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September 26, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor of California 1021 O Street, Suite 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814

Veto Request: AB 1411 (Sharp-Collins) – Voter Education and Outreach Plans

Dear Governor Newsom.

I respectfully request your veto of Assembly Bill 1411, which would place an unnecessary mandate upon counties that do not conduct all-mailed ballot elections pursuant to the Voter's Choice Act (VCA) by requiring them to design and implement costly and duplicative voter education and outreach plans.

California's elections system, just like those of other states, incorporates moderate levels of decentralization, in which county elections officials have considerable discretion over ensuring their elections structure works best for their respective communities. This local control includes targeted voter outreach programs to maximize voter turnout. AB 1411 would reduce local control by requiring non-VCA counties to implement voter education and outreach plans based on specific instructions provided by the Secretary of State; many of which are already in place.

Furthermore, AB 1411 is unnecessary given the robust array of existing voter registration and outreach programs already in place at both state and local levels. These efforts, done in collaboration with the Secretary of State office, have had the effect of making voter registration more accessible than ever before. In addition to the programs conducted by the state and localities, there are community efforts designed to register and pre-register voters, especially among high school students. There are endeavors such as High School Voter Education Weeks and California Student Mock Elections, where teachers and coordinators lead registration drives, preregistration for 16- and 17-year-olds, and provide student poll worker opportunities to engage young people directly in the electoral process.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto of AB 1411. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (916) 651-4037.

Sincerely,

Steven Choi, Ph.D., Senator

The Chai

37th Senate District