



# Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.

## California Secretary of State

### Elections Division

1500 11th Street, 5th Floor | Sacramento, CA 95814 | 916.657.2166 | [elections@sos.ca.gov](mailto:elections@sos.ca.gov)

September 28, 2026

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #26264

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Philip Kumsar  
Elections Security Analyst

RE: General Election: Alternative Procedures for Insufficient Number of  
Ballots at In-Person Voting Locations – ACTION REQUIRED

While every active registered voter will receive a vote-by-mail (VBM) ballot for the November 3, 2026, General Election, some voters may choose to appear at polling places across the state to vote in person.

Counties need to plan accordingly to ensure that each polling place has enough ballots, including any required multilingual ballots, and other voting materials available. Additionally, counties should provide each satellite office and polling place with a sufficient supply of provisional ballot envelopes, CVR provisional ballot envelopes, and voter registration cards.

In the unlikely event there are insufficient ballots or insufficient ballot printing supplies, if applicable, at a polling place, Elections Code section 14299 requires counties to have alternative procedures in place. Any ballot cast using an approved alternative procedure must be duplicated in accordance with the procedure set forth in Elections Code section 15210.

Attached to this memorandum is a survey requesting the specific alternative procedure(s) that your county will have in place in the event there are insufficient ballots or insufficient ballot printing supplies, if applicable, at a polling place for the November 3, 2026, General Election. (See, Elec. Code, § 14299(c).)

As a reminder, voters may appear at a polling location and surrender their VBM ballots; they should be provided a non-provisional ballot to cast. Other voters may appear without their VBM ballots to surrender; they may need to vote using provisional ballots.

CCROV #26264  
September 28, 2026  
Page 2

(See, [CCROV # 26250](#), issued on September 22, 2026, for more information on in-person voting, surrendering, and reminders of the provisional balloting procedures.)

Additionally, conditional voter registration (CVR / “same day registration”) must be made available to voters at all permanent and satellite county elections offices and all polling places. Accordingly, these voters may need to vote using a CVR provisional ballot. (See, Elec. Code, §§ 2170, 14310, and [CCROV # 26259](#), issued on September 25, 2026.)

Please complete and return the attached survey to: [survey@sos.ca.gov](mailto:survey@sos.ca.gov) by **Friday, October 9, 2026**.

If you have any questions, please contact me at [pkumsar@sos.ca.gov](mailto:pkumsar@sos.ca.gov).

Attachment:

Alternative Procedures for Insufficient Number of Ballots at In-Person Voting Locations Survey

## Alternative Procedures for Insufficient Number of Ballots at In-Person Voting Locations Survey

**November 3, 2026, General Election**

**Please complete and return the attached survey to: [Survey@sos.ca.gov](mailto:Survey@sos.ca.gov) by  
Friday, October 9, 2026**

|                 |  |               |  |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--|
| County Name:    |  | Email:        |  |
| County Contact: |  | Phone Number: |  |

Please provide the specific alternative procedure(s) that will be in place for the November 3, 2026, General Election, in the event there are insufficient ballots or insufficient ballot printing supplies at a polling place.

For your convenience, the following is a list of alternative procedures that have been approved by the Secretary of State.

**If more than one alternative procedure will be used, please rank** them in the order that they will be used on the blank line following each alternative procedure. If an alternative procedure will be in place that is not listed below, please provide information in the "Other" field.

| <b>Alternative Procedure</b>                                                                                                                                                       | <b>Ranking</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Provisional Ballots                                                                                                                                                                |                |
| Sample Ballots                                                                                                                                                                     |                |
| Reasonable facsimiles of polling place, vote-by-mail, and sample ballots                                                                                                           |                |
| Ballots from neighboring precincts, provided the ballot types are identical                                                                                                        |                |
| A blank piece of paper upon which the names of all the candidates and titles of ballot measures are printed, along with corresponding areas to allow voters to select their choice |                |
| Other:                                                                                                                                                                             |                |