BALLOT DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE (BDAC) MEETING
ZOOM 12-9-2021 TRANSCRIPT

00:03:10.530 --> 00:03:12.000
REINA MILLER: Good afternoon, everyone can you hear me.

00:03:14.730 --> 00:03:15.420
Liz Oviedo: Yes.

00:03:15.510 --> 00:03:15.780
Yes.

00:03:17.700 --> 00:04:31.980
REINA MILLER: Maybe one more minute for people to still I still see people joining the meeting so we'll start at 301.

00:04:39.060 --> 00:04:50.700
REINA MILLER: Real when I know people are still joining but go ahead and get started good afternoon everyone, thank you for joining today's ballot design advisory committee me, my name is Rachel Miller and i'm going to go ahead and get started with roll call.

00:04:59.850 --> 00:05:00.270
REINA MILLER: Ryan.

00:05:01.680 --> 00:05:02.460
Brian Ikenaga: yeah here.

00:05:05.010 --> 00:05:05.490
REINA MILLER: Christopher.

00:05:41.010 --> 00:05:47.490
Eric Resendez: hi this is Eric resend is i'm here on behalf for James last be myself and caleb Thomas.

00:05:48.840 --> 00:05:49.140
REINA MILLER: Thank you.

00:05:54.480 --> 00:05:54.840
REINA MILLER: Thank.

00:05:56.100 --> 00:05:56.340
James Wight: You.
REINA MILLER: Thank you Jennifer tag.

Eric Resendez: Good.

REINA MILLER: Joanna Francesca.

Solano - John G.: I'm here thanks.

REINA MILLER: Thank you.

Kelly Sanders, Humboldt: I'm here.

Liz Oviedo: here.

REINA MILLER: Maria.

REINA MILLER: Here, thank you, Marina.
REINA MILLER: natalie I saw you Thank you.

27
00:06:53.100 --> 00:06:53.610
Natalie Adona: i'm here.

28
00:07:00.300 --> 00:07:01.080
REINA MILLER: Thank you.

29
00:07:03.240 --> 00:07:03.660
REINA MILLER: Marina.

30
00:07:04.800 --> 00:07:05.310
REINA MILLER: Thank you.

31
00:07:12.210 --> 00:07:12.660
Stephen: Christian.

32
00:07:13.650 --> 00:07:14.460
REINA MILLER: Thank you.

33
00:07:19.410 --> 00:07:19.860
REINA MILLER: victor.

34
00:07:25.140 --> 00:07:25.710
REINA MILLER: With the.

35
00:07:27.840 --> 00:07:28.860
Eric Resendez: Seven or 14.

36
00:07:29.520 --> 00:07:33.750
REINA MILLER: Oh, just a quick reminder, if you could please mute your your zoom or your telephone, please.

37
00:07:36.330 --> 00:07:38.070
REINA MILLER: Whitney I thought I saw you.

38
00:07:38.490 --> 00:07:39.180
Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: you're on here.

39
00:07:39.750 --> 00:07:40.620
REINA MILLER: Perfect Thank you.
REINA MILLER: Great anyone from the committee that I missed.

Annette Lim: An Atlanta.

REINA MILLER: Thank you.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: reena there's some checking on chat.

REINA MILLER: See.

REINA MILLER: Thank you Whitney.

REINA MILLER: Let's move on to stop anyone from the fly.

Raj Bathla SOS: rod.

Robby Anderson: roby Anderson.

Kirsten Larsen: Larson.

Dominick Williams: dominic Williams.

REINA MILLER: Thank you any Members from the public, I see on the top we have Nancy with provo solution and the code.

REINA MILLER: For the Election Commission and Scott from the Senate elections and constitutional amendment committee anyone else.
REINA MILLER: Okay Nicholas Nicholas Nicholas office in the Senate election commission.

REINA MILLER: That I have turned on our sin.

REINA MILLER: And bill join.

Allison Adey: This is allison i'm here.

REINA MILLER: Perfect Thank you.

Trent Lange: i'm here.

Thank you.

REINA MILLER: Any other members of the public.

Susan King Roth: arena i'm here.

Susan King Roth: on behalf of CVs.

REINA MILLER: Perfect Thank you.

REINA MILLER: Monica.

REINA MILLER: Thank you, Monica.
REINA MILLER: We can go ahead and get started so before we get started on.

00:09:58.440 --> 00:10:17.190
REINA MILLER: Our agenda item number to send a bill 90 and also assembly bill 1416 we do have a presentation from allison and trends offices Senator Henry Eastern end California clean money i'm going to go ahead and pass the MIC to them and print, let me make you a Co host you can share your screen.

00:10:20.160 --> 00:10:26.760
Allison Adey: Thank you, thank you reena so we'll try and gets set up with his presentation i'll just do a brief introduction.

00:10:27.150 --> 00:10:33.570
Allison Adey: I am sorry for the backlight we're still getting used to the new swing space and haven't quite figured out the lighting for zoom meetings.

00:10:34.110 --> 00:10:37.860
Allison Adey: i'm also an ATM Senator Stearns legislative director of staff TIM on.

00:10:38.220 --> 00:10:48.390
Allison Adey: Elections and costs constitutional amendments when he was sitting on that committee and have been working on this particular issue for him for about three years, alongside Trent.

00:11:01.890 --> 00:11:12.150
Allison Adey: SP 90 is our second iteration of the same bill looking at doing disclosure of primary supporters in primary opponents on the ballot itself.

00:11:21.270 --> 00:11:33.300
Allison Adey: And this has been a a serious effort of the Senate, or something he's very passionate about since its first introduction, three years ago and it's been our joy to be the author and.

00:11:33.750 --> 00:11:44.820
Allison Adey: champions on this particular issue, so thank you for having us here today to partake in this conversation and i'm going to hand it over to traveling of the California clean money campaign to do the further presentation.
Trent Lange: Great Thank you very much Allison and thank you all for having us.

Trent Lange: A sense the both sb nine good Lang a the president of the sponsor of the bill cosby mana campaign.

Trent Lange: We are very eager to get the committee's recommendations i'm very happy that the Senate elections committee and and send elections committee chairs requested.

Trent Lange: Both your feedback which we looked at very closely from when you looked at the bills, first in your July meeting we've already got some proposed amendments based off of some of that that feedback that we got i'll talk about that briefly in our presentation.

Trent Lange: and other other answers and we're very much looking forward to any further recommendations, you might might might have which will definitely be guiding the bills going forward so while I have a brief PowerPoint presentation, let me see if I can share my screen.

Trent Lange: Getting the slideshow mood.

Trent Lange: it's not going to say July.

Trent Lange: Okay.

Trent Lange: This presentation will have two separate parts one we saw several of you had questions about whether or not there was any polling or survey data on how much on how many people actually read the the ballot pamphlet course, this is one of the major goals of.

Trent Lange: Both these bills, we believe.
Trent Lange: are supporting organizations, believe in our authors believe that in many cases, unfortunately, a lot of voters do not have the time to read the full ballot template and get the supporters and opponents that are listed in the ballot arguments.

Trent Lange: And that this would be putting those those key supporters and opponents from the ballot pamphlet on to the ballot itself in a compressed way would be very helpful reminder to voters, especially those who may not have had a chance to read the ballot pamphlet at all so first.

Trent Lange: We did a survey and.

Trent Lange: It was a 661 likely November 2020 at that point California voters using samples drawn to match the demographics, of a lake research partners turnout model.

Trent Lange: sample weighted by gender, age race political party, etc, and we meant to answer questions, how important it is to voters to know who supports and opposes ballot measures do people really want this information.

Trent Lange: How easy to voters think it is to find supporters opponents and valid pamphlet how many voters say they actually read the ballot pamphlet.

Trent Lange: How confident are voters that they know those important supporters opponents and would they favor or oppose adding such a short list to the ballot.

Trent Lange: So, here are some of our initial.

Trent Lange: findings that over 79% of voters said that it was very important or somewhat important to know who supports and opposes ballot measures when you vote on.
Trent Lange: Then we asked them when it comes to finding supporters and opponents of propositions in the ballot pamphlet or voter information guide that is mailed to you.

Trent Lange: Would you say that it was easy that they know how to find him that it was easy only 42% said that they knew how to find.

Trent Lange: proposition supporters opponents in the ballot pamphlet and that it's quick and easy only 42% 36% said they know how to find them in the ballot pamphlet but that isn't quick and easy.

Trent Lange: 8% said they don't know where to find them in the belt pamphlet at all and 14% said they did they didn't even know they could find supporters and opponents and.

Trent Lange: Then we asked, essentially, how did you use the ballot pamphlet or did you even use the ballot template so we, we asked the question.

Trent Lange: Last year's vote information guy that was made was nearly 100 pages long, it was 2008.

Trent Lange: What is best describes how you used it only 17% of voters said they read the entire Bible belt pamphlet only 17% 36% said they read enough about pamphlet to see supporters and opponents, for every proposition.

Trent Lange: i'm not sure if that's completely true but that's what they said.

Trent Lange: But then 47% nearly half of voters.

Trent Lange: were either there they didn't read enough to see the supporters and opponents, for every proposition, which, as previously showed they found to be important.

Trent Lange: or 7% didn't get a chance to read the belt pamphlet at all, I suspect, was actually higher than that, but at least 7% said that.
Trent Lange: And 11% said they didn't think they actually even received the ballot pamphlet did not remember receiving about capital it at all.

Trent Lange: Which and, of course, there are a lot of people that you know move a lot, and there are people that will get an a big stack of mail and I just put it on the table, they don't remember receiving it.

Trent Lange: So these are reasons why we believe it's important.

Trent Lange: We followed by asking how confident, are you that you know the important supporters and opponent so given all that information to happen, the ballot pamphlet and the ads are seeing on TV.

Trent Lange: How confident, are they know the support his opponents only 21% so they were very confident they know the important support his opponents about mentors when they go only 21%.

Trent Lange: We think that this is a real problem, we think, as we saw earlier on, that the vast majority of voters say they want to know it's support as opponents now we're seeing that many voters.

Trent Lange: aren't reading the belt pamphlet or or aren't reading up to the belt, but I don't even know they can find them, and now you only have 21% were very confident that they know those supporters.

Trent Lange: opponent when they go.

Trent Lange: last thing we ask is, would you favor adding to the ballot a shortlist of supporters and opponents of each value proposition, this is, of course, is exactly what.

Trent Lange: would do 75% of likely California voters said that they would favor adding a shortlist of supporters going to each ballot proposition to the ballot and again across the board 80% of democrats 72% of Republicans 70% of independence.
Trent Lange: So that brings us to the goals of sb 90 and maybe 1416 partially informed by those polling results.

00:19:10.770 --> 00:19:15.030
Trent Lange: The goal is to provide the voters information they want to need by adding the shortlist to the ballot.

00:19:16.440 --> 00:19:22.170
Trent Lange: Therefore, ensuring that the many voters who don't read or even receive the guide see this crucial information.

00:19:23.250 --> 00:19:34.020
Trent Lange: or make it a serve as a reminder to valid organs for those who do the current valid argument or says the 75 word title and summary which is a useful reminder of the.

00:19:35.370 --> 00:19:45.510
Trent Lange: summary and the fiscal analysis and about template but they don't have anything at all about the bell arguments or the supporters, this would servers are useful reminder, even for those who read the belt template.

00:19:47.760 --> 00:20:08.730
Trent Lange: We think that we actually believe some people express concerns about this cluttering the bell or making harder to read, we believe that if done.

00:20:10.560 --> 00:20:27.750
Trent Lange: correctly and we're hoping for some of your feedback on this that will actually make it easier for voters to read and understand the ballot, because it will add context to the legal ease that you often have in the titles title and summaries.

00:20:30.450 --> 00:20:34.350
Trent Lange: Almost every activist, we talked to says they're confused by the titles and summaries and supporting points would be find it helpful the bills provide the option, but not the requirement for counties to include supporters opponents on local ballot measures city county etc.

00:20:35.430 --> 00:21:10.830
Trent Lange: screenshot on the bottom shows an example of one format is prop 26 from 2010 the top part is the normal title and summary those last three lines.
Trent Lange: Are the part added by SP 90 and at 1416 as current currently written, so you have supporters and then supporters from the valid argument Calvin taxpayers association calfresh Chamber commerce etc opponents.

00:21:11.760 --> 00:21:18.780
Trent Lange: In this case, league of women voters American lung association Sierra club California you conservation voters so that's the, these are the goals.

00:21:22.320 --> 00:21:28.650
Trent Lange: And this is where we want your we're hoping for your recommendations so first of all, this is what the bill does right now.

00:21:30.000 --> 00:21:36.360
Trent Lange: If the bill says that proponents and opponents will sub the proponents and opponents who submit the valid arguments.

00:21:36.690 --> 00:21:47.370
Trent Lange: are the ones that submit the supporters and opponents to the ballot it's not the secretary state or the registrar's that have to deal with that the proponents actually submit them taken from the.

00:21:49.950 --> 00:22:08.250
Trent Lange: signers of the arguments when they when they submit their about arguments.

00:22:09.360 --> 00:22:20.280
Trent Lange: They must be a maximum 125 characters the Secretary of State would add the word supporters and opponents and added to the ballot label that the registrar's all receive except in the case of local measures where the county registrar's will be.

00:22:20.910 --> 00:22:36.810
Trent Lange: or political parties being listed, so the requirements are basically it has to be a nonprofit or business that's been in existence for two years, a current or former elected official or individuals may not include political parties.

00:22:38.400 --> 00:22:46.380
Trent Lange: The bills currently give them rule ability to shorten the names to fit in that hundred 25 characters as much as possible.

00:22:46.740 --> 00:22:57.930
Trent Lange: Like shortening the word California to just see a and other ways that can shorten their organization or business names I saw in the July discussion there was some concern raised about.
Trent Lange: A potential legal liability to the counties if they change names in a way that the supporters or opponents are unhappy with.

That was not the intent of the bill was not to allow or to require or even allow counties or the secretary state to shorten or change the names, but.

If the committee recommends it, we will be happy to amend the bills to clarify the names may only be shortened by the proponents and opponents, not by the counties or the secretary state.

Trent Lange: One area that we definitely need recommendations on we've gotten some feedback on this.

Already from the Santa Clara county registrar, for instance, and some of the some you expressed concerns was the timing.

Of when the supporter when the proponents and opponents submit the valid arguments.

In the current language, the proponents and opponents submit the list of supporters and opponents 125 characters when they submit the valid arguments or their rebuttals.

And then the Secretary of State has seven days to provide the updated belt labels to the county's from that time.

The concern that we've heard is that submission when rebuttals are submitted may not get counties enough time to prepare translations and to add the list to the ballots generally.

That is a very well taken concern, so our proposed solution which we'd love your feedback on to see if you'd recommend it would be to instead require the proponents and opponents to submit their entire list.
Trent Lange: When they submit their ballot arguments, not when they submit the rebuttals so they'll give an extra seven days than the bill currently currently does.

00:24:48.810 --> 00:24:56.220
Trent Lange: So when we will be very eager to hear your thoughts on that or any other sort of recommendations here.

00:24:59.340 --> 00:25:05.970
Trent Lange: we're also looking for recommendations on how to save space on the ballot.

00:25:06.870 --> 00:25:23.070
Trent Lange: we've already put into the bill, a number of ways to save to make it take take less extra space on the ballot than original version so much from CAC Oh, some of them from our discussions with a couple of individual registrar's so right now the bill.

00:25:24.600 --> 00:25:33.570
Trent Lange: clarifies that supporters opponents are simply pendant at the end of the text as that graphic mockup I showed, they do not have to appear on separate lines so.

00:25:33.960 --> 00:25:46.860
Trent Lange: In many cases, they won't take that much extra space, depending upon the format of course the bill currently allows the type size and supporters opponents to be reduced to a small as eight points, if necessary, to avoid printing and additional ballot card.

00:25:48.000 --> 00:26:07.170
Trent Lange: And then for balance that have more than one language, the ballot may, if the counties prefer instead of adding the having the list at the end of each translation, as with the default before they may list, only one list of supporters and opponents.

00:26:08.760 --> 00:26:25.440
Trent Lange: In that in both languages that share common words now this won't work with every language, obviously, a language like Mandarin there don't chick chick share a lot of kind of common words with English but, for instance here's an illustration of how that would work for.

00:26:27.150 --> 00:26:28.260
Trent Lange: With English and.

00:26:29.490 --> 00:26:34.350
Trent Lange: in Spanish, so a lot of the words and we pulled these translations from previous.

00:26:35.490 --> 00:26:36.630
Trent Lange: got out that the.

00:26:37.680 --> 00:26:50.580
Trent Lange: Spanish language ballot pamphlets so a lot of the supporters have the same names leading women voters California, is the same name in both English and Spanish and a lot of other languages, even actually like Mandarin.

Trent Lange: Some change for like assembly Member or senator for the different languages, but you can see, at least for some language combinations this would save a lot of space.

Trent Lange: So just a couple more slides here, but will want to be very eager to hear what you guys think of these approaches and if you have any other recommendations about them.

Trent Lange: A last thing this is kind of a readability issue for the voters, we want to ensure that it doesn't become one big blob of text by adding these two lists of supporters and opponents to the.

Trent Lange: 70 current 75 word title and summary, so the bills currently attempt to make sure that it's easier to read.

Trent Lange: The word supporters opponent, so it stands out kind of like here, it gives the option for the counties to put in the ballot by either displaying those words in boldface, as you can see in this example.

Trent Lange: Underlining if the county's before or if your system requires it, or any other method that differentiation it's these supporters and opponents from the names of both lists.

Trent Lange: If no such method is is or can be used, then they should be in all caps because that'd be another way of differentiating.

Trent Lange: And we're very eager to hear what recommendations, you might have on on formatting and the last slide is just an example, this was taken from our mock up of the Santa Clara county.

Trent Lange: Part of the Santa Clara county ballot from 2020 you can see the propositions at the top, so this prop 14 you can see, the English language title and summary.

Trent Lange: Then you can see, the Spanish language title and summary and, in this case the mock up includes the supporters and opponents together since there's so many common words in English and Spanish.
Trent Lange: And it's allowed to make the font size, a little bit smaller so we know that in many cases it will require extra pages, we know there's nothing that can be done about that most likely.

00:28:57.030 --> 00:29:11.640
Trent Lange: But we're making efforts to take as little extra space as possible, and we look forward to your recommendations, for how else to make it even better so that's the end of my presentation and people are eager to hear your feedback.

179
00:29:20.430 --> 00:29:21.900
Travis Ebbert, Contra Costa Elections: On a mixed language.

180
00:29:23.640 --> 00:29:31.500
Travis Ebbert, Contra Costa Elections: Translation please it's probably is the SOS going to supply us some counties with mcs version and then some counties with.

181
00:29:34.080 --> 00:29:42.960
Travis Ebbert, Contra Costa Elections: You know model lingual multi modal lingo versions, because so, even if we do mix the language on the file itself we lay out four or five other different kinds of balance.

182
00:29:43.380 --> 00:29:57.810
Travis Ebbert, Contra Costa Elections: So or IBM screen print and audio ballots are completely separate we can mix languages and those so, even if we do a mixed one on the file itself we're going to need models angle ones for all those other kinds of Alice will be.

183
00:29:59.760 --> 00:30:12.180
Trent Lange: A great question right now the bill is silent on whether or not the Secretary of State provides translations to the counties.

184
00:30:13.590 --> 00:30:21.690
Trent Lange: We would certainly be very open to your recommendations and, of course, we want the feedback from Secretary state on whether it would be.

185
00:30:22.830 --> 00:30:25.740
Trent Lange: useful for the bill to say that the Secretary state.

186
00:30:27.030 --> 00:30:31.830
Trent Lange: should provide different language combination different translations or not.

187
00:30:32.910 --> 00:30:35.700
Travis Ebbert, Contra Costa Elections: Okay yeah they should definitely provide those okay.

188
00:30:37.380 --> 00:30:38.040
Natalie Adona: ever a.
Natalie Adona: question and a comment so.

Natalie Adona: I think it was slide 14 you showed an example of.

Natalie Adona: What a mock up ballot might look like based on weight, I think, Santa clara's 2020 ballot.

Natalie Adona: Yes, i'm.

Natalie Adona: With you know all the supporters and opponents you do you mind pulling that up.

Trent Lange: Well, yes, I am doing that again you're at right now.

Trent Lange: turn to that right now I should I kept it up there.

Trent Lange: i'll just do it this way.

Natalie Adona: yeah yeah there you go.

Natalie Adona: yeah so I mean when I looked at that.

Natalie Adona: I don't know that it really solves a problem of readability to me it does feel sort of cluttered.

Natalie Adona: Even when you, you know sort of have less space that's taken, I think that you know you sort of compromise the whole spacing issue with everything looking very legal easy.
Natalie Adona: Right and it's not clear to me that a voter is going to pop right down to the supporters and opponents if they can't even make it through the big I don't know that they're going to make it all the way down to the bottom.

Natalie Adona: To see the supporters and opponents so so I guess you know what was other people's reaction to sort of seeing this mock up.

Natalie Adona: In the common I had you know just about the the survey data, I mean it looks like to me from the from what I saw.

Natalie Adona: That it's a really good argument for making design modifications to the big.

Natalie Adona: and not to sort of transport information onto a ballot and if such and such percentage of people are saying, well, I can't even find it, I mean that's an easy solution redesign your big so people can find it right.

Natalie Adona: I mean my I know from my experience my voters they read the big and they tell us that they read the big and they point out mistakes and they have questions so.

Natalie Adona: yeah i'm not sure about the 600 and something people, whether you've got any of them from Nevada county but you know our voters are definitely reading these documents pretty carefully.

Natalie Adona: And they have almost 30 days to to cast a ballot so yeah i'm just sort of struck by the the feedback from from the voters you all surveyed that you know everything indicates that maybe the big needs work and.

Natalie Adona: You know, second, when I look at that mock up of the ballad is it feels like it's still a lot of information that's overwhelming.

Trent Lange: um well it's certainly a lot of voters do read the entire you know the entire bout pamphlet and read it closely, I mean even the survey found that but there, there are at least these these put this slide up again.

Trent Lange: 11% don't even think they received it, so I mean and making improvements to the the voter information guide would be a good idea, but those 11% doesn't matter if you fix it if they don't they don't can't find it they're not going to benefit from it.
Natalie Adona: They didn't get.

Natalie Adona: They didn't get their ballot.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: So I have just some questions about the research, first of all, this is recollection opinion survey it's done very small sample so first what were the demographics, that you have the people who participated first.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: gender, age race political party how about language access how about area of the.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Okay um it still doesn't tell you what what the what those demographics were um.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: But the thing that bothers me about it is that all of those questions are phrased in a way that makes it really easy to say sure of course i'd love that.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: But nothing actually did something like present a ballot to them and ask afterwards, whether they saw noticed or remembered.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: who supported that ballot or how they made the decision as they were voted so there's really no behavioral research, this is entirely sort of recollection and.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: I think there's a big difference between asking a general you know, would you like this question because answer sure i'd like that.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: We do know CCD from our research that who the supporters and opponents, where is his material i'm just not sure that putting them into a block paragraph.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: cramming them on to the ballot actually does service but I don't know that it doesn't I just don't see that the research has been done to see what happens when you take a typical ballot and put it in front of somebody.
Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: So there's so there's that and I think there.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: I mean, I agree that it is a challenge, when people are asked to vote on a lot of things that are complicated and maybe you know, despite everybody's best intent or to still hard to read.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: And I know that some people may not bother read the material that is provided to them by law.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: there's other solutions, one of them might be making a very small supplement that goes in with the ballot that simply provides essentially the the smallest proportion of the.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: State voter guide that has the WHO, the supporters are not in a form that's easy to look at rather than it being on the ballot itself.

Trent Lange: Okay well good points about the the limitations of this of this survey data, I think that, but it was a light, you know, is a November 2020 likely turnout models across no gender, age race political party.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Not perfectly right still not language.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Right and not across languages.

Trent Lange: Now across languages, that is.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: One of the really biggest issues here is the only p.

Trent Lange: But I think that that it's, it is very easy to I mean one of the reasons why this bill has so much support amongst.

Trent Lange: clean money supporters and almost everybody, we talked to talk to is almost everybody, we talked to.
Trent Lange: Just anecdotally but it's pretty consistent says oh my God I don't have time to read that whole ballot pamphlet I mean it is it's not this.

Trent Lange: This was not surprising and then secondly the ballot itself currently refers to the ballot pamphlet right.

Trent Lange: If we think everybody's going to read the bell pepper, why are you bothering putting a summary in 75 words summary and fiscal analysis right that in many ways that doesn't help.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Because that, because that is good.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Practice on a ballot, not to give something something that just says measure three but that actually says what they're voting on that's actually pretty good national practice they're very few places they asked people to vote on something that simply identifies a title.

Trent Lange: And yes, and we're not we're not we've certainly would not advocate for the removal of them absolutely not it is important but, but we also believe that.

Trent Lange: it's it's important enough to have the supporters and opponents in the ballot this survey and lots of others it's pretty obvious that people will think that it's very important to have supporters and opponents.

Trent Lange: And that information is not on the ballot.

Trent Lange: Any reminder of it in the same way that the fiscal analysis and the summary does so, so that is, that is our belief, the author's beliefs, all the supporters, but belief that this would be helpful to voters and we're trying to do it in as in a way that is.

Trent Lange: understood.

Trent Lange: As possible that's very good feedback now.
Trent Lange: option.

Natalie Adona: You are breaking up.

Natalie Adona: Your connections not good.

Oh.

Natalie Adona: Sorry, can you say.

Trent Lange: not really again Okay, can you hear me now yeah.

Trent Lange: Okay sorry about sorry about that.

Trent Lange: The.

Trent Lange: So we we the feedback about.

Trent Lange: We want to make it as because we think that this is so important in our supporters and offers think this information is so important, we do believe that this survey data and anecdotal evidence.

Trent Lange: suggests that people would like this and not everybody's remembering us from the balcony we do really believe it's important to include this information on the ballot, but our goal is to make it as is.

Trent Lange: As as easy as possible for the registrar's take up this little space as possible, make it as readable as possible, so we liked it, I appreciate the feedback from natalie about maybe the combination of supporters and opponents pulled out separately.

Trent Lange: For multi lingual might not be helpful.
Trent Lange: And maybe it'd be better, even though it would save a little bit of space in many cases, so certainly love more feedback on things things like that do.

REINA MILLER: We have two people who raise their hand and that and Taylor, and I did you want to go ahead.

Annette Lim: hi So my question is.

Annette Lim: related to the county level of what you know, and all of those.

Annette Lim: Frequently, the supporters and opponents have different people signing the rebuttals so you're forcing them to only have a certain number of the week, they can only have five for each argument and or battle, so they.

Annette Lim: But they're going to limit them to just 10 five people or five organization.

Trent Lange: Great question and I think this this may change because of the change in timing it's it's 125 characters.

Trent Lange: From currently in the bill from the signers of the so if they can get all all six by by shortening that names as a way the bill allow, then they could potentially get all six but because of this problem that we've.

Trent Lange: been pointed out to us that having them send it at the same time as the rebuttals.

Trent Lange: would not be enough time in many cases or be pushing the amount of time that you have to actually get them printed on the ballot.

Trent Lange: we're proposing changing it to when they submit the arguments and the proposal their sense of a rebuttal arguments haven't been submitted, and in fact the proponents and opponents may not even know yet who's going to sign the rebuttal arguments, is that with this amendment.

Trent Lange: In addition to saying they submitted at the same time as the original arguments so seven days earlier 125 characters should come from either the signers of the arguments so three or from any organizations or individuals that
are actually listed in the argument itself.

00:41:56.160 --> 00:42:12.690
Trent Lange: So part of the argument says, and this bill this proposition is endorsed by X and Y and Z then they could also list X and Y and Z as long as there was an ap test station by X, Y, Z that they really do support the proposition or post about decision.

00:42:13.530 --> 00:42:16.080
Annette Lim: Making where did that number come from.

00:42:17.160 --> 00:42:33.240
Trent Lange: Well, in the current bill, they can pull from either the arguments signers or the rebuttal signers so that a maximum of six because three on each and as long as they can fit in 125 characters that 225 characters using.

00:42:34.440 --> 00:42:37.770
Trent Lange: The ways that we allow the proponents and opponents to shorten their names.

00:42:37.800 --> 00:42:40.950
Annette Lim: yeah I did not read about six people or providers.

00:42:44.760 --> 00:42:55.800
Annette Lim: that's all right, and then, so I know for the State do you have a label does that all the new changes apply to the county city of the local level.

00:43:00.270 --> 00:43:04.770
Annette Lim: to determine do they determine because right now it's.

00:43:00.270 --> 00:43:04.770
Annette Lim: They can have a title and a question that's different from what you have.

00:43:05.490 --> 00:43:14.760
Trent Lange: Right, yes, the well, it is an option for counties it's set up as an opt out option that gives the rules for counties to.

00:43:16.020 --> 00:43:18.270
Trent Lange: To add supporters and opponents, which are.

00:43:19.410 --> 00:43:22.290
Trent Lange: Almost exactly the same with a couple of minor differences.
Annette Lim: About label.

Annette Lim: portion not that also seems to be affecting the local level or the rules that you have for about labels also applying to the local level that's what I wanted to know, or do we follow the same rules that we have.

Trent Lange: for local ballot labels, you could either follow the same rules if the county OPS, not to include supporters or bonus or.

Trent Lange: They could add supporters and opponents using basically the same rules as as the state measures, in which case the proponents and opponents of the local ballot measures would submit it to their elections official.

Trent Lange: And then the county elections official will be responsible for adding them to the ballot label or to the question, however, however, the case would be that's.

Annette Lim: The definition of what about label can be your new definition of about label or.

Annette Lim: It could be the current question requirement.

Trent Lange: Yes, I mean if if.

Trent Lange: You may be making a good sorry you're making a good point um.

Trent Lange: Maybe we need to look to make sure that the because we're right right now we change the definition about label to add in supporters and opponents.

Trent Lange: We don't want that to.

Trent Lange: Be in effect for counties that opt out of adding supporters and opponents, so we will work with our authors and lead counsel to clarify that that it doesn't affect about labels for local races if the county has opted out of including
supporters and opponents.

00:44:54.030 --> 00:44:54.750
Annette Lim: Okay, thank you.

00:44:55.800 --> 00:44:57.540
Trent Lange: Thank you, thank you that's a good point.

00:45:02.040 --> 00:45:12.120
Taylor Kayatta: hi so i'm with the secretary of state's office i'm one of the attorneys here and I actually work predominantly in the political reform division so try and I don't think we've met, but I certainly know your name.

00:45:12.780 --> 00:45:12.990
that's.

00:45:14.520 --> 00:45:23.250
Taylor Kayatta: Something that strikes me about this is your calling this disclose act, but it seems very different for me than the disclose act, you have no political reform act.

00:45:24.270 --> 00:45:29.340
Taylor Kayatta: The political reform disclose really is it's almost like a warning label that's on the cigarette box where.

00:45:30.120 --> 00:45:35.340
Taylor Kayatta: You can't hide from it that people don't want to disclose who funded their ads but there, they have to.

00:45:36.000 --> 00:45:48.450
Taylor Kayatta: Whereas in this case it's almost like an advertisement it's not the state telling you, you have to do this it's a instead of saying we're going to hand pick whose names, we want to list as a supporter, it seems to me, open to gamesmanship in that manner.

00:45:49.770 --> 00:45:54.570
Taylor Kayatta: And i'm not necessarily saying anything we have our office about whether we support this or oppose this, but.

00:45:55.320 --> 00:46:03.480
Taylor Kayatta: I think that, if that is if i'm understanding that correctly I think we're missing some context, if we were going to put it there without any context it would happen the larger big.

00:46:05.400 --> 00:46:12.150
Taylor Kayatta: It might be important to clarify these are people who wrote into supporting rather than this isn't exhaustive list of who's behind this because, with the.
Taylor Kayatta: Monetary another pra disclose act, this is the people who are paying for this thing to get on the ballot right these is who's loving you to get your vote, whereas, in this case, you could have you know big tobacco is you know the 990 percent funder of this proposition.

Taylor Kayatta: And yet the person who's listed as a supporter, is like.

Taylor Kayatta: Change school teacher, and this would allow that.

Trent Lange: Those are those are excellent excellent point Thank you Taylor it's good to get to meet you presume.

Trent Lange: You're right it's definitely not an exhaustive list it's not like the normal disclose Act, which are all about disclosing political funders on ads etc.

Trent Lange: You know, so I guess it could be argued that we shouldn't call it the ballot disclose act that we try to make it clear that this is about disclosing supporters and opponents.

Trent Lange: part, but it is in a way, an attempt to address one of the military's is a way to attempt to address the problems of money in politics and in many cases, you have.

Trent Lange: Certain very, very wealthy ballot measure supporters or opponents that can spend 10s of millions, or even hundreds of millions of dollars blasting the airwaves every single voter multiple times here are our.

Trent Lange: Best supporters here's who supports us right, whereas the other side oftentimes that may be supported by more public interest groups, etc, or just doesn't have the budget.

Trent Lange: cannot get that same message across at all to to voters, so I mean that's one of the we think is one of the benefits is is.

Trent Lange: hey let's make sure that it's disclosed to board that they see both sides of the situation, just like they would have to read the ballot pamphlet because I can see both sides of the situation, this all this information comes from the ballot pamphlet arguments.
Trent Lange: So they can see that in both cases and again just reminders from the bell pamphlet maybe it would be useful, and I love the feedback on it to your right it's definitely not an exhaustive list.

Trent Lange: Maybe there should be some very brief you know one sentence disclosure it on the ballot at the beginning.

Trent Lange: of it, saying the supporters and opponents are not an exhaustive list, or something like that, if if the secretary state or this committee thought that was something like that was a good idea I I know we would be loved to consider and i'm guessing our authors will be too.

Taylor Kayatta: yeah, I guess, with all that said My biggest concern is you know if it goes forward the way that is currently written.

Taylor Kayatta: Nothing you'd want to change it to be more similar to the you know political reform disclose act but and i'm not even concerned about the name of it, like, I know you all the disclosed like that's very important there's a nice tag.

Taylor Kayatta: And my concern really is just more of the context that by by displaying it like this without saying that this is kind of a self reported list or what it really means.

Taylor Kayatta: If I was a voter I might be thinking Oh well, this is a required disclosure, these are the people who are actually behind it, when in fact it's not it's essentially you know, in a TV ad, you have the mom and the POP on top in the Ad but on the bottom in the black box is you know big tobacco.

Taylor Kayatta: So, but really this will be giving you the name of the mom and pop which might be misleading without context.

Trent Lange: Right well so maybe let's let's talk, I mean I mean I, I know that we we think this is, we still think this information is very valuable in general is not just mom and POPs in general it's.

Trent Lange: well known organizations that sign these the valid arguments and that are listed for obvious reasons, because it's well known organizations that that do the analysis and that people will recognize.

Trent Lange: But you're right I would love you know and.
Trent Lange: If we can do it in a short way so that we make clear exactly what you said you know, right at the introduction to the ballot.

Trent Lange: section on the ballot doing a short way that doesn't take up much space, maybe That would be good idea.

Trent Lange: To add something saying that this is a self reported list it's not exhaustive, is a self, this is a list of self reported supporters and opponents.

Trent Lange: From the valid arguments in the ballot pamphlet you know, and maybe even mentioned hey that and the summer fiscal analysis is also from developed pamphlet just you know we might be able to do that short enough to not take extra space on the belt, to give voters need a context but.

Trent Lange: i'd love.

Trent Lange: be interesting to see what people think about something like that petition.

Trent Lange: Would that be helpful to you think if we were to go forward with this, but to add something like that to the beginning, if we can do it in a short way that is informative of voters, so they can have context for even the summary fiscal analysis to.

Taylor Kayatta: I'm raising the issue I if the county is want to chime in.

REINA MILLER: I know Karen natalie you both have your hands up so you guys can just open.

Karen Rhea: So I have just a couple of items that I wanted to talk about in terms of the mechanics so you did mention the timeline.

Karen Rhea: change with regard to State propositions and I presume this would also relate to the timing for.
Karen Rhea: You know it, reducing it to seven days for the county measures as well because that's your concern, given that you know you can get a.

Karen Rhea: measure turned in and he might say da then you're waiting for your argument filing date and public display and that really could start impacting.

Karen Rhea: ballot programming activities and timeliness for getting to 60 day balance that was one concern I you know that's that's a big concern for me.

Karen Rhea: and additional one that was has been thought given to if a county OPS out and there's a shared jurisdiction that the shared county doesn't opt out that voters are getting different information on the ballot is that.

Karen Rhea: Is that a concern to any of the attorneys on the line.

Trent Lange: yeah that's certainly so that certainly could could happen, I don't I actually myself don't know how many cases and races that that would be likely to to affect.

Karen Rhea: If it applies to all all jurisdictions on the local level, and there are a lot of shared districts between county school districts and and other districts, so it could very well be that one county opt in and opt out, and then you have voters receiving different information on the ballot.

Trent Lange: The the advice attorney if I said, we have had, which we haven't gotten super level on that is that it's not particularly a problem because all voters in one area in one county would get the same thing versus all the other.

Trent Lange: But we certainly look if that ends up being a problem from from other analysis and we'll we'll see more information on that.

Trent Lange: Then it's possible we could amend the bill to just say say not include such races that that would be possible for because obviously that wouldn't be possible for county county measures or city measures.

Karen Rhea: I think we prefer that even the school races, the types of races that that overlap counties would include it, but if there are legal issues or a real concerns about that certainly me could be happy to try to address that.
Karen Rhea: And just Lastly, I no longer where the county happened it's hard to wedge it off my head i'm.

Karen Rhea: The reference that accounting may elect to opt in or out.

Karen Rhea: i'm just wondering if if any of the county folks have concerns that it doesn't really designate who in the county has that authority would have to seek board approval or a fee.

Karen Rhea: Election official to make that determination I just kind of curious about that aspect but That was all I had rain, I think.

Natalie Adona: i'll just sort of pop in I mean it Karen I think you made some some some pretty good points, and I mean just to build off of that for just a second it's not my my my question but.

Natalie Adona: You know I would be really concerned if you know because we share districts with counties and you know, sometimes people are.

Natalie Adona: Pretty bitter about losing their election, so you have, if you have you know, a set of information that you know to your point is valuable to people.

Natalie Adona: I mean does that open, you know some sort of bad door for the counties that decide not to print the supporters or or or opponents.

Natalie Adona: But you know my my question, which you know is you know sort of straightforward is skimming again the both of the bills and I wasn't clear.

Natalie Adona: What the reimbursement looks like if, and I mean this is probably going to be the case if you've got you know this additional information on the ballot and it adds a page.

Natalie Adona: Is is the reimbursement that you know if a page is added that the state will give us that money back.

Trent Lange: And it would fall under the normal state reimbursement for for unfunded state mandates.
Natalie Adona: So yes, yes.

Trent Lange: Yes, when the state, yes, the state should do the state should do that whether or not they always do is another question but but yes, it should.

Natalie Adona: Well, I.

Natalie Adona: wasn't quite clear in the bill, whether that would be something like you know this imposes a mandate if you have another page, you know.

Natalie Adona: that's a big deal, you know that that not only adds to the cost of our printer but it adds to processing time when people mix up pages, you know not send in pages all the time, it creates a lot of work.

Trent Lange: yeah the official language in the bill is if the Commission and this is, I believe I, my understanding is from like Council, this is standard language for a state state mandates.

Trent Lange: Is that if the Commission on state mandates determines that this act contains other costs mandated by the state.

Trent Lange: Reimbursement to local agencies and school districts where this cost shall be made pursuant to part seven.

Trent Lange: blah blah blah that government code so that's that's what's in the bill, I believe that standard language for for state mandates, so they are obliged to do it.

Trent Lange: I know that sometimes there are challenges actually getting that reimbursement from the Commission on state mandates, but they certainly would be obliged to like any other State mandate.

Trent Lange: And we would we would certainly advocate for it if if there's any way we can help in that regard.
Natalie Adona: Money hills.

00:57:24.420 --> 00:57:24.990
Yes.

00:57:26.040 --> 00:57:27.450
REINA MILLER: and live I see your hands up.

00:57:30.060 --> 00:57:30.510
Liz Oviedo: Thank you.

00:57:31.830 --> 00:57:39.450
Liz Oviedo: Do I believe the bill addresses of the question raised by Karen I agree with you Karen.

00:57:40.830 --> 00:57:41.940
Liz Oviedo: It does say.

00:57:43.260 --> 00:57:44.970
Liz Oviedo: On the revision to section.

00:57:47.310 --> 00:58:06.000
Liz Oviedo: A county shall not include a list of supporters or opponents for any county city district or score measure if the county does not include a list of supporters or opponents for all measures which the county received, so I think that answers that.

00:58:07.410 --> 00:58:13.680
Liz Oviedo: Anyway, so our county board of supervisors is in support of this bill.

00:58:15.030 --> 00:58:36.960
Liz Oviedo: My my concern well I have quite a few concerns, I think it is great that the rebuttal deadline was moved to the argument deadline, but as Karen mentioned, we we receive all measures by a minus 88 which is 88 days before.

00:58:38.250 --> 00:58:46.050
Liz Oviedo: The election we send on a minus 88 or maybe minus 87 we typically send all those measures to.

00:58:47.520 --> 00:58:49.740
Liz Oviedo: For translations and.

00:58:50.850 --> 00:59:03.180
Liz Oviedo: The argument deadline for the local measures is the following week on a minus 85 and then the bill also says that.
Liz Oviedo: It will, in the case of the secretary state they would have to confirm that the submission of the supporters that that all the list of supporters includes the documentation required.

Liz Oviedo: And if, for some reason the the list of the supporters is not met the Secretary of State.

Liz Oviedo: or in the case of for the local officials may establish deadlines, when the proponents or opponents must resubmit the list so this means.

Liz Oviedo: For the local measures, we will have to wait until the arguments deadline, which is a minus 85 and then we would have to give another deadline.

Liz Oviedo: For in case we see that something's missing or some of the signers are not complying with the requirements and there's different requirements, one of them is if if someone listing a business, it has to be a bit of an operating business for the last two years and that kind of thing so.

Liz Oviedo: I would think that.

Liz Oviedo: For us in the battle creation, we have a very tight tight deadlines and five days or three days or a few days, make a difference, for us to meet timelines so that that's one of my concerns in regards to timelines.

Liz Oviedo: to open up for for re submission of signers so so that's one The other thing is the the ballot that you presented, I know that we Santa Clara county we created some mock ballots, basically, what we did is we took the the existing PDF files and added translations.

Liz Oviedo: We have eight languages in addition to English.

Liz Oviedo: For the official ballots in I agree that we cannot mix the the signers we cannot mix English with us, Spanish and then, because we need to have the English finalized.

Liz Oviedo: In order to create a English, Spanish English my English de Gallo ballot so, then we would have to separate the the English label, then the English, the the supporters, which is 125.
Liz Oviedo: characters, then we can have the opponent's 125 characters then those hundred and 25 characters for both the supporters and opponents will grow with translations, for example, Gallo grows by 40%.

Liz Oviedo: And that can so it will, it will be larger.

Liz Oviedo: And I provided a sample and maybe Raina you can maybe share it later on, but.

Liz Oviedo: It will we definitely see, for example, the the 2020 election, and if we go down to the following pages.

Liz Oviedo: We in the 2012 election, we had 12 state propositions and we can go farther down Thank you right now.

Liz Oviedo: In the.

Liz Oviedo: Election the general election, we had 17 state proposition and just for our county we have 32 local measures, so we are, we will definitely have.

Liz Oviedo: One more card or maybe two more cards, and I think is the last page where where the state propositions are.

Liz Oviedo: Okay right there, yes, so so there's English and then, if you go down or that's the Spanish and Spanish and then oh.

REINA MILLER: yeah are we looking at all oh.

Liz Oviedo: No, no, that Spanish.

REINA MILLER: But, did you want, did you want me to show some fellow or.

Liz Oviedo: Yes, please.
Reina Miller: Okay.

Liz Oviedo: So if you could please go to the measures.

Liz Oviedo: Okay, so this is a Gallo, and it does grow quite significantly.

Liz Oviedo: I know we see a little bit of blank space and then, if you go down a little bit then.

Liz Oviedo: We see we just copy the same names, the English is 125 names I mean at 20 125 characters we did not repeat the name, but we do have to translate.

Liz Oviedo: For example, into Gala we do translate league of women voters.

Liz Oviedo: Then, teachers, association and that kind of thing, so it does grow and then, when it comes to character languages, if you could go down to the Gala.

Liz Oviedo: We do have to translate or transliterated the names of the of the signers because, if someone.

Liz Oviedo: Does not read the English alphabet we do have to provide.

Liz Oviedo: I think is is down further down, please.

Liz Oviedo: For example, in the ballad we have the names of candidates transliterated So if you still way down this is
still de Gallo come is a very pretty language so when you see fonts that there are look like it looks like art and for the down, please.

REINA MILLER: If you want to show tonight.

Liz Oviedo: yeah.

REINA MILLER: Come on okay okay.

Liz Oviedo: That would be yeah.

Right.

Liz Oviedo: So.

We have the word supporters, then we have in character base supporters, so this ballot right here, where it says john doe we would have to say john doe income I.

Liz Oviedo: We have the word supporters, then we have in character base supporters, so this ballot right here, where it says john doe we would have to say john doe income I.

Liz Oviedo: So we we combined it this way, but we believe that it will be difficult, because of the font.
Liz Oviedo: So we suggest that we will have to give the label in English, the supporters underneath and then give the we would give the.

437
01:05:51.780 --> 01:06:04.890
Liz Oviedo: Combine or the translation and then underneath, and this would be probably easier for the waters, so they don't have to jump from one language to another, and so that that is my feedback, thank you very much.

438
01:06:09.030 --> 01:06:12.390
Trent Lange: Thank you very much, ladies that that is very helpful in, and it was your.

439
01:06:13.320 --> 01:06:20.250
Trent Lange: original Marcus but either show that in many cases, though we do attempt to take as little space as as as possible.

440
01:06:27.270 --> 01:06:35.040
Trent Lange: So this is the second time this is brought up I think i'd really it'd be great if we get the feedback we provide the option in the bill now to do this.

441
01:06:35.940 --> 01:06:45.210
Trent Lange: The default, is that the supporters and opponents come right as part of the ballot label right next under the fiscal analysis.

442
01:06:45.690 --> 01:06:58.920
Trent Lange: In each language so in English you'd have your title summary fiscal analysis supporters opponents and in Spanish, the same thing, but in Spanish, and that is an option we just provide this option to.

443
01:07:01.560 --> 01:07:15.870
Trent Lange: Allow the the it to be pulled out in this this particular way but i'd love to hear i'm kind of getting see that maybe that was not useful not helpful because hearing that that format why's that might.

444
01:07:16.890 --> 01:07:20.220
Trent Lange: be hard for voters, even though we might save a little bit of space.

445
01:07:21.810 --> 01:07:29.520
Trent Lange: Would we have a recommendation would you like us to keep that in in the bill or to take it out and just stick with the.

447
01:07:30.930 --> 01:07:37.830
Trent Lange: You know the support components are attached to whatever their language is, which would also if.
Trent Lange: If we decide to, and we were very interested in the Secretary of State feedback on this, especially.

Trent Lange: Have the secretary state provide translations for supporting components make that real easy because they just go okay here's the English label, with its supporters and opponents here's the Spanish label, with its English, with its supporters opponents.

Trent Lange: So I'd love to hear, would it be better to have this option or not to have this option or or or or some other combination.

Travis Ebbert, Contra Costa Elections: Daddy chimed in originally but yeah I don't think there's that option is very good for contra Costa and the way we lay out and present information to voters and multiple languages.

Trent Lange: Okay well if everybody agrees, then we might simplify the bill by just taking that that section out the intent was to give an option that would save space, but still work, but we, I definitely hear your.

Trent Lange: That if it's not going to work then it's not going to work, so we can simplify the door.

REINA MILLER: Sorry, I just want to make sure the Committee, as I was the committee is agreeing on right, I know travis time to him, but.

Natalie Adona: i'm sorry good Green on what.

REINA MILLER: about the children remove that from the bell.
Natalie Adona: Remove what I'm sorry they're going to miss that.

Trent Lange: The option.

Trent Lange: That the bill provides right now to instead of having support components listed under each language title and summary to have it pulled out separately, as described in the bill and shown in these mockups we're.

Not.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: I don't think the committee is agreeing to anything I think so.

Natalie Adona: yeah I don't really think so either.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: He wants to take away.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: That emotion and I'm out here.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: For there to be an agreement of the committee.

Natalie Adona: I mean I i'm really sort of uncomfortable then agreeing to you know weigh in on legislation in this committee, but I mean that's sort of where we're at right now.

Natalie Adona: You know hi.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: i'm right are charges to make recommendations to Secretary of State.
Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: I wonder if we could change the direction of the discussion a little bit to just less a back and forth rebuttal but simply a.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: input from the various counties on what the challenges they see might be.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Or what the benefits they see might be a bit, especially the challenges of laying out the ballot which I think is the thing that we're being really asked to weigh in on is.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Not Is this a good idea or bad idea or voters, like it or not like it, but are there issues in creating ballots that.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: The framers authors ought to be taking into account, and I think.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: You know, things like the fact that there are measures that might cross county lines and counties might behave differently that sort of thing that are.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: You know kind of stuff I don't think of right away, but people who layout ballots do so, I think that might maybe fit in better with the way the committee's been working.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Just discussion.

Natalie Adona: What do you think Joanna.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: um I do they have a nice idea of more of a discussion of you know how this is going to affect the layout of the ballot.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: For us, and Chester county where one language ballot and we have only been on two cards once since i've started working here so um we would then go to two cards every single November general election.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: And with voters, I mean, is it more important for the legislation to have the voters
return both cards or is it to have them have this thing which, on the about, because when you go to two cards voters, especially who aren't used to it.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: They don't return both cards, they only return whatever card, they want to return, so it will then lead to other struggles that we're facing and how to how to educate the voters as well.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: So what path, do we do go to educate the voters like where's the path going to take us by making this change.

Natalie Adona: yeah I mean, in my opinion, you know, and I, I certainly can make emotion or Joanna can make a motion to do something, you know, I just want to sort of.

Natalie Adona: lean back and say okay well, what is the sort of charge of this committee, it is to help the Secretary of State, with regulations on ballot design.

Natalie Adona: To me, the you know sort of making recommendations on specific legislation sort of falls outside of the scope of what we do.

Natalie Adona: Although you know i'm sure that you know the feedback is really helpful to you, but you know I think going taking it a step further and say we recommend that you change the bill in this way.

Natalie Adona: I don't know how comfortable I am with that.

James Wight: I think, for me, for laying out balance the biggest issue is always space and when you're adding 510 lines you know to one measure, and when we have 10 plus measures it's going to add most times, an extra sheet to the ballot.

James Wight: I actually suggested in the chat if we just what if you just added another header that says, you know some supporters and opponents can be found in the information guide.

James Wight: we're and there's information guide that every polling place and they get mailed to all the voters anyways so everybody should have it even the 11% that say they don't get it.
James Wight: They should have gotten it or they have access to one somewhere, and I think that would help to save space, because then you're only putting one statement in the ballot versus one statement permission.

01:13:51.300 --> 01:13:54.270
Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: James I agree that's a great idea.

01:13:55.950 --> 01:13:57.210
Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: To do that as well and.

01:13:58.650 --> 01:14:11.670
Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: Or maybe we could have like Whitney said earlier, additional page because so much easier to have that additional page done and haven't go with the ballot that will include this information.

01:14:12.930 --> 01:14:32.340
Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: I also agree with Taylor that we're really not disclosing what we actually need to disclose by allowing the supporters and the opponents choose who are on the ballot, why are we making that part of what an outside person looking in and seeing what's actually happening make that decision.

01:14:35.970 --> 01:14:40.110
Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: Those are the key components I i'm really struggling with all of this.

01:14:43.710 --> 01:14:48.150
Brian Ikenaga: yeah this is Brian with la county and I have all the same concerns and.

01:14:49.410 --> 01:15:01.680
Brian Ikenaga: Liz did a good job of showing this la county supports 19 languages, so our largest ones are Armenian and Bengali.

01:15:03.270 --> 01:15:03.870
Brian Ikenaga: and

01:15:05.610 --> 01:15:25.020
Brian Ikenaga: it's going to be a challenge, we in the past election, we had three cards, so we have limitations once we so that was an English, but in some language, we had six cards and it becomes a challenge for us to actually mail those out too, because they don't fit in the regular envelopes.

01:15:26.490 --> 01:15:40.170
Brian Ikenaga: We have concerns about timelines also about getting everything translated on time and being able to prove this, and we do need English first finalized before we can start to translations.

01:15:41.220 --> 01:15:45.000
Brian Ikenaga: And my I do agree with Taylor to that.
01:15:46.080 --> 01:15:50.490
Brian Ikenaga: This is beyond me, but it does look like an advertisement.

01:16:06.210 --> 01:16:14.550
Monica Flores: Monica Flores from L.A. County. I'm going to chime in to what Brian just said, obviously, from the same county so you know, in a total agreement with everything that has been said and.

01:16:15.390 --> 01:16:25.860
Monica Flores: In addition to the couple things that that Brian mentioned, and these things have also been mentioned, but want to say that they're also a concern for us and L.A. County is one is that.

01:16:27.480 --> 01:16:39.300
Monica Flores: You know when something is optional legislatively doesn't mean that it's not going to create more on work or you know, have an effect on counties that don't choose to.

01:16:40.470 --> 01:16:51.180
Monica Flores: To implement it, so you know, some have talked about lawsuits, some have talked about just a pressure to incorporate and especially in you know other counties are doing this, so on.

01:16:52.050 --> 01:17:03.120
Monica Flores: Again, just because it's optional doesn't mean it's really truly optional sometimes and and then the other component, I was saying, I think Whitney touched on this a little bit earlier was that.

01:17:04.170 --> 01:17:09.570
Monica Flores: Or at least and I've learned this from Whitney and through the work that we've done here for user testing with.

01:17:10.050 --> 01:17:18.930
Monica Flores: Our new system and our new balance was you know just adding an additional information doesn't make something clear for the voter so.

01:17:19.620 --> 01:17:33.210
Monica Flores: Just because we add that language there doesn't mean that they're going to understand things better, it may actually complicate things for voters more when you have more information for them to go through.

01:17:34.500 --> 01:17:43.620
Monica Flores: They might just look at it and say Well now, this is too much I'm not even going to read it I'm just going to skip this so just wanted to add that again from L.A. County to the comments that Brian let me.

01:17:53.370 --> 01:17:57.270
Natalie Adona: Just pop in again and say real quick that you know I agree with.
Natalie Adona: I can't remember, I think it was James who suggested that.

Natalie Adona: You know, maybe a halfway point is to refer people to the big.

Natalie Adona: On the ballot.

Natalie Adona: mean it would not add that much to do that, because all of that information is there.

Natalie Adona: yeah I think that's an excellent suggestion.

REINA MILLER: And I just quickly want to take some time to read the comments we have I haven't been reading them locally.

REINA MILLER: So caleb could potentially be avoided by using an independent committee to determine the name such a fit within the hundred and 25 characters.

REINA MILLER: That would likely impose a cost, however, I think this was back to referring on whether we should shorten any names okay well correct me if i'm wrong.

REINA MILLER: oprah.

REINA MILLER: And travis comments and once the rules go into effect the big organizations are going to game, the system to not appear.

REINA MILLER: Joanna commented, what happens when those big donors don't start giving money until after he Ada.
REINA MILLER: covers that not on the ballot.

REINA MILLER: same commented on on purity spoke on what he commented.

REINA MILLER: caleb mentioned that might be problematic for people going to the polls.

REINA MILLER: Maria commented great idea James going from three to four ballot cards to fight a six is no small problem very concerned about faith and stephanie agreed.

REINA MILLER: Jane commented information guards are available at every polling location Maria commented, when you add more cards, some people don't vote on the last card that means those measures aren't getting voted on.

REINA MILLER: provo commented, was it 2018 we have 17 props on the ballot statewide not including local.

REINA MILLER: Karen commented, the concern was that if one county inclusive and share county does not include it.

REINA MILLER: Now we commented Karen I think it's a great point I certainly don't want to be accused of being the cause of a local measure losing because we decided not to print the name of the supporters and opponent.

REINA MILLER: And I believe to allison Thank you oh house and had.

REINA MILLER: Whitney if anyone else concerned that eight points is too small it's smaller than the federal guidelines allowed if this is important information why allow it to be smaller than the other texts.

REINA MILLER: natalie commented i'd be more supportive of plain language for proposition Whitney commented, what does the language access advisory committee say about this question.

REINA MILLER: And kayla comments and multiple cards sometimes lead to turn out count confusion she'll commented, this would seem to force large counties into a third or fourth card and then God commented San Diego also like James suggestion, those are the comments.
REINA MILLER: And then we also support team, so we have about 12 more minutes, I want to say I don't know if there's any last comments Trent if you needed anything else on the committee, so we have about 10 minutes left, and I want to make sure we leave some time for open comment, if any.

Trent Lange: Well, this is all been very extremely extremely helpful I you know we we were the chairs of the committee's of the elections committees we're we're asking we're asking for this committees, recommendations and we certainly would like to.

Trent Lange: receive them if you can't officially give recommendations, this is still very helpful feedback and.

Trent Lange: Maybe we can circle back with a couple of individual Members that expressed individual.

Trent Lange: concerns, for instance, I very much want to look into this question of the cross.

Trent Lange: how we should handle the cross border.

Trent Lange: Across county elections if one county doesn't do another because we don't want to cause cause problems with that sort of example that seemed like an area that the legislation might have want to might want to look at at.

Trent Lange: Finding a better solution for.

REINA MILLER: Thank you, any other questions or comments.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: Are you going to also look into the ballot label issue that we were discussing earlier.

Trent Lange: Yes, I will look into that yeah, so I will look at the label things so that does not cause a definitional problem absolutely.

Trent Lange: Yes.
Trent Lange: and

Trent Lange: If anybody else, maybe I should put it in chat if anybody else has any suggestions for any of these other formatting options.

Trent Lange: We would certainly in our authors would very much like to like to hear them because we do want to.

Raj Bathla SOS: This is Roger I just would like to say that during the comment Whitney made a comment for the eight point font ladies.

Raj Bathla SOS: smaller than the federal guidelines, so we.

Raj Bathla SOS: don't know we might want to look into it.

Raj Bathla SOS: Yes, step one federal law.

Trent Lange: yeah I thought I saw that in somewhere in California election law that there was a minimum of eight point but.

Trent Lange: We definitely should clarify that love to look into that to.

Trent Lange: Put to everyone.

Trent Lange: by email into the chat right now.

REINA MILLER: Thank you, and then I did want to share with the committee that the sample ballot that Liz shared
they are on the beat up web page if anyone wants to take a look, and that includes three languages Spanish come I am.

REINA MILLER: Well, thank you, we appreciate the presentation and we hope that this was helpful.

Yes.

Trent Lange: i'll just say we really appreciate all your all your feedback, thank you very much for providing this this time is very, very helpful to us in the authors.

REINA MILLER: You and I wanted to quickly on to the committee about our next meeting, I wanted to step, whether we, the plan was to meet next month sometime in January, or if we would like to push it out to a different time I kind of want to open discussion for future meeting.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: what's next on our agenda to talk about the next set of laws, we want to change.

REINA MILLER: i'm correct and we could continue to do that as a work group and then come back and present that to the committee or we can do it as a committee will be better to you guys.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: is impossible.

Joanna Francescut, Shasta County: To me in like march 2 everywhere.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: it'd be great to have some way of collateral.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: fitting, I think we could do this by email sections that they'd like to see looked at so the work I mean just to make sure that the work will work group is big enough to be pretty representative, but if people have particular sections, they would love love looked at.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: And from my point of view, because I had wanted to do some of the pulling together the layout topics, so that we had them all in one place.
Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: The later, the better. January is pretty crowded on and in our traditional fourth or third or fourth.

Whitney Quesenbery, Civic Design: Thursday it's also overlaps with NASA which doesn't affect most of you, but affects me.

REINA MILLER: But maybe end of February or March, the committee.

REINA MILLER: Has the whole have a preference and should we keep it around the same, which is the last.

Natalie Adona: I just have a clarifying question. So are we talking about the next you know full committee meeting, but we would need like possibly in a working group before that.

Natalie Adona: Correct okay yeah I mean, I think.

Natalie Adona: end of February sounds right to me.

REINA MILLER: Maybe February 20 to 30 usual time.

Natalie Adona: Oh, I think.

REINA MILLER: 24th I don't.

REINA MILLER: Know sorry about that you're.

Natalie Adona: That works for me.
REINA MILLER: Anyone that doesn't like February 24 to 30.

REINA MILLER: Okay i'll go ahead and send an invitation for that, and then I will email the work group to see availability for meeting in between this.

REINA MILLER: Any other comments agenda item.

Raj Bathla SOS: natalie and Joanna I just would like to clarify and have the tears confirm that there will be no formal recommendations from the committee.

Raj Bathla SOS: And this is, this is it correct and if Trent and alleged, I would like to connect with you guys, individually or anybody who shared the content they can do that, but this is the feedback we would provide.

Natalie Adona: My perspective, yes.

Natalie Adona: that's correct.

Raj Bathla SOS: Thank you.

Karen Rhea: i'm sorry rainy where you going to solicit.

Karen Rhea: request from the for the working for the workroom because I just like to throw 13 109 in the mix So if you guys are working on it.

REINA MILLER: 13 109.

REINA MILLER: Yes, and.
Karen Rhea: Thank you.

01:28:24.120 --> 01:28:32.670
REINA MILLER: And then, if anyone could email me any other elections that you think that that you were like the work group to possibly worth on just email those to me.

01:28:37.230 --> 01:28:45.720
REINA MILLER: Any other agenda items that we should, I think the work group usually it takes up the full meeting one of the coaches, or the Committee agrees.

01:28:46.170 --> 01:28:52.260
REINA MILLER: I don't know if we want to add on more agenda topic to that meeting okay sounds good okay perfect so.

01:28:53.070 --> 01:29:03.810
REINA MILLER: we'll leave it at that, so February 24 to 30 i'll send out that invitation and then email me any election close by you would like to the workers to look out over any other comments before we end this meeting.

01:29:07.020 --> 01:29:10.350
REINA MILLER: Alright, we think everyone happy holidays Happy New Year.

01:29:10.560 --> 01:29:12.240
Karen Rhea: i'm sure i'll see you guys before them but.

01:29:12.420 --> 01:29:14.790
REINA MILLER: For those who I don't, thank you for joining us.

01:29:15.420 --> 01:29:15.780
Karen Rhea: Thank you.

Liz Oviedo: Thank you.