

Introduced by Senator Yee
(Coauthor: Senator Lieu)
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Gray and Pan)

February 12, 2013

An act to add Section 12289 to the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 240, as introduced, Yee. Polling places: higher education campuses.

(1) Existing law requires elections officials to establish a convenient number of election precincts and designate a polling place for each precinct. Under existing law, the local elections official may request the use of school buildings as polling places.

This bill would, for statewide general elections conducted by a county or city and county, require the county or city and county elections official to establish polling places within each campus of the California State University and the University of California, and would require the elections official to establish polling places within each community college if convenient for voters. The bill would not apply to counties or city and counties that have a population of fewer than 150,000 people. The bill would require the California State University and the California Community Colleges, and request the University of California, to provide access for the use of their campuses as polling places. By requiring county and city and county elections officials to perform new duties, and the California Community Colleges to provide access as polling places, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(2) 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.

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 12289 is added to the Elections Code, to
2 read:

3 12289. (a) For each statewide general election conducted by
4 a county or a city and county, the county or city and county
5 elections official shall do both of the following:

6 (1) Establish at least one polling place within each campus of
7 the California State University and the University of California
8 within the jurisdiction of the county or city and county.

9 (2) Consider establishing at least one polling place within each
10 community college within the jurisdiction of the county or city
11 and county, and establish that polling place if the elections official
12 determines a polling place at the college would be convenient for
13 voters.

14 (b) This section does not only apply to a county or city and
15 county that has a population of fewer than 150,000 people.

16 (c) The California State University and the California
17 Community Colleges shall, and the University of California is
18 requested to, provide access for use of their campuses as polling
19 places. This section does not apply to a campus of the University
20 of California if the campus refuses a request for access of the
21 campus as a polling place.

22 SEC. 2. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that
23 this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to
24 local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made
25 pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division
26 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

O