

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 1, 2010
AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 18, 2010
AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 6, 2010
AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 11, 2010

SENATE BILL

No. 970

Introduced by Senator Corbett

February 5, 2010

An act to add and repeal Article 6 (commencing with Section 12290) to Chapter 3 of Division 12 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 970, as amended, Corbett. Preelection day voting.

Existing law generally requires voters who wish to vote and who do not cast their ballots by mail to cast their ballot at the precinct polling place on election day.

This bill would ~~require~~ *permit*, until December 31, 2016, the Secretary of State, in conjunction with the county elections officials, to select 2 college campuses, one within the University of California and one within the California State University, to each serve as preelection day polling places for any precinct in the county's jurisdiction during at least one general election. *The bill would require voluntary consent from the local elections official within whose jurisdiction a preelection day voting polling place would be located for preelection day voting to take place in that jurisdiction.* The bill would require that the preelection day polling places be open to receive votes on the 5 business days preceding election day. The bill would require each county elections official who has a preelection day polling place within his or her jurisdiction during an election to report to the Legislature and the

Secretary of State regarding the use of the preelection day voting polling place within 6 months of the date of the election. The Secretary of State would then be required to report to the Legislature regarding an assessment of early voting on college campuses by examining the participation in the program and the costs to the state for implementing the program.

~~Because the bill would increase the duties of elections officials, 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, 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 these statutory provisions.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
 State-mandated local program: *yes-no*.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
 2 following:

3 (a) There is a correlation between preelection day voting and
 4 higher instances of voter turnout.

5 (b) Preelection day voting on college campuses will allow
 6 college students more time to vote and thereby more effectively
 7 manage their busy class schedules.

8 (c) Research findings show that the younger a voter becomes
 9 engaged in the political process, the more likely he or she will
 10 remain an active participant in our democratic system of
 11 government.

12 SEC. 2. Article 6 (commencing with Section 12290) is added
 13 to Chapter 3 of Division 12 of the Elections Code, to read:

14
 15 Article 6. Preelection Day Voting Polling Places on College
 16 Campuses

17
 18 12290. (a) For at least one general election from January 1,
 19 2011, but prior to December 31, 2016, the Secretary of State, in
 20 conjunction with the county elections officials, ~~shall~~ *may* establish

1 preelection day voting polling places on two college campuses in
2 the state, subject to the following conditions:

3 (1) One of the college campuses shall be within the University
4 of California. The campus selected must have at least 20,000
5 registered students at the time of selection.

6 (2) One of the college campuses shall be within the California
7 State University. The campus selected must have at least 13,000
8 registered students at the time of selection.

9 (3) *Preelection day voting shall not take place absent the*
10 *voluntary consent of the local elections official within whose*
11 *jurisdiction a preelection day voting polling place would be*
12 *located.*

13 (b) Each college campus selected to be a preelection day voting
14 polling place shall serve as the polling place for any precinct in
15 the county's jurisdiction.

16 12291. A preelection day voting polling place established
17 pursuant to Section 12290 shall be open during the five business
18 days prior to the date of the election. For each day that the
19 preelection day voting polling place is open to receive votes prior
20 to the date of the election, the provisions of Chapter 1 (commencing
21 with Section 14000), Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 14100),
22 and Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 14200) of Division 14,
23 except Section 14212, shall apply.

24 12292. A preelection day voting polling place may not be
25 established for any election other than a general election as it
26 applies to the pilot program in this article.

27 12293. (a) Each county elections official who has a preelection
28 day voting polling place within his or her jurisdiction during an
29 election shall report to the Legislature and the Secretary of State
30 regarding the election within six months after the date of the
31 election as it applies to the pilot program in this article. This report
32 shall include, at a minimum, statistics regarding the cost of a
33 preelection day voting polling place, the turnout of voters at the
34 preelection day voting polling place, and any problems with
35 preelection day voting polling place voting that has been made
36 known to the elections official.

37 (b) After receiving the reports from the county elections officials
38 pursuant to subdivision (a) but not later than eight months after
39 the date of the election, the Secretary of State shall report to the
40 Legislature regarding an assessment of early voting on college

1 campuses by examining the participation in the program as well
2 as the costs to the state for implementing this article on these two
3 campuses.

4 12294. This article shall remain in effect only until December
5 31, 2016, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted
6 statute, that is enacted before December 31, 2016, deletes or
7 extends that date.

8 ~~SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that~~
9 ~~this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to~~
10 ~~local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made~~
11 ~~pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division~~
12 ~~4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.~~