April 6, 2016

County Clerk/Registrar of Voters (CC/ROV) Memorandum #16114

TO: All County Clerks/Registrars of Voters

FROM: /s/ Jana M. Lean
                Chief, Elections Division

RE: Presidential Primary: Presidential Primary Ballot – United States
                Senate Contest

We have received several inquiries regarding ballot layout for the upcoming
United States Senate contest due to the unusually large number of candidates.
As you are aware, Elections Code section 13109 mandates the order for offices
on the ballot. Due to the large number of candidates for that contest and the
requirements of Elections Code section 13109, the United States Senate contest
may not fit within a single column or page of the ballot.

Single Column Layout: If your voting system can produce a ballot that can
accommodate all United States Senate candidates in a single column, you
should do so. To accommodate this, Elections Code section 13109.5 allows
central committee offices to be placed directly after presidential candidates.
Notwithstanding the exception provided in Elections Code section 13109.5, the
order of precedence of offices on the ballot set forth in Elections Code section
13109 must be maintained.

Multiple Column Layout: If you must carry the list of United States Senate
candidates into another column on the same page, we suggest that you clearly
and conspicuously state at the top and bottom of the first column that the list of
candidates for United States Senate will continue in the next column(s). Also,
you should clearly and conspicuously state at the top of the next column(s) that
the candidates for United States Senate have continued from the previous
column(s). Please keep in mind that the order of precedence of offices on the
ballot set forth in Elections Code section 13109 must be maintained.

Multiple Page Layout: If you must carry the list of United States Senate candidates onto another page, Elections Code section 13262(b) allows a series of overlaying pages printed only on the same, single side to be used, with the he ballot clearly marked to indicate that the list of candidates for the office is continued on the following page or pages. We suggest that if a multiple page layout is needed, that the markings indicting multiple pages clearly and conspicuously state at the top and bottom of each page that the candidates for United States Senate have continued from the previous page(s). Please keep in mind that the order of precedence of offices on the ballot set forth in Elections Code section 13109 must be maintained.

To help ensure voters, candidates and political parties have updated information, we recommend that:

- Your sample ballot, vote-by-mail and polling place materials include information regarding the large number of United States Senate candidates;
- Your sample ballot, vote-by-mail and polling place materials alert your voters that the United States Senate candidates will be listed in two (or more) columns;
- Your county's website include information about the large number of United States Senate candidates;
- Poll workers be appropriately trained; and
- You reach out to each political party's leadership in your county to alert them of this issue so they can reach out to their voters as well.

Additionally, our office will include similar information on our website, reach out to the 34 candidates and the political parties, and work in partnership with CACEO to explore legislative solutions that provide for greater flexibility in the future.