

2023 NEW CALIFORNIA ELECTION LAWS



**New California
Election Laws**



San Joaquin County
Registrar of Voters

New Election Laws
2021-2022 Legislative Session
Updated 12/01/22

CHAPTERED BILLS

1. [AB-474, Chau. California Public Records Act: conforming revisions](#) (CHAPTER 615)

[An act to amend Sections 2166.7, 2194, 2194.1, 2227, 2267, 9002, 11301, 13300.7, 13311, 17200, 17400, 18109, 18650, and 23003 of the Elections Code.]

The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, unless an exemption from disclosure applies.

This bill would enact various conforming and technical changes related to another bill, AB 473, which recodifies and reorganizes the California Public Records Act. This bill would only become operative if AB 473 is enacted and reorganizes and makes other nonsubstantive changes to the California Public Records Act that become operative on January 1, 2023. The bill would also specify that any other bill enacted by the Legislature during the 2021 calendar year that takes effect on or before January 1, 2022, and that affects a provision of this bill shall prevail over this act, except as specified.

SEC. 91.

Section 2166.7 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2166.7.

(a) If authorized by the county board of supervisors, a county elections official shall, upon application of a public safety officer, make confidential that officer's residence address, telephone number, and email address appearing on the affidavit of registration, in accordance with the terms and conditions of this section.

(b) The application by the public safety officer shall contain a statement, signed under penalty of perjury, that the person is a public safety officer as defined in subdivision (f) and that a life-threatening circumstance exists to the officer or a member of the officer's family. The application shall be a public record.

(c) The confidentiality granted pursuant to subdivision (a) shall terminate no more than two years after commencement, as determined by the county elections official. The officer may submit a new application for confidentiality pursuant to subdivision (a), and the new request may be granted for an additional period of not more than two years.

(d) Any person granted confidential voter status under subdivision (a) shall: (1) Provide a valid mailing address and be considered a vote by mail voter for all subsequent elections or until the county elections

official is notified otherwise by the Secretary of State or in writing by the voter. A voter requesting termination of vote by mail status thereby consents to placement of the voter's residence address, telephone number, and email address in the roster of voters.

(2) The elections official, in producing any list, roster, or index, shall exclude voters with a confidential voter status.

(3) Within 60 days of moving to a new county, if available in the new county, apply for confidential voter status pursuant to subdivision (a). The elections official of the new county, upon notice of the confidential voter moving into the county, shall do all of the following:

(A) Contact the confidential voter and provide information regarding the application for confidential voter status in the new county.

(B) Honor the confidential voter status from the former county for 60 days from the date of notice.

(C) Pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), exclude the confidential voter in any list, roster, or index during the 60-day period.

(D) Remove the confidential voter status if the new voter has not obtained or cannot obtain confidential voter status pursuant to this section in the new county during the 60-day period.

(e) No action in negligence may be maintained against any government entity or officer or employee thereof as a result of the disclosure of the information that is the subject of this section unless by a showing of gross negligence or willfulness.

(f) "A public safety officer" has the same meaning as defined in subdivision (a), (d), (e), (f), or (j) of Section 7920.535 of the Government Code.

SEC. 92.

Section 2194 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2194.

(a) Except as provided in Section 2194.1, the affidavit of voter registration information identified in Section 7924.000 of the Government Code:

(1) Shall be confidential and shall not appear on any computer terminal, list, affidavit, duplicate affidavit, or other medium routinely available to the public at the county elections official's office.

(2) Shall not be used for any personal, private, or commercial purpose, including, but not limited to:

(A) The harassment of any voter or voter's household.

(B) The advertising, solicitation, sale, or marketing of products or services to any voter or voter's household.

(C) Reproduction in print, broadcast visual or audio, or display on the internet or any computer terminal unless pursuant to paragraph (3).

(3) Shall be provided with respect to any voter, subject to the provisions of Sections 2166, 2166.5, 2166.7, and 2188, to any candidate for federal, state, or local office, to any committee for or against any initiative or referendum measure for which legal publication is made, and to any person for election, scholarly, journalistic, or political purposes, or for governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State.

(4) May be used by the Secretary of State for the purpose of educating voters pursuant to Section 12173 of the Government Code.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, the California driver's license number, the California identification card number, the social security number, and any other unique identifier used by the State of California for purposes of voter identification shown on the affidavit of voter registration of a registered voter, or added to voter registration records to comply with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), are confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law, the signature of the voter shown on the affidavit of voter registration or an image thereof is confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person, except as provided in subdivision (c).

(c) (1) The home address or signature of any voter shall be released whenever the person's vote is challenged pursuant to Sections 15105 to 15108, inclusive, or Article 3 (commencing with Section 14240) of Chapter 3 of Division 14. The address or signature shall be released only to the challenger, to elections officials, and to other persons as necessary to make, defend against, or adjudicate the challenge.

(2) An elections official shall permit a person to view the signature of a voter for the purpose of determining whether the signature matches a signature on an affidavit of registration or an image thereof or a petition, but shall not permit a signature to be copied.

(d) A governmental entity, or officer or employee thereof, shall not be held civilly liable as a result of disclosure of the information referred to in this section, unless by a showing of gross negligence or willfulness.

(e) For the purposes of this section, "voter's household" is defined as the voter's place of residence or mailing address or any persons who reside at the place of residence or use the mailing address as supplied on the affidavit of registration pursuant to paragraphs (3) and (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 2150.

(f) Notwithstanding any other law, information regarding voters who did not sign a vote by mail ballot identification envelope or whose signature on the vote by mail ballot identification envelope did not match the voter's signature on file shall be treated as confidential voter registration information pursuant to this section and Section 7924.000 of the Government Code. This information shall not be disclosed to any person except as provided in this section. Any disclosure of this information shall be accompanied by a notice to the recipient regarding Sections 18109 and 18540. Voter information provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be updated daily, include the name of the voter, and be provided in a searchable electronic format.

SEC. 93.

Section 2194.1 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2194.1.

Any affidavit of registration information identified in Section 7924.000 of the Government Code in existence 100 years after the creation of the record shall be available to the public. If records are contained in the great registers of voters and the bound register contains information covering more than one year, the records shall not be available to the public until the entire contents of the register have been recorded for at least 100 years.

SEC. 94.

Section 2227 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2227.

(a) In lieu of mailing a residency confirmation postcard, as prescribed in subdivision (a) of Section 2220, the county elections official may contract with a consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees to obtain use of change-of-address data in accordance with this section.

(b) If the county elections official contracts with a consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees pursuant to subdivision (a), all of the following shall occur:

(1) For each registered voter in the county, the county elections official shall initiate a search for change-of-address data with the consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees by providing the name and residence address of each registered voter in the county to the consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees.

(2) The consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees shall search their databases for each name and address provided by the county elections official and shall report to the county elections official any information indicating that the registered voter changed the voter's residence address.

(c) (1) Notwithstanding Section 2194 of this code or Section 7924.000 of the Government Code, and except as provided in paragraph (2), a county elections official may disclose a registered voter's name and residence address to a consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees pursuant to, and in accordance with, this section.

(2) A county elections official shall not disclose to a consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees the name and residence address of a registered voter if that information is deemed confidential pursuant to Section 2166, 2166.5, or 2166.7 of this code, or Chapter 3.1 (commencing with Section 6205) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

(d) A consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees shall use the information provided by a county elections official only pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b), and shall not retain any information received from the county elections official pursuant to this section.

(e) Based on change-of-address data received from a consumer credit reporting agency or its licensees, the county elections official shall send a forwardable notice, including a postage-paid and preaddressed

return form, which may be in the form of a postcard, to the registered voter to enable the voter to verify or correct address information. The forwardable notice shall be in substantially the following form:

“We have received notification that you have moved to a new residence address in ____ County. You will remain registered to vote at your old address unless you notify our office that the address to which this card was mailed is a change of your permanent residence. Please notify our office in writing by returning the attached postage-paid postcard. If this is not a permanent residence, and you do not wish to change your address for voting purposes, please disregard this notice.”

(f) The county elections official shall take all of the following actions as appropriate:

(1) If a voter responds to the forwardable notice sent pursuant to subdivision (e) or otherwise verifies in a signed writing that the voter has moved to a new residence address in California, the county elections official shall verify the signature on the response by comparing it to the signature on file for the voter and, if appropriate, immediately update the voter’s registration record with the new residence address.

(2) If a voter does not respond to the forwardable notice sent pursuant to subdivision (e) and does not otherwise verify in a signed writing that the voter has moved to a new residence address, the elections official shall not update the status of the voter’s registration to inactive or cancel the voter registration.

(g) For purposes of this section, “consumer credit reporting agency” has the same meaning as set forth in subdivision (d) of Section 1785.3 of the Civil Code.

SEC. 95.

Section 2267 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2267.

This chapter does not affect the confidentiality of a person’s voter registration or preregistration information, which remains confidential pursuant to Section 2194 of this code and Section 7924.000 of the Government Code and for all of the following persons:

(a) A victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking pursuant to Section 2166.5.

(b) A reproductive health care service provider, employee, volunteer, or patient pursuant to Section 2166.5.

(c) A public safety officer pursuant to Section 2166.7.

(d) A person with a life-threatening circumstance upon court order pursuant to Section 2166.

SEC. 96.

Section 9002 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

9002.

(a) Upon receipt of a request from the proponents of a proposed initiative measure for a circulating title and summary, the Attorney General shall initiate a public review process for a period of 30 days by doing all of the following:

(1) Posting the text of the proposed initiative measure on the Attorney General's internet website.

(2) Inviting, and providing for the submission of, written public comments on the proposed initiative measure on the Attorney General's internet website. The site shall accept written public comments for the duration of the public review period. The written public comments shall be public records, available for inspection upon request pursuant to Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code, but shall not be displayed to the public on the Attorney General's internet website during the public review period. The Attorney General shall transmit any written public comments received during the public review period to the proponents of the proposed initiative measure.

(b) During the public review period, the proponents of the proposed initiative measure may submit amendments to the measure that are reasonably germane to the theme, purpose, or subject of the initiative measure as originally proposed. However, amendments shall not be submitted if the initiative measure as originally proposed would not effect a substantive change in law.

(1) An amendment shall be submitted with a signed request by all the proponents to prepare a circulating title and summary using the amended language.

(2) An amendment shall be submitted to the Attorney General's Initiative Coordinator located in the Attorney General's Sacramento Office via United States Postal Service, alternative mail service, or personal delivery. Only printed documents shall be accepted; facsimile or email delivery shall not be accepted.

(3) The submission of an amendment shall not extend the period to prepare the estimate required by Section 9005.

(4) An amendment shall not be accepted more than five days after the public review period is concluded. However, a proponent shall not be prohibited from proposing a new initiative measure and requesting that a circulating title and summary be prepared for that measure pursuant to Section 9001.

SEC. 97.

Section 11301 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

11301.

If a petition is found insufficient by the elections official or, in the case of the recall of a state officer, the Secretary of State, the petition signatures may be examined in accordance with Section Article 2 (commencing with Section 7924.100) of Chapter 2 of Part 5 of Division 10 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

SEC. 98.

Section 13300.7 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

13300.7.

Notwithstanding any other law, county and city elections officials may establish procedures designed to permit a voter to opt out of receiving the county voter information guide, state voter information guide,

notice of polling place, and associated materials by mail, and instead obtain them electronically via email or by accessing them on the county's or city's internet website, if all of the following conditions are met:

- (a) The procedures establish a method of providing notice of and an opportunity by which a voter can notify elections officials of the voter's desire to obtain ballot materials electronically in lieu of receiving them by mail.
- (b) The voter email address or any other information provided by the voter under this section remains confidential pursuant to Section 7924.000 of the Government Code and Section 2194 of this code.
- (c) The procedures provide notice and opportunity for a voter who has opted out of receiving a county voter information guide and other materials by mail to opt back into receiving them by mail.
- (d) The procedures establish a process by which a voter can apply electronically to become a vote by mail voter.
- (e) A voter may only opt out of, or opt back into, receiving the county voter information guide and other ballot materials by mail if the elections official receives the request and can process it before the statutory deadline for the mailing of those materials for the next election, pursuant to Section 13303. If a voter misses this deadline, the request shall take effect the following election.
- (f) The procedures shall include a verification process to confirm the voter's identity, either in writing with a signature card that can be matched to the one on file with the elections official, or if the request is submitted electronically, it shall contain the voter's California driver's license number, California identification number, or a partial social security number.
- (g) Information made available over the internet pursuant to this section shall meet or exceed the most current, ratified standards under Section 508 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794d), as amended, and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 adopted by the World Wide Web Consortium for accessibility. Election officials may also implement recommendations of the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee made pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Section 2053, and of any local Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee created pursuant to the guidelines promulgated by the Secretary of State related to the accessibility of polling places by the physically handicapped.

SEC. 99.

Section 13311 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

13311. Notwithstanding the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code), the statements filed pursuant to Section 13307 shall remain confidential until the expiration of the filing deadline.

SEC. 100.

Section 17200 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

17200.

(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), elections officials required by law to receive or file in their offices any initiative or referendum petition shall preserve the petition until eight months after the

certification of the results of the election for which the petition qualified or, if the measure, for any reason, is not submitted to the voters, eight months after the final examination of the petition by the elections official.

(b) Thereafter, the petition shall be destroyed as soon as practicable unless any of the following conditions is satisfied:

(1) The petition is in evidence in some action or proceeding then pending.

(2) The elections official has received a written request from the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Fair Political Practices Commission, a district attorney, a grand jury, or the governing body of a county, city and county, or district, including a school district, that the petition be preserved for use in a pending or ongoing investigation into election irregularities, the subject of which relates to the petition's qualification or disqualification for placement on the ballot, or in a pending or ongoing investigation into a violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code).

(3) The proponents of the petition have commenced an examination pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 7924.100) of Chapter 2 of Part 5 of Division 10 of Title 1 of the Government Code, in which case the petition shall be preserved until one year from the date that the proponents last examined the petition.

(c) If a petition subject to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) is circulated in multiple counties, a county that performs an examination pursuant to this section shall inform the other counties in which the petition is circulated of the examination to facilitate compliance with that paragraph. If the petition is circulated statewide, the Secretary of State shall ensure compliance.

(d) Public access to the petition shall be restricted in accordance with Article 2 (commencing with Section 7924.100) of Chapter 2 of Part 5 of Division 10 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

(e) This section applies to the following petitions:

(1) Statewide initiative and referendum petitions.

(2) County initiative and referendum petitions.

(3) Municipal initiative and referendum petitions.

(4) Municipal city charter amendment petitions.

(5) District initiative and referendum petitions.

SEC. 101.

Section 17400 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

17400.

(a) The elections official or, in the case of the recall of a state officer, the Secretary of State, shall preserve in that person's office all recall petitions filed for eight months after the results of the election

for which the petition qualified or, if no election is held, eight months after the elections official's final examination of the petition.

(b) Thereafter, the petition shall be destroyed as soon as practicable, unless it is in evidence in some action or proceeding then pending or unless the elections official has received a written request from the Attorney General, the Secretary of State, the Fair Political Practices Commission, a district attorney, a grand jury, or the governing body of a county, city and county, city, or district, including a school district, that the petition be preserved for use in a pending or ongoing investigation into election irregularities, or in a pending or ongoing investigation into a violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000) of the Government Code).

(c) Public access to the petition shall be restricted in accordance with Article 2 (commencing with Section 7924.100) of Chapter 2 of Part 5 of Division 10 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

SEC. 102.

Section 18109 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

18109.

(a) It is a misdemeanor for a person in possession of information identified in Section 2138.5, or obtained pursuant to Article 5 (commencing with Section 2183) of Chapter 2 of Division 2 of this code or Section 7924.000 of the Government Code, knowingly to use or permit the use of all or any part of that information for any purpose other than as permitted by law.

(b) It is a misdemeanor for a person knowingly to acquire possession or use of voter registration information from the Secretary of State or a county elections official without first complying with Section 2188.

SEC. 103.

Section 18650 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

18650.

No one shall knowingly or willfully permit the list of signatures on an initiative, referendum, or recall petition to be used for any purpose other than qualification of the initiative or referendum measure or recall question for the ballot, except as provided in Article 2 (commencing with Section 7924.100) of Chapter 2 of Part 5 of Division 10 of Title 1 of the Government Code. Violation of this section is a misdemeanor.

SEC. 104.

Section 23003 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

23003.

(a) This section applies to hybrid redistricting commissions and independent redistricting commissions.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the local jurisdiction may prescribe the manner in which members are appointed to the commission, provided that the jurisdiction uses an application process open to all

eligible residents and provided that the commissioners are not directly appointed by the legislative body or an elected official of the local jurisdiction.

(c) A person shall not be appointed to serve on the commission if the person or any family member of the person has been elected or appointed to, or been a candidate for, an elective office of the local jurisdiction in the eight years preceding the person's application.

(d) A person shall not be appointed to serve on the commission if either of the following applies:

(1) The person or the person's spouse has done any of the following in the eight years preceding the person's application:

(A) Served as an officer of, employee of, or paid consultant to, a campaign committee or a candidate for elective office of the local jurisdiction.

(B) Served as an officer of, employee of, or paid consultant to, a political party or as an elected or appointed member of a political party central committee.

(C) Served as a staff member or a consultant to, or who has contracted with, a currently serving elected officer of the local jurisdiction.

(D) Been registered to lobby the local jurisdiction.

(E) Contributed five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in a year to any candidate for an elective office of the local jurisdiction. The local jurisdiction may adjust this amount by the cumulative change in the California Consumer Price Index, or its successor, in every year ending in zero.

(2) A family member of the person, other than the person's spouse, has done any of the following in the four years preceding the person's application:

(A) Served as an officer of, employee of, or paid consultant to, a campaign committee or a candidate for elective office of the local jurisdiction.

(B) Served as an officer of, employee of, or paid consultant to, a political party or as an elected or appointed member of a political party central committee.

(C) Served as a staff member of or consultant to, or has contracted with, a currently serving elected officer of the local jurisdiction.

(D) Been registered to lobby the local jurisdiction.

(E) Contributed five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in a year to any candidate for an elective office of the local jurisdiction. The local jurisdiction may adjust this amount by the cumulative change in the California Consumer Price Index, or its successor, in every year ending in zero.

(e) A member of the commission shall not do any of the following:

(1) While serving on the commission, endorse, work for, volunteer for, or make a campaign contribution to, a candidate for an elective office of the local jurisdiction.

(2) Be a candidate for an elective office of the local jurisdiction if any of the following is true:

(A) Less than five years has elapsed since the date of the member's appointment to the commission.

(B) The election for that office will be conducted using district boundaries that were adopted by the commission on which the member served, and those district boundaries have not been subsequently readopted by a commission after the end of the member's term on the commission.

(C) The election for that office will be conducted using district boundaries that were adopted by a legislative body pursuant to a recommendation by the commission on which the member served, and those district boundaries have not been subsequently readopted by a legislative body pursuant to a recommendation by a commission after the end of the member's term on the commission.

(3) For four years commencing with the date of the person's appointment to the commission:

(A) Accept employment as a staff member of, or consultant to, an elected official or candidate for elective office of the local jurisdiction.

(B) Receive a noncompetitively bid contract with the local jurisdiction.

(C) Register as a lobbyist for the local jurisdiction.

(4) For two years commencing with the date of the person's appointment to the commission, accept an appointment to an office of the local jurisdiction.

(f) The commission shall not be comprised entirely of members who are registered to vote with the same political party preference.

(g) Each member of the commission shall be a designated employee in the conflict of interest code for the commission pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 87300) of Chapter 7 of Title 9 of the Government Code.

(h) The commission is subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code) and the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1 of the Government Code).

(i) The commission shall be subject to the same redistricting deadlines, requirements, and restrictions that would otherwise apply to a legislative body. A local jurisdiction may also impose additional requirements and restrictions on the commission, on members of the commission, or on applicants to the commission in excess of those prescribed by this section.

(j) The commission shall publish a map of the proposed new district boundaries and make that map available to the public for at least seven days before that map may be adopted. The commission shall hold at least three public hearings preceding the hearing at which the new boundaries are adopted.

(k) The commission shall not draw districts for the purpose of favoring or discriminating against a political party or an incumbent or political candidate.

(l) District boundaries adopted by an independent redistricting commission or adopted by a legislative body from recommendations provided by a hybrid redistricting commission, shall not be altered by the legislative body or the commission until after the next federal decennial census occurs, unless those boundaries have been invalidated by a final judgment or order of a court of competent jurisdiction.

(m) For the purposes of subdivisions (c) and (d), “local jurisdiction” does not include a local jurisdiction that contracts with a county independent redistricting commission pursuant to Section 23004.

2. [AB-759, McCarty. Elections: county officers.](#) (CHAPTER 743)

[An act to repeal and add Section 1300 of the Elections Code, and to amend Section 24200 of the Government Code, relating to elections.]

The California Constitution requires the Legislature to provide for an elected county sheriff, elected district attorney, and elected assessor in each county. Existing law also provides that the county treasurer, clerk, auditor, tax collector, recorder, public administrator, and coroner are elective offices unless a county makes them appointive offices, as specified. Existing law generally requires the election to select county officers to be held with the statewide primary election at which candidates for Governor are nominated, but if no candidate for a county office receives a majority of the votes cast for that office at the primary election, the 2 candidates who received the most votes advance to the statewide general election at which the Governor is elected.

This bill would require the election to select district attorney and sheriff to be held with the presidential primary and would require, if no candidate receives a majority of the votes cast for the office at the presidential primary, the 2 candidates who received the most votes to advance to a general election held with the presidential general election. The bill would provide for a 6-year term for a district attorney or sheriff elected in 2022. The bill would authorize a county board of supervisors to adopt an ordinance to also hold the election for other county officers with the presidential primary. To the extent changing the date for election of district attorney and sheriff would impose additional duties on local elections officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

3. [AB-775, Berman. Contribution requirements: recurring contributions.](#) (CHAPTER 942)

[An act to add Section 85701.5 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including contribution limitations and requirements.

This bill would require a candidate or committee to obtain affirmative consent from a person making a recurring contribution at the time of the initial contribution, and would require any solicitation for a recurring contribution to be in a form that requires affirmative consent from the person making the contribution. The bill would make violation of these provisions subject to a fine of up to three times the aggregate amount of the subsequent recurring contributions received if certain specified conditions are met. This bill would also require a candidate or committee that accepts a recurring contribution to provide a receipt for each contribution, to provide information necessary to cancel the recurring contribution, and to immediately cancel a recurring contribution upon request. The bill would require a recurring contribution accepted in response to a solicitation that did not require affirmative consent or accepted after a contributor requested to cancel a recurring contribution to be returned within 14 days, as specified.

Existing law makes a knowing or willful violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 a misdemeanor. By creating a new crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

4. [AB-972, Berman. Elections: deceptive audio or visual media.](#) (CHAPTER 745)

[An act to amend Section 35 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and to amend Section 20010 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law, until January 1, 2023, prohibits a person, committee, or other entity, within 60 days of an election at which a candidate for elective office will appear on the ballot, from distributing with actual malice materially deceptive audio or visual media of the candidate with the intent to injure the candidate's reputation or to deceive a voter into voting for or against the candidate, unless the media includes a disclosure stating that the media has been manipulated, subject to specified exemptions.

Existing law, until January 1, 2023, authorizes a candidate for elective office whose voice or likeness appears in audio or visual media distributed in violation of this section to seek injunctive or other equitable relief prohibiting the distribution of the deceptive audio or visual media; authorizes a candidate whose voice or likeness appears in the deceptive audio or visual media to bring an action for general or special damages against the person, committee, or other entity that distributed the media; and authorizes the court to award a prevailing party reasonable attorney's fees and costs. A court is required to place such proceedings on the calendar in the order of their date of filing and give them precedence.

This bill would extend the repeal date of these provisions to January 1, 2027.

5. [AB-1416, Santiago. Elections: ballot label.](#) (CHAPTER 751)

[An act to amend Sections 303, 9050, 9051, 9053, and 13282 of, and to add Section 9170 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law defines the ballot label as the portion of the ballot containing the names of the candidates or a statement of a measure. For statewide measures, existing law requires the Attorney General to prepare a condensed version of the ballot title and summary, including the fiscal impact summary prepared by the Legislative Analyst that is printed in the state voter information guide.

This bill would additionally require the ballot label for statewide measures, and, at the option of a county, the ballot label or similar description on the ballot of county, city, district, and school district measures, to include a listing of nonprofit organizations, businesses, or individuals taken from the signers or the text of ballot arguments printed in the voter information guide that support and oppose the measure, as specified. The bill would require a nonprofit organization, business, or individual to meet certain criteria before being listed on the ballot label or similar description of the measure on the ballot. The bill would require the signers of the ballot arguments to submit the lists of supporters and opponents to the Secretary of State or the respective elections official and would require the Secretary of State or respective elections official to provide those lists to county elections officials as part of the ballot label. The bill would make conforming changes and related findings and declarations.

The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

Because the bill would impose additional duties on local elections officials, and because it would expand the crime of perjury, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

6. [AB-1619, Cervantes. Elections: voter registration and signature comparison.](#) (CHAPTER 102)

[An act to amend Sections 2157 and 2196 of the Elections Code, relating to voting.]

Existing law requires a person to register as a voter by affidavit of registration, except as otherwise provided. Existing law allows an affidavit of registration to be mailed or delivered to the county elections official or submitted electronically. Existing law requires an elections official, upon receiving a vote by mail ballot, to verify the signature on the identification envelope by comparing it with the signature on specified records within the voter's registration record, including the voter's affidavit of registration.

This bill would require that both paper and electronic affidavits of registration inform affiants that the signature appearing on the affidavit of registration may be compared with the signature appearing on an identification envelope for the return of a vote by mail ballot.

7. [AB-1631, Cervantes. Elections: elections officials.](#) (CHAPTER 552)

[An act to amend Section 12303 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires elections officials, at least 14 days before an election, to prepare and make available to the public a list of the precincts to which officials who are fluent in a non-English language and in English were appointed, and the language or languages other than English in which the officials will provide assistance.

This bill would require the county elections official to make this list publicly available on the county elections official's internet website.

By imposing additional duties on county elections officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

8. [AB-1726, Aguiar-Curry. Address confidentiality program.](#) (CHAPTER 686)

[An act to amend Sections 1005, 1013, and 1167 of the Code of Civil Procedure, and to amend Sections 6206, 6206.7, 6208.1, 6208.2, and 6209.7 of, and to add Section 6206.1 to, the Government Code, relating to confidential information.]

Existing law establishes an address confidentiality program, commonly known as the Safe at Home program, for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking, or elder or dependent adult abuse, under which an adult person, or a guardian on behalf of a minor or an incapacitated person, states that they are such a victim, and designates the Secretary of State as the agent for service of process and receipt of mail. Under existing law, when the Secretary of State certifies the person as a program participant, the person's actual address is confidential.

Existing law relating to civil procedure requires written notice and establishes deadlines for serving and filing moving and supporting papers for prescribed motions and for serving notices and other papers, if served by mail. Existing law extends the period of notice in certain circumstances based on the location of the place of mailing or the place of address, or both.

This bill would extend those periods by 12 calendar days if the place of address is the address confidentiality program.

Under existing law relating to summary proceedings, a plaintiff that wishes to bring an action to obtain possession of real property must file a complaint and serve the defendant with a notice of summons, in which case the defendant has 5 days to respond.

This bill would give the defendant an additional 5 court days to file a response, if service is completed by mail or in person through the address confidentiality program.

Existing law requires the Secretary of State to approve an application for the address confidentiality program if it is filed in the manner and on the form prescribed by the Secretary of State and if it contains specific information, including the name and last known address of the applicant's minor child or children, the name and last known address of the other parent or parents of the minor child or children of the applicant, and all court orders related to the minor child or children of the applicant, and legal counsel of record in those cases.

This bill would revise that information requirement to require the name and last known address of the applicant's minor child or children and the name and last known address of the other parent or parents as legally established by prescribed legal methods. The bill would authorize this section to be left blank if no other parent has been established for the applicant's minor child or children.

Existing law authorizes the Secretary of State to terminate a program participant's certification and invalidate their authorization card for specified reasons, including that the program participant no longer resides at the most recent residential address provided to the Secretary of State, and has not provided at least 7 days' prior notice in writing of a change in address, that a service of process document or mail forwarded to the program participant by the Secretary of State is returned as nondeliverable, or that the program participant obtains a legal name change and fails to notify the Secretary of State within 7 days.

This bill would extend the 7-day notice requirement for the most recent residential address to 30 days. The bill would require the program, before terminating a program participant's certification due to nondeliverable mail, to attempt to contact the participant by phone and email, if available, to resolve the mail delivery issue. The bill would extend the legal name change notice deadline to 30 days.

Existing law authorizes the Secretary of State to refuse to renew a program participant's certification if the adult program participant or the parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person has abandoned their domicile in this state.

This bill, if the program participant or parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person leaves the state during their valid participation term, would prohibit them from being terminated on the grounds of having abandoned their domicile in this state until they have resided outside of this state for a period of more than 60 consecutive days, if relocating to a state with an address confidentiality program. The bill would require, if the program participant or parent or guardian acting on behalf of a minor or incapacitated person has relocated to a state without an address confidentiality program, that they remain enrolled and mail be forwarded for the remainder of their certification term.

Existing law prohibits any person, business, or association from knowingly and intentionally publicly posting or publicly displaying on the internet prescribed personal information or images with the intent to incite a third person to cause imminent great bodily harm to the person identified in the posting or display, or to a coresident of that person, where the third person is likely to commit this harm, or with the intent to threaten the person identified in the posting or display, or a coresident of that person, in a manner that places the person identified or the coresident in objectively reasonable fear for their personal safety.

This bill would expand the prohibition to also apply to other posting or displaying entities and to posts or displays in public spaces other than the internet. The bill, with respect to the intent to threaten, would provide that disclosure alone may be considered a threat, depending on the totality of the circumstances.

Existing law prohibits a person, business, or association from soliciting, selling, or trading on the internet the home address, home telephone number, or image of a participant with the intent to incite a third person to cause imminent great bodily harm to the person identified in the posting or display, or to a coresident of that person, where the third person is likely to commit this harm, or with the intent to threaten the person identified in the posting or display, or a coresident of that person, in a manner that places the person identified or the coresident in objectively reasonable fear for their personal safety.

This bill would expand that prohibition to also apply to other entities and other forums besides the internet.

Existing law prohibits a person from posting specified personal information of a participant or participating family members on the internet, with the intent that another person imminently use that information to commit a crime involving violence or a threat of violence against the participant or the program participant's family members who are participating in the program. A violation of this prohibition is a misdemeanor, punishable as prescribed.

This bill would expand the prohibition to apply to public spaces other than the internet. The bill would expand the prohibited intent to include the use of the information to intimidate the participant or participating family members. By expanding the application of this prohibition, the violation of which is a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law provides that neither existing law nor participation in the program affects custody or visitation orders in effect before or during program participation. Existing law further provides that participation in the program does not constitute evidence of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault, human trafficking, or elder or dependent adult abuse for purposes of making custody or visitation orders.

This bill would provide that the fact that a participant is registered with the program creates a rebuttable presumption that disclosure of information about the participant's location and activities during the period of the registration, as specified, would lead to the discovery of the participant's actual residential address or physical location, would endanger the safety of the participant, and is not authorized. The bill would authorize this presumption to be rebutted by clear and convincing evidence, as prescribed, and would require this presumption to govern civil discovery requests. The bill would prohibit a participant from being required to provide in discovery their residential address or other location information reasonably likely to lead to the discovery of these addresses unless ordered to do so by a court after the other party has rebutted the presumption against disclosure of this information.

This bill would prohibit certification as a program participant from being evidence that minor children in the participant's custody are at-risk in the participant's care.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Sections 6206 and 6206.7 of the Government Code proposed by AB 2872 to be operative only if this bill and AB 2872 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

9. [AB-1783, Levine. Lobbying: administrative actions.](#) (CHAPTER 456)

[An act to amend Section 82002 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Existing provisions of the Political Reform Act of 1974 impose requirements on lobbyists and lobbyist employers involved in administrative actions, and generally define “administrative action” to mean, among other things, the proposal, drafting, development, consideration, amendment, enactment, or defeat by any state agency of any rule, regulation, or other action in any ratemaking or quasi-legislative proceeding. A violation of the act is a crime.

Existing law requires the Insurance Commissioner and the Director of the Department of Managed Health Care to approve certain transactions involving insurers and health care service plans, respectively.

This bill would expand the definition of “administrative action” under the Political Reform Act of 1974 to include any decision or approval by the Insurance Commissioner or the Director of the Department of Managed Health Care under these provisions. By expanding the scope of requirements imposed on lobbyists and lobbyist employers, the violation of which is subject to criminal penalties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

10. [AB-1798, Bryan. Campaign disclosure: advertisements.](#) (CHAPTER 862)

[An act to amend Sections 84504.3, 84504.4, and 84504.6 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires an advertisement to contain prescribed disclosure statements regarding the entity or entities that paid for the advertisement. The act requires an electronic media advertisement that is a graphic, image, animated graphic, or animated image to include certain text that links to an internet website that contains the prescribed disclosures.

This bill would allow an electronic media advertisement to include the prescribed disclosures directly on the advertisement itself as an alternative to linking to an internet website that contains the disclosures. The bill would make additional conforming changes.

This bill would not become operative if Senate Bill 1360 of the 2021–22 Regular Session is enacted by the Legislature during the 2022 calendar year, takes effect on or before January 1, 2023, and amends Section 84504.3 of the Government Code.

11. [AB-2037, Flora. Polling places: alcoholic beverages.](#) (CHAPTER 155)

[An act to amend Section 12288 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law prohibits an establishment where the primary purpose is the sale and dispensation of alcoholic beverages from being used as a polling place.

This bill would delete that prohibition.

12. [AB-2172,Cervantes. Political Reform Act of 1974: electronic filings.](#) (CHAPTER 328)

[An act to amend Sections 81004, 84215, and 86100 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 generally requires statewide elected officials, elected members of specified entities, candidates for elective office, certain committees, and slate mailer organizations to file periodic campaign statements and certain reports concerning campaign finances and related matters. The act also requires lobbying firms, lobbying coalitions, and individual lobbyists to file a registration statement with the Secretary of State, as specified. Existing law, until the Secretary of State develops and certifies an online filing and disclosure system, requires the filing of these documents online or electronically, if specified conditions are met, and requires that once a person or entity is required to file online or electronically, they are required to file all subsequent reports online or electronically. For persons or entities who file online or electronically with the Secretary of State, existing law requires those persons or entities to also file the original and one copy of the statement or report on paper, with the original serving as the official copy for audit and other legal purposes.

This bill would authorize a person required to file a report or statement with the Secretary of State in a paper format to file the report or statement by email or other digital means prescribed by the Secretary of State instead, subject to specified requirements. The bill would provide that a report or statement filed by email in accordance with these provisions is the original for audit and other legal purposes. The bill would eliminate the requirement that a person file a copy of the report or statement with the original when filing on paper.

13. [AB 2528, Bigelow. Political Reform Act of 1974: campaign statements.](#) (CHAPTER 500)

[An act to amend Section 84605 of, and to add Section 84226 to, the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires elected officers, candidates, and committees, as defined, to periodically file campaign statements and related documents containing specified information, including the amount of contributions received and expenditures made. The act requires, generally, that local elected officers file such statements with local filing officers, as specified.

The act requires the Secretary of State to develop an online and electronic filing system for specified persons and entities filing campaign statements and other documents and to certify and make the system available no later than February 1, 2021.

This bill would require elected local government officers and candidates for elective local government office whose campaign contributions for an upcoming election equal or exceed \$15,000 and who are not currently required to file a campaign statement or related document with the Secretary of State to file specified campaign statements and related documents with the Secretary of State, along with any other persons, such as their local filing officer, with whom they are otherwise required to file. The bill would make these requirements operative on the first January 1st after the Secretary of State certifies that necessary changes to the online filing and disclosure system described above have been made to accommodate filings by elected local government officers and candidates for elective local government office.

A violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 is punishable as a misdemeanor and subject to specified penalties. By imposing criminal penalties on filers who fail to comply with the above requirements, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

14. [AB-2577, Bigelow. Elections: uniform filing forms.](#) (CHAPTER 148)

[An act to add Section 8042 to the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law prohibits a candidate's name from being printed on a primary election ballot unless the candidate delivers, by the 88th day before the primary election, a declaration of candidacy and nomination papers signed by a specified number of voters to the elections official in the county for which the documents were circulated. Existing law requires a candidate to deliver the declaration of candidacy to the elections official of the candidate's county of residence and to deliver nomination papers to the elections official of the county in which the signer resides.

This bill would require the Secretary of State to establish uniform filing forms for a candidate to use when filing a declaration of candidacy and nomination papers.

15. [AB-2582, Bennett. Recall elections: local offices.](#) (CHAPTER 790)

[An act to amend Sections 11041, 11322, 11381, 11384, 11385, and 11386 of, and to add Section 11382 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

The California Constitution reserves to the electors the power to recall an elective officer and requires the Legislature to provide for recall of local officers. Existing law requires a recall election to include the question of whether the officer sought to be recalled shall be removed from office and an election for the officer's successor in the event the officer is removed from office.

This bill would instead require a recall election for a local officer to include only the question of whether the officer sought to be recalled shall be removed from office. If a local officer is removed from office in a recall election, the bill would provide that the office is vacant until it is filled according to law. The bill would make related conforming and clarifying changes.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 11041 of the Elections Code proposed by AB 2584 to be operative only if this bill and AB 2584 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

16. [AB-2584, Berman. Recall elections.](#) (CHAPTER 791)

[An act to amend Sections 11020, 11022, 11024, 11041, and 11242 of, and to add Section 11042.5 to, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law authorizes a registered voter of an electoral jurisdiction to seek the recall of an officer of that jurisdiction by publishing or posting a notice of intention to circulate a recall petition. Existing law requires the notice of intention to contain, among other things, a statement of the reasons for the proposed recall and the signatures of a specified number of proponents of the recall. Under existing law, within 7 days of the filing of the notice of intention, the officer sought to be recalled may file an answer to the proponents' statement of reasons for the recall. Existing law requires a recall petition to include, among other things, the notice of intention and the officer's answer.

This bill would increase the number of signatures required to be included in the notice of intention, with the total number of necessary signatures determined by the type of office held by the officer sought to be recalled, as provided. The bill would require, for a recall of a member of the governing board of a school district, the recall petition to include an estimate of the cost of conducting the special election.

The bill would require, for a recall of a local officer, the county elections official to make a copy of the recall petition available for public examination for 10 days, as provided. The bill would authorize a voter of the applicable electoral jurisdiction or the elections official, during those 10 days, to seek a writ of mandate or injunction requiring any or all of the statement of the proponents or the answer of the officer to be amended or deleted. The bill would require a court to issue a writ of mandate or injunction only upon clear and convincing proof that the material in question is false, misleading, or inconsistent with the applicable requirements for recall petitions. By requiring local elections officials to make recall petitions available for public inspection, the bill would create a state-mandated local program.

Existing law requires the governing board of a local government entity to issue an order calling an election if the elections official certifies to the board that the recall proponents gathered sufficient signatures to hold a recall election for an officer of the local government entity. Existing law requires the election to be held not less than 88 days and not more than 125 days from the issuance of the order.

This bill would permit the election to be consolidated with a regularly scheduled election conducted within 180 days after the issuance of the order.

This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 11041 of the Elections Code proposed by AB 2582 to be operative only if this bill and AB 2582 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

17. [AB-2608, Berman. Elections: vote by mail ballots.](#) (CHAPTER 161)

[An act to amend Sections 3001, 3002, 3004, 3005, 3011, 3013, 3014, 3021.5, 3025.5, 3101, 3102, 3106, 3110, 3111, 8002.5, 10704, 10734, 13305, 13502, 15105, 15377, and 18403 of, to amend and repeal Sections 17504 and 17505 of, to repeal Sections 3006, 3007, 3007.5, 3007.7, 3007.8, 3008, 3009, 3021, 18107.5, 18402, and 18576 of, and to repeal Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 3200) of Division 3 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

Prior law, in effect until January 1, 2022, required county elections officials to permit voters with a disability, and military or overseas voters, to cast a ballot using a certified remote accessible vote by mail system. Prior law required a county elections official to mail a ballot to every registered voter for all elections proclaimed or conducted prior to January 1, 2022. Existing law, in effect since January 1, 2022, requires a county elections official to permit any voter to cast a ballot using a certified remote accessible vote by mail system. Existing law indefinitely extends the requirement for a county elections official to mail a ballot to every registered voter for all elections. Existing law establishes procedures to apply for vote by mail status and requires elections officials to mail materials to vote by mail voters, as specified.

This bill would make conforming changes relating to vote by mail ballots and delete obsolete provisions.

Existing law requires an elections official to send a 2nd vote by mail voter ballot to any voter upon receipt of a statement under penalty of perjury that the voter has failed to receive, lost, or destroyed their original ballot.

This bill would additionally require an elections official to provide a 2nd vote by mail ballot to the voter's representative upon receipt of a written request signed by the voter under penalty of perjury, as specified.

Existing law requires a county that does not conduct an all-mailed ballot election to provide at least 2 vote by mail ballot drop-off locations within the jurisdiction where the election is held, or at least one vote by mail ballot drop-off location for every 30,000 registered voters within the jurisdiction where the election is held, whichever results in more vote by mail ballot drop-off locations.

This bill would, for purposes of this provision, require the number of registered voters in the jurisdiction where the election is being held to be determined on the 88th day before the election.

Existing law authorizes a military or overseas voter who returns to the county of their residence to appear before the elections official to make application for registration, as specified. Existing law requires an elections official to deliver a vote by mail ballot to the voter that may be voted in the elections official's office, as specified.

This bill would limit that authorization to a military or overseas voter who returns to the county of their residence after the seventh day prior to the date of the election, as specified.

Existing law authorizes a military or overseas voter who is unable to appear at their polling place because of being recalled to service to appear before the elections official and requires the elections official to deliver to the voter a vote by mail ballot that may be voted in the elections official's office, as specified.

This bill would limit that authorization to a military or overseas voter who is unable to appear at their polling place because of being recalled to service after the seventh day prior to the date of the election, but before 5 p.m. on the day before the day of the election.

Existing law requires elections officials to preserve all applications for vote by mail ballots for 22 months from the date of the election where candidates for specified offices are voted upon, including President of the United States, Vice President of the United States, and United States Senator. Under existing law, an elections official is required to preserve all applications for vote by mail ballots for a period of 6 months from the date of the election for state and local elections, as specified.

This bill would repeal those provisions effective January 1, 2024.

By adding to the duties of local elections officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

18. [AB-2815, Berman. Elections: vote by mail ballot drop-off locations.](#) (CHAPTER 553)

[An act to add Section 3025.7 to the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires an elections official to mail a ballot to every registered voter for any election. Existing law authorizes a county to conduct any election as an all-mailed ballot election if certain conditions are met, and requires a county elections official conducting an all-mailed ballot election to consider locating a vote center on a public or private university or college campus. Existing law requires a county that does not conduct an all-mailed ballot to provide a specified number of vote by mail ballot drop-off locations based on the population of the county.

This bill would require a county, for a statewide primary or statewide general election conducted as an all-mailed ballot election or otherwise, to provide an additional vote by mail ballot drop-off location on the main campus of each California State University within the jurisdiction and, upon request, each University of California campus within the jurisdiction. The bill would require an elections official, when selecting ballot drop-off locations under existing law, to give preference to locations on certain California Community College campuses. These requirements would apply only to a campus that would be in session for its fall, winter, or spring term on the day of the election.

By requiring counties to provide additional vote by mail ballot drop-off locations and by requiring elections officials to take additional actions, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

19. [AB-2841, Low. Disqualification from voting.](#) (CHAPTER 807)

[An act to amend, repeal, and add Sections 2201, 2208, 2209, 2210, and 2211 of, and to add Sections 2211.5 and 2214 to, the Elections Code, and to amend, repeal, and add Sections 5358.3 and 5364 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires a county elections official to cancel a person's voter registration in certain circumstances, including when a person is deemed mentally incompetent, upon proof that the person is presently imprisoned for conviction of a felony, and when a person fails to respond to an address verification mailed by the elections official and does not attempt to vote at the next two federal general elections. Existing law also sets forth criteria and procedures for a person's right to vote to be restored.

This bill would require the clerk of the superior court of each county to notify the Secretary of State each month of findings made by the court regarding a person's competency to vote and the number of court proceedings related to the determination of a person's competency to vote, as specified. The bill would require the Secretary of State, upon receipt of identifying information for the affected persons, to send this information to the appropriate county elections official, who must proceed to cancel the person's registration or notify the person that their right to vote has been restored, as applicable. The bill would require the elections official to provide notice of the intent to cancel the person's registration between 15 and 30 days before the cancellation.

The bill would require the Secretary of State to post a report on their internet website each month showing the number of disqualifications and restorations of voting rights that occurred in each county, and to deliver a training to court officers and elections officials regarding the aforementioned requirements.

The bill's provisions would become operative on January 1, 2024.

By imposing additional duties on county elections officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement. This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

20. AB-2967, Committee on Elections. Elections: petition records and requests: vote-by-mail ballot.
(CHAPTER 166)

[An act to amend Sections 103, 3019, 9602, 11303, and 17400 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

(1) Existing law authorizes a voter who has signed an initiative, referendum, or recall petition to remove their name from the petition by filing a written request to do so with the appropriate elections official prior to the day the petition is filed. Existing law requires the written request to include the voter's name, residence address, and signature.

This bill would additionally require the written request to remove the voter's name from the petition to include the name or title of the petition.

(2) Existing law requires an elections official, upon receiving a vote by mail ballot, to verify the signature on the identification envelope by comparing it with the voter's signature appearing on specified voter registration records. Existing law requires the elections official, if the signatures do not compare or if the voter fails to sign the identification envelope, to allow a voter to verify the voter's signature by signing and returning an unsigned ballot statement, as provided.

This bill would replace references to "unsigned ballot statement" with references to "unsigned identification envelope statement."

(3) Existing law governs the retention and preservation of election records, including recall petitions. Existing law requires the elections official or, in the case of the recall of a state officer, the Secretary of State, to preserve in that person's office all recall petitions filed for 8 months after the results of the election for which the petition qualified or, if no election is held, 8 months after the elections official's final examination of the petition.

This bill would require elections officials to preserve all recall petitions, including recall petitions for the recall of a state officer.

By requiring elections officials to preserve all recall petitions, thereby imposing a higher level of service on local government, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

21. SB-103, Dodd. Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act. **(CHAPTER 216)**

[An act to amend Sections 6864, 6901, 6906, 6909, 7100, 7300, 7578, 7843, 8550, 8651, and 18002 of, to add Chapter 1.2 (commencing with Section 6911) of Part 2 of Division 6 to, and to repeal Sections 6905, 6907, and 6908 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law provides for the nomination of electors of President and Vice President of the United States by political parties, and provides for electors who desire to be write-in candidates for presidential electors pledged to a particular candidate for President or Vice President to file a declaration of write-in candidacy. Existing law requires the electors chosen by the voters at each United States presidential election to assemble in the State Capitol in the afternoon on the first Monday after the second Wednesday in December next following their election and cast electoral ballots for the President and the Vice President of the United States who are candidates of the political party that nominated the electors, if the candidates are alive. Existing law provides that an elector who willfully neglects or refuses to perform these duties, or who knowingly and fraudulently acts in violation or contravention of them, is guilty of a crime punishable by a fine, imprisonment, or both a fine and imprisonment, as specified. Existing law provides that if an elector is dead or absent on the day of voting the remaining electors present shall elect a replacement from the citizens of the state. Existing law provides for compensation for electors for their services and expenses related to travel to and from the State Capitol, as specified.

This bill would enact the Uniform Faithful Presidential Electors Act. The bill would require each political party and each group of electors pledged to a presidential and vice presidential candidate who qualifies for the ballot by a means other than political party nomination to specify alternate electors in addition to their elector nominees. The bill would require each elector and alternate elector to execute a pledge pursuant to which they promise to cast their electoral ballots for the presidential and vice presidential candidates to whom they are pledged or who are the candidates of the political party that nominated them, and would provide that those pledges are transferred to successor candidates who are nominated, as specified, if a candidate dies or withdraws as a candidate before the meeting of electors. The bill would provide that an elector who casts the elector's ballots in violation of the elector's pledge automatically vacates the elector's position, and specifies procedures for filling the vacant position with a substitute elector. The bill would require the Secretary of State to preside over the meeting of electors, examine and accept the ballots of the electors, and prepare and transmit a certificate of the vote to the President of the United States Senate and other entities, as specified. The bill would make the criminal penalties described above inapplicable to provisions regarding presidential electors. The bill would extend the compensation described above to alternate electors. The bill would make conforming changes.

22. [SB-459, Allen. Political Reform Act of 1974: lobbying.](#) (CHAPTER 873)

[An act to amend Sections 86114, 86116, 86117, and 86118 of, and to add Section 86119 to, the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, regulates the activities of lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers in connection with attempts to influence legislative and administrative action by legislative and other state officials, including by requiring that lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers register and file periodic reports with the Secretary of State.

This bill, beginning one year after the Secretary of State certifies for public use an online filing and disclosure system for lobbying information, or beginning January 1, 2023, whichever is later, would require lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers to include information in the periodic reports that identifies each bill or administrative action subject to lobbying activity during that period. For certain

activities involving issue lobbying advertisements, the bill would require disclosure of the position on the bill or administrative action advocated by the advertisement. This bill would require additional specified disclosures for lobbying activity during the 60-day period before the Legislature is scheduled to adjourn for interim recess or final recess. The bill would require certain persons to file specified reports following a calendar quarter in which that person incurs cumulative costs equal to or exceeding \$5,000 for issue lobbying advertisements, as defined. The bill would authorize entities filing related reports in paper with the Secretary of State to verify those filings by electronic signature.

A violation of the act is punishable as a misdemeanor, and reports and statements filed under the act are required to be signed under the penalty of perjury. By expanding the scope of existing crimes, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

23. [SB-504, Becker. Elections: voter registration.](#) (CHAPTER 14)

[An act to amend Sections 2150 and 2170 of, to repeal Sections 3022 and 13315 of, and to repeal and add Section 2212 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

(1) Existing law requires elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter for each election. Existing law permits a person to apply for permanent vote by mail status while registering to vote, and requires elections officials to include an application for a vote by mail ballot with each voter information guide mailed to voters.

This bill would repeal these provisions regarding applications to vote by mail to account for the requirement that every registered voter receive a vote by mail ballot for each election.

(2) Existing law authorizes an individual who is eligible to register to vote to complete and deliver to a county elections official a conditional voter registration application that is deemed effective after the elections official determines the individual's eligibility to vote and validates the information on the application. Existing law authorizes a voter who has conditionally registered to cast a provisional or nonprovisional ballot during the 14 days immediately preceding an election or on the day of the election, as specified. Existing law authorizes military and overseas voters, as defined, to register for, and to vote a vote by mail ballot in, any election within the state or within the precinct in which the voter last resided within the territorial limits of the United States, as specified.

This bill would clarify that otherwise qualified military and overseas voters and voters with disabilities may complete a conditional voter registration and cast a provisional ballot or nonprovisional ballot under these provisions. The bill would authorize the Secretary of State to adopt emergency regulations to implement provisions relating to conditional voter registration and would make related findings.

(3) Existing law requires the clerk of the superior court of each county to periodically furnish the Secretary of State and the county elections official with certain information regarding persons who have

been committed to state prison for a felony conviction. Existing law requires the Secretary of State or the county elections official to cancel the affidavit of voter registration of persons who are currently imprisoned for the conviction of a felony.

This bill would repeal those provisions and instead require the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, on a weekly basis, to provide the Secretary of State with specified identifying information for persons imprisoned for the conviction of a felony and persons on parole or otherwise released from that imprisonment. The bill would require the Secretary of State to compare the identifying information received from the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation with the statewide voter registration database developed in compliance with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002, and to provide county elections officials with information regarding any matching registration records. The bill would require county elections officials to cancel the affidavits of voter registration of persons who are imprisoned and to notify persons who have been released from imprisonment that their voting rights are restored, that they may register to vote, and of the procedures for registering to vote. The bill would require the Secretary of State to prepare a form for county elections officials to provide this notice. The bill would immunize counties and county elections officials from liability based on actions taken in accordance with this bill based on erroneous information received from the Secretary of State or the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. The bill would create a presumption that a person who is ineligible to vote but receives a notice that their voting rights have been restored under these provisions, and then becomes registered or preregistered to vote and votes or attempts to vote in a subsequent election, is not guilty of fraudulently voting or attempting to vote, except as specified.

(4) By increasing the duties of local officials on matters relating to voter registration, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

(5) This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

24. [SB-686, Glazer. Campaign disclosure: limited liability companies.](#) (CHAPTER 321)

[An act to add Section 84109 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing, including requiring elected officials, candidates for elective office, committees formed primarily to support or oppose a candidate for public office or a ballot measure, and other entities to file periodic campaign statements and reports concerning campaign finances.

This bill would require a limited liability company that qualifies as a committee or a sponsor of a committee under the act, as specified, to file a statement of members with the Secretary of State. The bill would require the statement of members to include certain information about the limited liability company, including a list of all persons who have a membership interest in the limited liability company

of at least 10% or who made a cumulative capital contribution of at least \$10,000 to the limited liability company after it qualified as a committee or sponsor of a committee, or within the 12 months before it qualified.

Existing law makes a knowing or willful violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 a misdemeanor. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

25. SB-746, Skinner. Political Reform Act of 1974: business entities: online advocacy and advertisements. (CHAPTER 876)

[An act to add Section 84512 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

Existing law, the Political Reform Act of 1974, provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing and related matters, including by prohibiting, limiting, or requiring disclosure of certain political activities and by regulating certain political advertisements.

This bill, beginning on January 1, 2024, would require a business entity to submit a report to the Secretary of State following any calendar year in which the business entity used its products or services to alter its online search results to emphasize or deemphasize materials containing express advocacy, or to target online advertisements to individuals or groups, or generally to users or members of the public, for political purposes and without full and adequate consideration. The bill would require the report to contain certain information relating to the search results and advertisements, as specified. The bill would require reports to be filed on paper or by email with the Secretary of State, and to be made publicly available in a conspicuous location on the Secretary of State's website. These provisions would not apply to a business entity's use of its products or services exclusively to carry out its commercial activities, including delivering user-generated content or a paid advertisement on behalf of another person, or to communications that are internal to a business entity or entities.

Existing law makes a knowing or willful violation of the Political Reform Act of 1974 a misdemeanor and subjects offenders to criminal penalties. By expanding the scope of an existing crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

26. SB-794, Glazer. Political Reform Act of 1974: contribution limits. (CHAPTER 816)

[An act to add Section 85319.5 to the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 comprehensively regulates campaign finance, including by limiting contributions that may be made to or received by certain candidates or committees, as specified.

This bill would allow a committee that receives a contribution, or portion thereof, in excess of specified limits to return the contribution, or portion thereof, or to attribute the portion of the contribution that exceeds the limit to another election, without the contribution violating those limits, provided that the committee returns or attributes the amount in excess within 14 days of receipt, the committee does not deposit or allow deposit of the contribution with actual knowledge that the contribution exceeds the applicable limit, and the committee does not make use of the contribution prior to returning or attributing it, as specified. If the committee deposits or allows deposit of the contribution with actual knowledge that the contribution exceeds the applicable limits, the bill would allow the committee to return the contribution, or portion thereof, or to attribute the portion of the contribution that exceeds the limit to another election, without violating those limits if the committee returns or attributes the amount in excess of the contribution limit within 72 hours of receipt or on or before the date of the election, whichever is sooner, and provided that the committee does not make use of the contribution prior to returning or attributing it, as specified, and does not deposit or allow deposit of the contribution with actual knowledge that the contribution is more than 2 times the applicable limit. The bill would require the committee to notify the contributor by the deadline for returning or attributing the contribution that the contribution exceeded the applicable limit. The bill would specify the manner by which a committee may attribute a contribution or portion thereof to another election.

27. SB 1061, Laird. School district and community college district elections: special elections: petition requirements: election timing. (CHAPTER 831)

[An act to amend Section 5091 of the Education Code, relating to elections.]

Under existing law, whenever a school district or community college district vacancy occurs, or if a resignation has been filed with the county superintendent of schools creating a deferred effective date, the school district or community college district governing board is required, within 60 days of the vacancy or the filing of the deferred resignation, either to order an election or to make a provisional appointment. Existing law provides that if a provisional appointment is made, the registered voters of the district may, within 30 days, petition for a special election to fill the vacancy. Existing law requires that a special election be called if specified signature thresholds are met and requires special election petitions to contain the elections official's estimate of the cost of conducting the special election, as provided.

This bill would require the special election petition to also contain that cost estimate expressed on a per-pupil or per-student basis. To the extent that this change imposes additional duties on local agencies or officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Existing law requires the county superintendent of schools, upon finding that the petition is legally sufficient, to terminate the provisional appointment and order a special election to be conducted no

later than the 130th day after the determination, or between the 130th day and the 150th day following the order of the election, as provided.

This bill instead would require the special election to be conducted not less than 88, nor more than 125, days following the order of the election, except that the bill would authorize the election to be conducted within 180 days after the issuance of the order so that the election may be consolidated with a regularly scheduled election. To the extent that this change would impose additional duties on local agencies or officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

**28. [SB-1131, Newman. Address confidentiality: public entity employees and contractors.](#)
(CHAPTER 554)**

[An act to amend Sections 2166.5, 12105.5, and 12108 of, and to add Section 2166.8 to, the Elections Code, to amend Sections 6215 and 6215.2 of, and to amend the heading of Chapter 3.2 (commencing with Section 6215) of Division 7 of Title 1 of, the Government Code, relating to address confidentiality, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

(1) Existing law authorizes reproductive health care service providers, employees, volunteers, and patients to complete an application to be approved by the Secretary of State for the purposes of enabling state and local agencies to respond to requests for public records without disclosing a program participant's residence address contained in any public record and otherwise provide for confidentiality of identity for that person, subject to specified conditions. Existing law requires an applicant seeking address confidentiality under this program due to their affiliation with a reproductive health care services facility to provide a certified statement signed by a person authorized by the reproductive health care services facility stating that the facility or any of its providers, employees, volunteers, or patients is or was the target of threats or acts of violence within one year of the date of the application. Under existing law, any person who makes a false statement in an application is guilty of a misdemeanor.

This bill would authorize an applicant seeking address confidentiality under this program to submit a certified statement by the employee, patient, or volunteer for a reproductive health care services facility that they have been the target of threats, harassment, or acts of violence, or a workplace violence restraining order issued because of threats or acts of violence connected with a reproductive health care services facility, as specified, instead of a certified statement from a representative of the reproductive health care services facility.

This bill would also expand the address confidentiality program to include other individuals who face threats of violence or violence or harassment from the public because of their work for a public entity. The bill would require an individual seeking to make their address confidential under these provisions to complete the application in person at a community-based assistance program designated by the

Secretary of State. The bill would require the application process to include a requirement that the applicant meet with a counselor and receive orientation information about the program. By imposing new duties on local public officials and expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would create a state-mandated local program.

(2) Existing law permits an individual to seek confidential voter status and have their residence address, telephone number, and email address declared confidential upon presentation of certification that the person is a participant in among other programs, the Address Confidentiality for Reproductive Health Care Service Providers, Employees, Volunteers, and Patients program.

This bill would include individuals who work for a public entity and who participate in the expanded address confidentiality program described above within the category of people eligible for confidential voter status.

(3) Existing law requires an election official to post a list of all polling places and precinct board members at specified times before an election. Existing law requires this list to be posted at the elections official's office and on their official website. Existing law requires an election official to include the political party affiliation for each listed precinct board member.

This bill would eliminate the requirement to post the names of the precinct board members, but would still require the election official to post the political party preference for all precinct board members, as specified.

(4) Existing law requires a county elections official, upon application of a public safety officer and if authorized by the county board of supervisors, to make confidential an officer's residence address, telephone number, and email address appearing on the affidavit of registration, as specified. Under existing law, an application for confidential voter status is required to contain a statement, signed under penalty of perjury, that the person is a public safety officer and that a life-threatening circumstance exists to the officer or a member of the officer's family, as specified.

This bill would create a similar program for qualified workers, as defined, that includes a requirement to submit an application, signed under penalty of perjury, that they are a qualified worker and that a life-threatening circumstance exists to the worker or members of the worker's family. By creating a new crime, this bill would create a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the Secretary of State to submit an annual report to the Legislature that includes the total number of applications received for the program, the number of program participants within each county, and any allegations of misuse of the program relating to election purposes, as specified.

(5) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that with regard to certain mandates no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

With regard to any other mandates, this bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs so mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to the statutory provisions noted above.

(6) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(7) This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

29. [SB-1360, Umberg. Elections: disclosure of contributors.](#) (CHAPTER 887)

[An act to amend Sections 101, 107, 9008, 9020, 9105, 9203, and 11043 of the Elections Code, to amend Sections 84502, 84503, 84504.1, 84504.2, 84504.3, and 84505 of, and to add Section 84504.8 to, the Government Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires political advertisements to include specified disclosure statements that identify the name of the campaign committee paying for the advertisement and the top contributors, as defined, to that committee. Existing law requires a campaign committee that pays for the circulation of a state or local initiative, referendum, or recall petition to disclose its top contributors, as prescribed. Existing law establishes other requirements regarding the form, content, and presentation of initiative, referendum, and recall petitions.

This bill would require an initiative, referendum, or recall petition to instruct voters to sign the petition only after viewing certain disclosures regarding the top contributors to the initiative, referendum, or recall, as specified. This bill would make additional changes to requirements regarding the form, content, and presentation of initiative, referendum, and recall petitions.

This bill would make changes to the disclosure requirements for certain political advertisements to identify the top contributors to the campaign committee paying for the advertisement, including changes to the required form, content, and presentation of the disclosures depending on the medium in which the advertisement appears. Because political advertisements are regulated under the Political Reform Act of 1974, and a violation of the act is punishable as a misdemeanor, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program by expanding the definition of a crime.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

30. [SB-1380, Committee on Judiciary. Maintenance of the codes.](#) (CHAPTER 28)

[to amend Sections 2194, 2262, 2265, 2269, 3026, 13204, and 13300.7 of the Elections Code.]

SEC. 38.

Section 2194 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2194.

(a) Except as provided in Section 2194.1, the affidavit of voter registration information identified in Section 7924.000 of the Government Code:

(1) Shall be confidential and shall not appear on any computer terminal, list, affidavit, duplicate affidavit, or other medium routinely available to the public at the county elections official's office.

(2) Shall not be used for any personal, private, or commercial purpose, including, but not limited to:

(A) The harassment of any voter or voter's household.

(B) The advertising, solicitation, sale, or marketing of products or services to any voter or voter's household.

(C) Reproduction in print, broadcast visual or audio, or display on the internet or any computer terminal unless pursuant to paragraph (3).

(3) Shall be provided with respect to any voter, subject to the provisions of Sections 2166, 2166.5, 2166.7, and 2188, to any candidate for federal, state, or local office, to any committee for or against any initiative or referendum measure for which legal publication is made, and to any person for election, scholarly, journalistic, or political purposes, or for governmental purposes, as determined by the Secretary of State.

(4) May be used by the Secretary of State for the purpose of educating voters pursuant to Section 12173 of the Government Code.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other law, the California driver's license number, the California identification card number, the social security number, and any other unique identifier used by the State of California for purposes of voter identification shown on the affidavit of voter registration of a registered voter, or added to voter registration records to comply with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), are confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law, the signature of the voter shown on the affidavit of voter registration or an image thereof is confidential and shall not be disclosed to any person, except as provided in subdivision (c).

(c) (1) The home address or signature of any voter shall be released whenever the person's vote is challenged pursuant to Sections 15105 to 15108, inclusive, or Article 3 (commencing with Section 14240) of Chapter 3 of Division 14. The address or signature shall be released only to the challenger, to elections officials, and to other persons as necessary to make, defend against, or adjudicate the challenge.

(2) An elections official shall permit a person to view the signature of a voter for the purpose of determining whether the signature compares with a signature on an affidavit of registration or an image thereof or a petition, but shall not permit a signature to be copied.

(d) A governmental entity, or officer or employee thereof, shall not be held civilly liable as a result of disclosure of the information referred to in this section, unless by a showing of gross negligence or willfulness.

(e) For the purposes of this section, “voter’s household” is defined as the voter’s place of residence or mailing address or any persons who reside at the place of residence or use the mailing address as supplied on the affidavit of registration pursuant to paragraphs (3) and (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 2150.

(f) Notwithstanding any other law, information regarding voters who did not sign a vote by mail ballot identification envelope or whose signature on the vote by mail ballot identification envelope did not compare with the voter’s signature on file shall be treated as confidential voter registration information pursuant to this section and Section 6254.4 of the Government Code. This information shall not be disclosed to any person except as provided in this section. Any disclosure of this information shall be accompanied by a notice to the recipient regarding Sections 18109 and 18540. Voter information provided pursuant to this subdivision shall be updated daily, include the name of the voter, and be provided in a searchable electronic format.

SEC. 39.

Section 2262 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2262.

For purposes of this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) “Completed voter registration” and “completed voter registration application” mean the part of the driver’s license application containing the voter registration application for an applicant who has not affirmatively declined to register to vote, the transmittal of which is not prohibited by subdivision (f) of Section 2265, and which includes the minimum information necessary to prevent duplicate voter registrations and preregistrations, to assess the eligibility of the applicant, and to administer voter registration, preregistration, and other procedures for elections.

(b) “Department” means the Department of Motor Vehicles.

(c) “Driver’s license application” means a driver’s license or identification card application, renewal, or notification of a change of address pursuant to Section 12800, 12815, 13000, or 14600 of the Vehicle Code.

SEC. 40.

Section 2265 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2265.

(a) (1) The department, in consultation with the Secretary of State, shall establish a schedule and method for the department to electronically provide to the Secretary of State the records specified in this section.

(2) The department and the Secretary of State shall develop and enter into an interagency agreement specifying how the department and the Secretary of State will cooperate to fulfill the requirements of this chapter. The agreement shall be updated as necessary, and the current version of the agreement shall be published on the internet website of the Secretary of State, except those parts of the agreement for which publication would compromise security.

(b) (1) The department shall provide to the Secretary of State, in a manner and method to be determined by the department in consultation with the Secretary of State, the following information associated with each person who submits a driver's license application:

(A) Name.

(B) Date of birth.

(C) Either or both of the following, as contained in the department's records:

(i) Residence address.

(ii) Mailing address.

(D) Digitized signature, as described in Section 12950.5 of the Vehicle Code.

(E) Telephone number, if available.

(F) Email address, if available.

(G) Language preference, if available.

(H) Political party preference, if available.

(I) Whether the person chooses to become a permanent vote by mail voter, if available.

(J) Whether the person affirmatively declined to become registered or preregistered to vote during a transaction with the department.

(K) A notation that the applicant has attested that the person meets all voter eligibility requirements, including United States citizenship, specified in Section 2101 and, as applicable, the preregistration eligibility requirements in subdivision (d) of Section 2102.

(L) Other information specified in regulations implementing this chapter.

(2) (A) A completed voter registration application included with a driver's license application and accepted at the department shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State no later than 10 days after the department accepts it.

(B) A completed voter registration application accepted within five days of the last day to register to vote for a federal or statewide election shall be transmitted to the Secretary of State no later than five days after the date of acceptance.

(C) (i) For purposes of establishing the department's transmittal deadlines required by this paragraph and by Section 20504(e) of Title 52 of the United States Code, the completed voter registration application included with the driver's license application shall be deemed accepted on the date the completed voter registration application arrives at the department, whether by mail, in person, electronically, or in another manner, the application contains all of the information in paragraph (1) except to the extent paragraph (1) requires certain information to be provided only if available, and the department approves the documentation of identity submitted by the applicant that is required by the Vehicle Code for the type of license or identification card for which the applicant has applied.

(ii) This subparagraph shall become operative upon the completion of the Digital eXperience Platform project described in Item 2740-001-0044 of the Budget Act of 2021 (Chs. 21 and 69, Stats. 2021), or on July 1, 2025, whichever is earlier.

(3) (A) The department shall accept and transmit a completed voter registration application included with a driver's license application as described in paragraph (2) even if, pursuant to the Vehicle Code, the driver's license application is incomplete or the driver's license or identification card associated with the voter who submitted the voter registration application is inactive due to a failure to pay fees, or any other reason that is unrelated to either of the following:

(i) The department's approval of an applicant's identity documentation pursuant to the Vehicle Code.

(ii) An elections official's ability to prevent duplicate voter registrations or preregistrations, to assess the eligibility of the applicant, or to administer voter registration, preregistration, and other elections procedures.

(B) This paragraph shall become operative upon the completion of the Digital eXperience Platform project described in Item 2740-001-0044 of the Budget Act of 2021 (Chs. 21 and 69, Stats. 2021), or on July 1, 2025, whichever is earlier.

(4) (A) The department may provide the records described in paragraph (1) to the Secretary of State before the Secretary of State certifies that all of the conditions set forth in subdivision (e) of this section have been satisfied. Records provided pursuant to this paragraph shall only be used for purposes of outreach and education to eligible voters conducted by the Secretary of State.

(B) The Secretary of State shall provide materials created for purposes of outreach and education as described in this paragraph in languages other than English, as required by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10503).

(c) The Secretary of State shall not sell, transfer, or allow any third party access to the information acquired from the department pursuant to this chapter without approval of the department, except as permitted by this chapter and Section 2194.

(d) The department shall not electronically provide records of a person who applies for or is issued a driver's license pursuant to Section 12801.9 of the Vehicle Code because the person is unable to submit satisfactory proof that the person's presence in the United States is authorized under federal law.

(e) Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (b), the department shall commence implementation of this section no later than one year after the Secretary of State certifies all of the following:

(1) The state has a statewide voter registration database that complies with the requirements of the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.).

(2) The Legislature has appropriated the funds necessary for the Secretary of State and the department to implement and maintain the California New Motor Voter Program.

(3) The regulations required by Section 2277 have been adopted.

(f) The department shall not electronically provide records pursuant to this section that contain a home address designated as confidential pursuant to Section 1808.2, 1808.4, or 1808.6 of the Vehicle Code.

(g) It is the intent of the Legislature that the department continue its best practice of sending notice to voters when there is a delay in processing completed voter registration applications. It is further the intent of the Legislature that the notices continue to provide information about alternative options for submitting a voter registration application.

SEC. 41.

Section 2269 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

2269.

This chapter does not affect the confidentiality of a person's voter registration or preregistration information, which remains confidential pursuant to Section 2194 of this code and Section 7924.000 of the Government Code and for all of the following persons:

(a) A victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking pursuant to Section 2166.5.

(b) A reproductive health care service provider, employee, volunteer, or patient pursuant to Section 2166.5.

(c) A public safety officer pursuant to Section 2166.7.

(d) A person with a life-threatening circumstance upon court order pursuant to Section 2166.

SEC. 42.

Section 3026 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

3026.

(a) The Secretary of State shall promulgate regulations establishing guidelines for county elections officials relating to the processing of vote by mail ballots.

(b) The Secretary of State shall evaluate the necessity for procedures that will protect voters' personally identifying information from elections observers present during the signature comparison process specified in Section 3019. These procedures may be included in the regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

(c) (1) The Secretary of State shall evaluate the cost and necessity of requiring an elections official to use information in the county's election management system, or otherwise in the elections official's possession, for the purpose of notifying a voter of the opportunity to verify a signature pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 3019 or to provide a signature pursuant to subdivision (e) of Section 3019. Based on this review, the Secretary of State may impose these requirements in regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

(2) The Secretary of State shall evaluate the cost and necessity of requiring an elections official to send the additional written notices to voters specified in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) and clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (e) of Section 3019. Based on this review, the Secretary of State may impose these requirements in regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

(d) When promulgating or amending regulations pertaining to signature comparison pursuant to Section 3019, the Secretary of State shall consult with recognized elections experts, voter access and advocacy stakeholders, and local elections officials.

SEC. 43.

Section 13204 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

13204.

(a) The instructions to voters shall be printed below the district designation. The instructions shall begin with the words "INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:" in no smaller than 16-point capital type. Thereafter, there shall be printed in 10-point capital type all of the following directions that are applicable to the ballot:

"To vote for a candidate for Chief Justice of California; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; Presiding Justice, Court of Appeal; or Associate Justice, Court of Appeal, mark the voting target next to the word "Yes." To vote against that candidate, mark the voting target next to the word "No."

"To vote for any other candidate of your selection, mark the voting target next to the candidate's name. [When justices of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal do not appear on the ballot, the instructions referring to voting after the word "Yes" or the word "No" will be deleted and the above sentence shall read: "To vote for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, mark the voting target next to the candidate's name."] Where two or more candidates for the same office are to be elected, place a mark next to the names of all candidates for the office for whom you desire to vote, not to exceed, however, the number of candidates to be elected."

"To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, write the person's name in the blank space provided for that purpose after the names of the other candidates for the same office."

"To vote on any measure, mark the voting target next to the word "Yes" or next to the word "No."

"Marking the ballot outside of the designated space to vote for a candidate or measure may compromise the secrecy of the ballot."

“If you wrongly mark, tear, or deface this ballot, return it to the precinct board member and obtain another.”

“On vote by mail ballots mark with pen or pencil.”

(b) The instructions to voters shall be separated from the portion of the ballot that contains the various offices and measures to be voted on.

SEC. 44.

Section 13300.7 of the Elections Code is amended to read:

13300.7.

Notwithstanding any other law, county and city elections officials may establish procedures designed to permit a voter to opt out of receiving the voter’s county voter information guide, state voter information guide, notice of polling place, and associated materials by mail, and instead obtain them electronically via email or by accessing them on the county’s or city’s internet website, if all of the following conditions are met:

(a) The procedures establish a method of providing notice of and an opportunity by which a voter can notify elections officials of the voter’s desire to obtain ballot materials electronically in lieu of receiving them by mail.

(b) The voter email address or any other information provided by the voter under this section remains confidential pursuant to Section 7924.000 of the Government Code and Section 2194 of this code.

(c) The procedures provide notice and opportunity for a voter who has opted out of receiving a county voter information guide and other materials by mail to opt back into receiving them by mail.

(d) The procedures establish a process by which a voter can apply electronically to become a vote by mail voter.

(e) A voter may only opt out of, or opt back into, receiving the voter’s county voter information guide and other ballot materials by mail if the elections official receives the request and can process it before the statutory deadline for the mailing of those materials for the next election, pursuant to Section 13303. If a voter misses this deadline, the request shall take effect the following election.

(f) The procedures shall include a verification process to confirm the voter’s identity in any of the following manners:

(1) In writing with a signature card that can be matched to the one on file with the elections official.

(2) Electronically with the electronic transmission containing the voter’s California driver’s license number, California identification number, or a partial social security number.

(3) By telephone or in person, upon confirmation of the voter’s date of birth, residence address, and California driver’s license number, California identification number, or a partial social security number.

(g) Information made available over the internet pursuant to this section shall meet or exceed the most current, ratified standards under Section 508 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Sec. 794d), as amended, and the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 adopted by the World Wide Web Consortium for accessibility. Election officials may also implement recommendations of the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee made pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (b) of Section 2053, and of any local Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee created pursuant to the guidelines promulgated by the Secretary of State related to the accessibility of polling places by the physically handicapped.

31. [SB-1439, Glazer. Campaign contributions: agency officers.](#) (CHAPTER 848)

[An act to amend Section 84308 of the Government Code, relating to the Political Reform Act of 1974.]

The Political Reform Act of 1974 prohibits an officer of an agency from accepting, soliciting, or directing a contribution of more than \$250 from any party, participant, or a party or participant's agent, while a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use is pending before the agency and for 3 months following the date a final decision is rendered in the proceeding, if the officer knows or has reasons to know that the participant has a financial interest, as defined. The act also prohibits a party, participant, or participant's agent from making a contribution of more than \$250 to an officer of the agency during the proceeding and 3 months following the date a final decision is rendered. The act defines "agency" for these purposes to mean any state or local government agency, except certain entities, including local government agencies whose members are directly elected by the voters.

This bill would remove the exception for local government agencies, thereby subjecting them to the prohibition described above. The bill would extend the prohibition on contributions from 3 to 12 months following the date a final decision is rendered in the proceeding. The bill would permit an officer who does not willfully and knowingly accept, solicit, or direct a prohibited contribution to cure the violation by returning it. The bill would require the party to a proceeding to disclose whether the party or the party's agent has made a contribution of more than \$250 in the 12 months before the proceeding.

A violation of the act is punishable as a misdemeanor. By expanding the scope of restrictions on contributions, this bill would expand the scope of an existing crime, and therefore would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

REDISTRICTING BILLS

1. [AB 1307, Cervantes. County of Riverside Citizens Redistricting Commission.](#) (CHAPTER 403)

[An act to add Chapter 6.4 (commencing with Section 21540) to Division 21 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires the board of supervisors of each county, following each decennial federal census, and using that census as a basis, to adjust the boundaries of any or all of the supervisorial districts of the county so that the districts are as nearly equal in population as possible and comply with applicable federal law, and specifies the procedures the board of supervisors must follow in adjusting those boundaries. Existing law establishes the Independent Redistricting Commission in the County of San Diego and the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles, which are charged with adjusting the supervisorial district boundaries for those counties.

If an appropriation is made for this purpose, this bill would establish the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Riverside, which would be charged with adjusting the boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside. The commission would consist of 14 members who meet specified qualifications. This bill would require the commission to adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts in accordance with specified criteria and adopt a redistricting plan in accordance with existing deadlines for the adoption of county supervisorial district boundaries. By increasing the duties on local officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the unique circumstances facing the County of Riverside.

2. [AB 1848, Bryan. Redistricting.](#) (CHAPTER 763)

[An act to amend Sections 21001 and 21003 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

(1) The California Constitution requires the Citizens Redistricting Commission to draw district lines for the election of Members of the State Senate, Assembly, Congress, and the State Board of Equalization. The commission is required to approve final maps and certify them to the Secretary of State by August 15 in each year ending in the number one.

Existing law requires the Secretary of State to provide each Member of the Senate, Assembly, and the State Board of Equalization, and each Member of Congress from California, with one copy of a map of the Member's district.

This bill would instead require the Secretary of State, upon receipt of certified final maps from the Citizens Redistricting Commission, to provide electronic copies of the maps to county elections officials, the Chief Clerk of the Assembly, the Senate Committee on Rules, the California congressional delegation, and the State Board of Equalization.

(2) Existing law requires the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to furnish to the Legislature and the Citizens Redistricting Commission certain information regarding each inmate incarcerated in a state correctional facility on the decennial Census Day, including the residential address at which the inmate was domiciled before the inmate's current term of incarceration. Under the existing law, the Legislature requests the Citizens Redistricting Commission to deem each incarcerated person as residing at that person's last known place of residence rather than at the institution of that person's incarceration.

3. [AB 2030, Arambula. County of Fresno Citizens Redistricting Commission.](#) (CHAPTER 407)

[An act to add Chapter 6.7 (commencing with Section 21560) to Division 21 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires the board of supervisors, following a county's decision to elect its board using district-based elections or following each decennial federal census for a county whose board is already elected using district-based elections, by ordinance or resolution, to adjust the boundaries of all of the supervisorial districts of the county so that the districts are as nearly equal in population as possible and comply with applicable federal law, and specifies the procedures the board of supervisors must follow in adjusting those boundaries. Existing law establishes the Independent Redistricting Commission in the County of San Diego and the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles, which are charged with adjusting the supervisorial district boundaries for their respective counties.

This bill would establish the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Fresno, which would be charged with adjusting the boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Fresno in accordance with specified criteria. The commission would consist of 14 members who meet specified qualifications. By increasing the duties on local officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the unique circumstances facing the County of Fresno.

4. [AB 2494, Salas. County of Kern Citizens Redistricting Commission.](#) (CHAPTER 411)

[An act to add Chapter 6.8 (commencing with Section 21570) to Division 21 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.]

Existing law requires the board of supervisors of each county, following each decennial federal census, and using that census as a basis, to adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts of the county so that the districts are substantially equal in population and comply with applicable federal law. Existing law specifies the procedures the board of supervisors must follow in adjusting those boundaries. Existing law establishes the Independent Redistricting Commission in the County of San Diego and the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles, which are charged with adjusting the supervisorial district boundaries for those counties.

This bill would establish the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Kern, which would be charged with adjusting the boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Kern. The commission would consist of 14 members who meet specified qualifications. The bill would require the commission to adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts in accordance with specified criteria and adopt a redistricting plan. By increasing the duties on local officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the County of Kern.

5. [SB 594, Glazer. Elections: redistricting.](#) (CHAPTER 320)

[An act to amend Sections 21500, 21601, and 21621 of, to add Section 22002 to, and to add and repeal Section 22000.1 of, and Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 8160) to Part 1 of Division 8 of, the Elections Code, relating to elections, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.]

(1) (a) The California Constitution establishes the Citizens Redistricting Commission for the purpose of drawing district lines for the election of Members of the State Senate, Assembly, Congress, and the State Board of Equalization, and requires the commission to do so by August 15 in each year ending in the number one thereafter. For redistricting occurring in 2021, the Supreme Court of California, by peremptory writ of mandate in *Legislature of State of California v. Padilla* (2020) 9 Cal.5th 867, extended that deadline to December 15, 2021, or to a later date if specified conditions are met, due to a delay in the release of federal census data caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This bill would, for the June 7, 2022, statewide direct primary election, make various changes, described below, to existing law relating to candidate nominations and compilation of registered voter data in order to accommodate the extended state redistricting deadline. The bill would define “state redistricting deadline” for these purposes to mean the extended deadline established by the Supreme Court of California described above, or that deadline as modified in any subsequent related proceeding. If a subsequent proceeding further modifies the deadline, the bill would require the Secretary of State, within 7 days, to prepare a calendar of key election dates and deadlines and requirements for the nomination of candidates. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2023. By increasing the duties of local elections officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(b) Existing law provides that a person is not eligible to be elected to an elective office unless that person is a registered voter and otherwise qualified to vote for that office at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person.

This bill would provide that a person is not ineligible to be elected to the office of Member of the State Board of Equalization, State Senator, or Member of the Assembly on the ground that the person was not otherwise qualified to vote for the office if, at the time that nomination papers are issued to the person, the person is registered to vote and would be qualified to vote for the office if the person was a resident of, and registered to vote in, the election district from which the office is elected.

(c) Existing law generally requires nomination documents for elective office to be made available to candidates not more than 113 days before the election.

This bill would require those nomination documents to be first available on February 14, 2022, or the 46th day after the state redistricting deadline, whichever is later.

(d) Existing law authorizes a candidate for elective office to submit a petition containing a specified number of signatures in lieu of all or part of the fee for filing nomination papers. Existing law requires the Secretary of State to make forms for securing signatures available to each candidate commencing 60 days before the first day for circulating nomination papers, except as specified, and requires candidates to file in-lieu-filing-fee petitions at least 30 days before the close of the nomination period.

This bill would require the Secretary of State to make those forms available commencing 7 days after the state redistricting deadline, and require in-lieu-filing-fee petitions to be filed not later than February 9, 2022, or 41 days after the state redistricting deadline, whichever is later. The bill would require the elections official to proportionally reduce the required number of signatures for a petition by the same proportion as the reduction in the number of days for a candidate to collect signatures on a petition compared to the number of days specified in existing law for a candidate to collect signatures for a regular election for the same office.

(e) Existing law requires each county elections official to provide the Secretary of State with specified information regarding the number of voters and their party preferences in the county and each supervisorial, Congressional, Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization district in the county on the 135th day before each direct primary election, with respect to all voters who are registered voters on the 154th day before the primary election. Existing law requires the Secretary of State to compile a statewide list of this information within 30 days after receiving it from each county elections official.

This bill would require the Secretary of State to determine, by December 31, 2021, whether it is feasible to include in the statewide list described above the number of voters by party preference in each supervisorial, Congressional, Senate, Assembly, and Board of Equalization district with respect to all voters who are registered voters on the 154th day before the June 7, 2022, statewide direct primary election. If the Secretary of State determines it is not feasible, the bill would not require that information to be included in the information provided by the counties and the compiled statewide list. The bill would require the Secretary of State to prepare a supplemental statewide list showing that information on a date specified by the Secretary of State, but not later than the 88th day before the election.

(f) Existing law requires the Secretary of State, at least 158 days before the statewide direct primary election, to prepare and transmit to each county elections official a notice designating all of the offices, except those of county officers and judges, for which candidates are to be nominated.

This bill would instead require that notice to be transmitted not later than the 6th day after the state redistricting deadline.

(g) Existing law authorizes a candidate for elective office to designate that certain specified words appear below the candidate's name on the ballot, including, among others, the word "incumbent."

This bill would prohibit a candidate for the office of Representative in Congress, Member of the State Board of Equalization, State Senator, or Member of the Assembly from choosing the word "incumbent" as a designation to appear on the ballot. The bill would make conforming changes relating to the deadline for a person to file nomination documents for an office if a current holder of the office does not file nomination documents.

(2) Existing law requires, after each federal decennial census, the board of directors of certain special districts to adjust, by resolution, their division boundaries so that their divisions are equal in population and in compliance with specified requirements, and prohibits those districts from making a change in division boundaries within 180 days preceding the election of any director. Existing law also requires certain special districts that elect their board members from or by divisions to adjust their boundaries before November 1 of the year following the year in which each decennial census is taken.

For district conducting elections in 2022, this bill would, notwithstanding those provisions, require a governing board to adopt adjusted division boundaries no later than April 17, 2022, if the board has a regular election to elect members of its governing board on the same date as the 2022 statewide general election. If the board does not have a regular election on that date, the bill would require the board to adopt adjusted division boundaries prior to 180 days preceding the district's first regular election occurring after January 1, 2022. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2023. The bill would also clarify that the date of adoption of a resolution adjusting division boundaries is the date of passage of the resolution by the board.

(3) Existing law requires counties, general law cities, and charter cities that elect members of their legislative bodies using district-based elections to adopt boundaries for those supervisorial or council districts following each federal decennial census, as specified. Existing law expressly authorizes a city council to adopt district boundaries by resolution or ordinance.

This bill would clarify that "adopting" district boundaries for these purposes means the passage of an ordinance or resolution specifying those boundaries.