



## New Mandates

### **Official Statewide Voter Registration List**

The Act requires a statewide Voter File to be created and maintained by the Secretary of State.

All of California's 58 counties must be able to access and update the Voter File. This will require standardizing equipment and expertise across all 58 counties.

Previously, each county "owned" its Voter File. With an interactive statewide Voter File, counties will now be able to check registrations across county lines. That will make it easier to eliminate duplications.

The Secretary of State's office will take on the job of managing the Voter File. Considering the various sources of voter information — local elections officials, DMV, social services agencies, party and candidate-sponsored voter registration drives, the Secretary of State on-line voter registration and other potential sources — this will be an enormous task.

**It will be California's official list.**

**It will also be the largest and most dynamic voter file in the nation.**

- ▶ Currently, there are 15 million registered voters in California
- ▶ Twenty percent of the population moves every year
- ▶ Our population grows by 600,000 every decade

**It represents real challenges... and opportunities**

In addition to the obvious challenges, the statewide Voter File may also help us meet another federal requirement — establishing the identity of voters [with digitized signatures and unique identifiers]. This will make it much easier to comply with the new first-time voter ID federal mandate.

It will also help us instantly verify the status of provisional voters at polling places, regardless of whether the voter moved.

It will help us enhance the integrity of the process.

**Most importantly, it will move us another step closer to the day when any voter can vote from any polling place.**