September 25, 2024

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #24209

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Jennifer Luckie-Bratt

**Election Services Manager** 

RE: General Election: Assembly Bill 3184 Changes and Reminders

On September 22, 2024, Governor Newsom signed <u>Assembly Bill (AB) 3184</u> (Chapter 437, Statutes of 2024) into law as an urgency bill.

A summary of the changes made by AB 3184 to Elections Code sections 2194(f) and 3019 are covered in the CC/ROV #24210 General Election: Ballot Identification Envelopes: Noncomparable Signatures and Unsigned Envelopes.

This memorandum provides a summary of additional changes made by AB 3184, not covered in the above-mentioned CCROV.

### **Confidential Voters Registration Information**

"Qualified workers" with confidential registration status have been added to the list of individuals whose voter registration information shall be excluded from voter registration information files provided to authorized individuals or groups of individuals. (Elec. Code, § 2194, subd. (a)(3).)

A "qualified worker" has been defined as "a person who is employed by or contracts with the Secretary of State or a local election office who performs election-related work and interacts with the public or is observed by the public doing election-related work but does not include a person who is a precinct board member who does not otherwise perform election-related work. For the purposes of this section, a qualified worker is not limited to those who exclusively perform direct election-related work for the Secretary of State or local election offices". (Elec. Code, § 2166.8, subd. (f).)

### Vote-by-Mail Ballot Rejection Report

County elections officials are required to provide the number of vote-by-mail ballots rejected, categorized according to the reason for the rejection to the Secretary of State (SOS) within 31 days of the election. SOS publishes a report on their website containing the information. (Elec. Code, § 15377, subd. (a).)

AB 3184 revises the types of elections to be included in the published report. The report will contain the information for every statewide election, including a recall election for a state constitutional officer, Member of the State Senate, or Member of the State Assembly, and every special election to fill a vacancy for the office of Member of the United States Senate, Member of the United States House of Representatives, Member of the State Senate, and Member of the State Assembly. (Elec. Code, § 15377, subd. (b).)

# <u>Changes made by AB 3184 that only apply to the November 5, 2024, General Election</u>

#### Certifying the November 5, 2024, General Election Results

The first day results may be certified by the elections official is E+28 (December 3, 2024), unless there are no vote-by-mail ballots remaining to be cured (needing to verify a noncomparable signature or provide a missing signature). (Elec. Code, § 15391.)

## Last Day to Accept Noncomparable Signature on Identification Envelope or Unsigned Identification Envelope

The last day for the county elections official to accept either a completed signature verification statement, an unsigned identification envelope statement, or a combined statement is E+26 (Sunday, December 1, 2024). (Elec. Code, § 15392.) It should be noted that this deadline does not roll to Monday, December 2, 2024.

#### Official Canvass – Workday

Notwithstanding Elections Code section 15301, if the only ballots remaining to be counted as part of the official canvass are vote-by-mail ballots which a voter has the opportunity either to verify a noncomparable signature or provide a missing signature, the official canvass may be continued for fewer than six hours per day until completion by E+28 (December 3, 2024). (Elec. Code, § 15393.)

Elections Code sections 15390, 15391, 15392, and 15393 shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date are repealed. (Elec. Code, § 15394.)

If you have questions, please feel free to contact me at (916) 653-9154 or <u>candidate-filings@sos.ca.gov</u>.