair

Senator Catherine Blakespear (D-Encinitas)

- Elected 2022 (Chair of Senate Elections, January 2024)
- District 38 (San Diego and Orange Counties)
- Six years as the Encinitas Mayor and two on the Encinitas City Council
- Lawyer and former journalist



Looking Ahead: 2025 Timing

- January 6: Legislature reconvenes for 2025-26 legislative session
- February 21: Last day for Legislature to introduce bills
- June 6: Deadline for Legislature to pass bills out of their house of origin
- September 12: Last day for Legislature to pass bills
- October 12: Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills



Questions/Discussion
Thank You!



Appendix

Supplemental Measures Enacted in 202 (by bill number, not by subject area)



Elections Officials and Voter Registration

AB 3284 (Committee on Elections) Elections omnibus bill

- This bill makes a technical, nonsubstantive change to the provision that a county elections official, upon application of a public safety officer, is required to make confidential that officer's residence address, telephone number, and email address appearing on the affidavit of registration.

SB 1493 (Blakespear) Elections

- This bill reduces, from two or more copies to one copy, the number of state voter information guides the Secretary of State (SOS) must mail to certain individuals and institutions, such as elected officials, libraries, and high schools. The bill also allows recipients entitled to a copy of the voter information guide to request and receive additional copies of those documents.

SCA 1 (Newman) Elections: recall of state officers

- This measure eliminates the successor election for a recalled state officer and instead provides, in the event an officer is removed in a recall election, that the office will remain vacant until it is filled in accordance with the Constitution and statute. The measure repeals the prohibition against the officer subject to the recall being a candidate to fill the office in a special election, but prohibits the appointment of the officer subject to the recall election to fill the vacancy.

SCA 1 Considerations

- *The Little Hoover Commission (LHC) launched a study in 2021 to consider whether the state’s system for recalling state office-holders should be changed, and if so, how. In its 2022 report, the LHC concluded that the recall system should be retained, both because it is substantively valuable – voters should be able to fire an elected official mid-term – and because it is overwhelmingly popular with voters. However, the report also concluded that substantial changes are needed in California’s recall process. According to the report, current recall procedures breed the possibility of an undemocratic outcome since they allow a replacement candidate to win office while receiving fewer votes than the incumbent. There is also concern that the recall is subject to potential overuse or abuse. The report made various recommendations, including replacing the existing two-part recall ballot with a “snap” special election in which the official targeted for recall is placed on the ballot with all replacement candidates.*

AB 2127 (Berman) Voter registration: California New Motor Voter Program

- This bill extends the operation of the taskforce established by the Secretary of State that must convene for meetings at least quarterly and advise the Secretary of State and the department on effective implementation of the California New Motor Voter Program until January 1, 2030.

AB 2951 (Cervantes) Voter registration: cancellation

- Permits a county elections official, during the period of January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025, when the official sends a required notice that a voter's registration is being canceled due to the death of the voter, to send that **notice within 15 days either before or after the cancellation** of the registration. Requires a county elections official, **beginning July 1, 2025, to send these notices between 15 and 30 days before** canceling a person's registration due to the death of the voter.

AB 2951 Considérations

- Sponsored by the Secretary of State, this measure extends the timeline for the full implementation of AB 2841 (Low) [Chapter 801, Statutes of 2022], which mandates technological upgrades to VoteCal, California's centralized voter registration database.
- These upgrades are necessary for the system to send pre-cancellation notices to voters when a court order indicates a change in their registration status due to death or a change of address. Assembly Bill 2951 allows for this extension by postponing the implementation of the requirements outlined in AB 2841 until July 1, 2025.



Artificial Intelligence

AB 2013 (Irwin) Generative artificial intelligence: training data transparency

- This bill requires, on or before January 1, 2026, and before each time thereafter that a generative artificial intelligence system or service or a substantial modification to a generative artificial intelligence system or service, released on or after January 1, 2022, is made available to Californians for use, regardless of whether the terms of that use include compensation, a developer of the system or service to post on the developer's internet website documentation regarding the data used to train the generative artificial intelligence system or service. The bill requires that this documentation include, among other requirements, a high-level summary of the datasets used in the development of the system or service.

SB 896 (Dodd) Generative Artificial Intelligence Accountability Act

- This bill, the Generative Artificial Intelligence Accountability Act, requires the Department of Technology, under the guidance of the Government Operations Agency, the Office of Data and Innovation, and the Department of Human Resources, to update the report to the Governor, as required by Executive Order No. N-12-23. The bill requires the Office of Emergency Services to perform a risk analysis of potential threats posed by the use of generative artificial intelligence to California's critical infrastructure, including those that could lead to mass casualty events and requires a high-level summary of the analysis be provided annually to the Legislature.

SB 942 (Becker) California AI Transparency Act

- This bill, the California AI Transparency Act, requires a covered provider to make available an artificial intelligence (AI) detection tool at no cost to the user that meets certain criteria, including that the AI detection tool is publicly accessible. The bill requires a covered provider to offer the user an option to include a manifest disclosure in image, video, or audio content, or content that is any combination thereof, created or altered by the covered provider's generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) system that, among other things, identifies content as AI-generated content and is clear, conspicuous, appropriate for the medium of the content, and understandable to a reasonable person. The bill requires a covered provider to include a latent disclosure in AI-generated image, video, audio content, or content that is any combination thereof, created by the covered provider's GenAI system that, among other things, to the extent that it is technically feasible and reasonable conveys certain information, either directly or through a link to a permanent internet website, regarding the provenance of the content. The bill requires a covered provider that knows a third-party licensee modified a licensed GenAI system such that it is no longer capable of including the disclosures in content the system creates or alters to revoke the license within 96 hours of discovering the licensee's action and requires a third-party licensee to cease using a licensed GenAI system after the license for the system has been revoked by the covered provider.



Political Reform Act of 1974

AB 2355 (Carrillo, Wendy) Political Reform Act of 1974: political advertisements: artificial intelligence

- This bill requires a committee that creates, originally publishes, or originally distributes a qualified political advertisement to include in the advertisement a specified disclosure that the advertisement was generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence, as defined. The bill prescribes formatting requirements for this disclosure depending on the medium of the qualified political advertisement. The bill defines “qualified political advertisement” to include any advertisement that contains any image, audio, or video that is generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence. The bill specifies that any image, audio, video, or other media is generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence if it is entirely created using artificial intelligence and would falsely appear to a reasonable person to be authentic or materially altered by artificial intelligence such that a reasonable person would have a fundamentally different understanding of the altered media when comparing it to an unaltered version. The bill authorizes the commission to enforce a violation of these disclosure requirements by seeking injunctive relief to compel compliance or pursuing any other administrative or civil remedies available to the commission under the act. The bill specifies that a violation of these disclosure requirements does not constitute a misdemeanor.

SB 948 (Limón) Political Reform Act of 1974: contribution limitations

- This bill specifies that a candidate who receives campaign contributions for an election but does not file to run in the primary election, or who wins an election outright in the primary election without the need for a general election, can transfer campaign funds raised for the general election to a committee for a subsequent election. This bill also requires the transferred contributions to be attributed to specific contributors and subject to any relevant contribution limits.

SB 1027 (Menjivar) Political Reform Act of 1974: disclosures

- This bill authorizes a campaign committee to redact the bank account number on a copy of a statement of organization filed with a local filing officer, and it requires the Secretary of State to redact the bank account number on a statement of organization filed with the Secretary of State before making the statement available to the public in any form.



Redistricting

AB 1807 (Cervantes) County of Riverside Citizens Redistricting Commission

- This bill requires the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Riverside to adjust district boundaries in accordance with the criteria set forth in the FAIR Maps Act of 2023. The bill requires the commission to follow additional procedures relating to the translation of materials. The bill prohibits members of the commission from communicating with an individual regarding redistricting matters outside of a public meeting and prohibits a member from engaging in certain activities while serving on the commission and for three years thereafter.

SB 977 (Laird) County of San Luis Obispo Redistricting Commission

- This bill establishes the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of San Luis Obispo, which is charged with adjusting the boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo in accordance with specified criteria. The commission will consist of 11 members who meet specified qualifications. The bill requires each commission member to attend all public hearings and meetings of the commission to the greatest extent practicable, and creates specified procedures by which the commission may remove a member for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct of office, inability to discharge the duties of the office, or if it is later discovered that the commission member did not meet the required qualifications at the time of appointment or no longer meets those qualifications while serving on the commission. The bill provides that if the commission is unable to act because it does not have 7 voting members to constitute a quorum, then the county elections official must fill the vacancies to bring the commission to 7 voting members.



Miscellaneous Measures

AB 1413 (Ting) Housing Accountability Act: disapprovals: California Environmental Quality Act

- This bill requires a local agency, within 5 working days of receiving notice informing the agency that the applicant is seeking approval for the project, to post the notice on the local agency's internet website and provide a copy to specified persons. The bill additionally requires the local agency to consider all objections, comments, evidence, and concerns submitted about the project or the applicant's written notice, and prohibits the local agency from making a determination until at least 60 days after the applicant has given timely written notice. The bill makes technical changes to provisions of the Housing Accountability Act defining "disapprove the housing development."

AB 1413 Considerations

- *This bill is intended to make sure the public is given adequate notice and opportunity to comment on new housing developments, in light of an earlier change limiting the CEQA process of review for such developments.*

AB 1852 (Pacheco) Joint powers agencies: Clean Power Alliance of Southern California: meetings

- Existing law makes certain information presented to the joint powers agency in closed session confidential, and authorizes a member of the legislative body of a local agency member to disclose certain information obtained in a closed session to legal counsel of that member local agency for specified purposes or to other members of the legislative body of that local agency in a closed session. This bill extends that repeal date to January 1, 2030.

SB 863 (Allen) Measures proposed by the Legislature

- This bill allows the Legislature to specify, in the text of a measure that proposes an amendment or revision of the Constitution, that the constitutional amendment or revision submitted to the people will appear on the ballot at an election if the election specified in the measure would occur at least 131 days after adoption of the measure by the Legislature.

SB 1441 (Allen) Examination of petitions: time limitations and reimbursement of costs

- Under existing law, certain election petitions are not public records and are not open to inspection except by certain persons. Existing law authorizes the proponents of a petition found to be insufficient or their designated representative to examine the petition no later than 21 days after certification of the insufficiency. This bill requires the examination to conclude no later than 60 days after it commenced. If the examination does not conclude within 5 business days, the bill requires that the proponents of the examination reimburse the county for any costs incurred to continue the examination, as provided. When an examination continues beyond 5 business days, the bill requires the elections official to estimate at the beginning of each day and the proponent to deposit with the elections official a sum required by the elections official to support the examination for that day. The bill authorizes the return of any money deposited in excess of the cost of the examination and provide that money not required to be refunded be deposited in the appropriate public treasury.