

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 29, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 547

Introduced by Assembly Member Gonzalez

February 23, 2015

An act to amend Sections 4000.5 and 4004 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 547, as amended, Gonzalez. Elections: special elections: all-mailed ballot elections.

Existing law authorizes, until January 1, 2020, San Diego County to conduct, as a pilot program, an all-mailed ballot special election or special consolidated election to fill a congressional or legislative vacancy under specified conditions. If such an election is conducted, existing law requires San Diego County to report certain information to the Legislature and the Secretary of State regarding the success of the election.

This bill *until January 1, 2021, would authorize San Diego County, or any city, school district, community college district, special district, or other district or political subdivision whose boundaries are located wholly or in part within San Diego County, to conduct an all-mailed ballot special election or special consolidated election to fill a vacancy on the legislative or governing body of those entities. The bill would authorize those entities to also hold an all-mailed ballot special election for county initiatives, city initiatives, district initiatives, bond issues, and school measures conducted pursuant to specified provisions. The*

bill would extend the pilot program for San Diego County until January 1, 2021, and would repeal the condition that that, for a special election to fill a vacancy in a congressional or legislative office, the congressional or legislative district lie wholly within San Diego County. The bill would also require certain voter education workshops to be conducted in-person.

Existing law authorizes cities with a population of less than 100,000 persons, school districts, and special districts to conduct an all-mailed ballot special election to fill a vacancy on the legislative or governing body of those entities under specified conditions.

~~This bill would authorize all cities, regardless of population size, counties, and cities and counties, to also conduct an all-mailed ballot special election to fill a vacancy on the legislative or governing body of those entities under the same conditions. The bill would authorize those entities to also hold all-mailed ballot special elections to be held for county initiatives, city initiatives, for city initiatives and district initiatives conducted pursuant to specified provisions. The bill would make all of these types of special elections subject to the same conditions that apply to the San Diego County pilot program, as specified, except that the entity conducting the special election would not be required to report certain information to the Legislature and the Secretary of State regarding the success of the election.~~

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 4000.5 of the Elections Code is amended
- 2 to read:
- 3 4000.5. (a) Notwithstanding Section 4000 or any other law,
- 4 as a pilot program, an all-mailed ballot special election or special
- 5 consolidated election in San Diego County may be conducted to
- 6 fill a vacancy in a congressional or legislative office if all of the
- 7 following apply: *by an eligible entity if the special election or*
- 8 *special consolidated election is any of the following:*
- 9 (1) *A special election to fill a vacancy in a congressional or*
- 10 *legislative office.*
- 11 (2) *A special election to fill a vacancy in the legislative body*
- 12 *or governing body.*

1 (3) A special election conducted pursuant to Chapter 2
2 (commencing with Section 9100), Chapter 3 (commencing with
3 Section 9200), Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 9300), Chapter
4 5 (commencing with Section 9400), or Chapter 6 (commencing
5 with Section 9500) of Division 9.

6 (b) A special election or special consolidated election described
7 in paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive, of subdivision (a), may be
8 conducted wholly as an all-mailed ballot election if all of the
9 following apply:

10 (1) ~~The~~(A) For a special election to fill a vacancy in a
11 congressional or legislative office, the Board of Supervisors of
12 San Diego County, by resolution, authorizes the use of mailed
13 ballots for the election.

14 (B) For all other special elections the legislative body or
15 governing body of the eligible entity, by resolution, authorizes the
16 use of mailed ballots for the election.

17 (2) The election does not occur on the same date as a statewide
18 direct primary election, statewide general election, or any other
19 election conducted in an overlapping jurisdiction that is not
20 consolidated and conducted wholly by mail.

21 (3) (A) If the boundaries of the ~~congressional or legislative~~
22 ~~district~~ jurisdiction of the eligible entity overlap with the boundaries
23 of a city, at least one ballot dropoff location is provided per city
24 and is open during business hours to receive voted ballots
25 beginning not less than seven days before the date of the election.

26 (B) The number of dropoff locations in unincorporated areas
27 shall be based on the number of unincorporated registered voters
28 divided by 100,000 (rounded to the next whole number) with no
29 less than one location to be selected.

30 (C) A ballot dropoff location provided for under this section
31 shall consist of a locked ballot box located in a secure public
32 building that meets the accessibility requirements for a polling
33 place.

34 (4) On at least one Saturday and Sunday on or after the date the
35 ~~county~~ elections official first delivers ballots to voters, the elections
36 official allows any voter to vote the ballot at a satellite location
37 within the ~~congressional or legislative district~~ jurisdiction of the
38 eligible entity pursuant to Section 3018. The elections official shall
39 determine the hours of operation for each Saturday and Sunday,

1 provided that the satellite location is open to voters for a minimum
2 of six hours on each designated Saturday and Sunday.

3 (5) (A) At least one polling place is provided per ~~city~~ *eligible*
4 *entity* or the polling places are fixed in a manner so that there is
5 one polling place for every 10,000 registered voters within the
6 ~~congressional or legislative district~~, *jurisdiction of the eligible*
7 *entity*, as determined on the 88th day before the day of the election,
8 whichever results in more polling places. A polling place shall
9 allow a voter to request and vote a ballot between 7 a.m. and 8
10 p.m. on the day of the election.

11 (B) The polling places provided under this section shall be
12 established in accordance with the accessibility requirements
13 described in Article 5 (commencing with Section 12280) of Chapter
14 3 of Division 12, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of
15 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), the federal Help America
16 Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), and the federal
17 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), and
18 shall, to the extent possible, ensure that access is evenly distributed
19 throughout the ~~congressional or legislative district~~. *jurisdiction of*
20 *the eligible entity*.

21 (C) The polling places provided under this section shall be
22 established at accessible locations and shall be equipped with
23 voting units or systems that are accessible to individuals with
24 disabilities and that provide the same opportunity for access and
25 participation as is provided to voters who are not disabled,
26 including the ability to vote privately and independently in
27 accordance with Sections 12280 and 19240.

28 (D) If a polling place consolidates one or more precincts for
29 which the ~~county~~ elections official is required to recruit precinct
30 board members who are fluent in a language in addition to English
31 pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec.
32 10101 et seq.), the elections official shall ensure that the polling
33 place is staffed by precinct board members who speak those
34 languages.

35 (E) If a polling place consolidates one or more precincts for
36 which the ~~county~~ elections official is required to recruit precinct
37 board members who are fluent in a language in addition to English
38 pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 12303, the elections official
39 shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the polling place is
40 staffed by precinct board members who speak those languages.

1 (6) (A) The ~~county~~ elections official delivers to each voter all
2 supplies necessary for the use and return of the mail ballot,
3 including an envelope for the return of the voted mail ballot with
4 postage prepaid.

5 (B) The ~~county~~ elections official delivers to each voter, with
6 either the sample ballot sent pursuant to Section 13303 or with the
7 voter's ballot, all of the following:

8 (i) A notice, translated in all languages required under
9 subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and Section 203 of the federal
10 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), that
11 informs voters of all of the following:

12 (I) An all-mailed ballot election is being conducted and each
13 eligible voter will receive a ballot by mail.

14 (II) The voter may cast a ballot in person at a satellite location
15 provided for under paragraph (4) or at a polling place on election
16 day.

17 (III) The voter may request the ~~county~~ elections official to send
18 a vote by mail ballot in a language other than English pursuant to
19 Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C.
20 Sec. 10101 et seq.) or a facsimile copy of the ballot printed in other
21 languages pursuant to Section 14201.

22 (ii) A list of the ballot dropoff locations, satellite locations, and
23 polling places established pursuant to this section. The list shall
24 also be posted on the Internet Web site of the ~~county~~ elections
25 official.

26 (iii) A postage-paid postcard that the voter may return to the
27 ~~county~~ elections official for the purpose of requesting a vote by
28 mail ballot in a language other than English.

29 (7) (A) The ~~county~~ elections official submits to the Secretary
30 of State a voter education and outreach plan to be implemented
31 by the ~~county~~ *eligible entity* for any election conducted pursuant
32 to this section. The voter education and outreach plan shall include,
33 but shall not be limited to, all of the following:

34 (i) One education and outreach meeting that shall include
35 representatives, advocates, and other stakeholders representing
36 each community for which the ~~county~~ *eligible entity* is required
37 to provide voting materials and assistance in other languages under
38 subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights
39 Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

- 1 (ii) One education and outreach meeting that shall include
- 2 representatives from community organizations and individuals
- 3 that advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, individuals with
- 4 disabilities.
- 5 (iii) At least one in-person bilingual voter education workshop
- 6 for each language in which the ~~county~~ *eligible entity* is required
- 7 to provide voting materials and assistance under subdivision (c)
- 8 of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52
- 9 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).
- 10 (iv) At least one in-person voter education workshop to increase
- 11 accessibility for participation of eligible voters with disabilities.
- 12 (v) A toll-free voter assistance hotline maintained by the ~~county~~
- 13 elections official that shall be operational no later than the date
- 14 that vote by mail ballots are mailed to voters until 5 p.m. on the
- 15 day after the special election. The toll-free voter assistance hotline
- 16 shall provide assistance to voters in all languages in which the
- 17 ~~county~~ *eligible entity* is required to provide voting materials and
- 18 assistance under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal
- 19 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).
- 20 (vi) At least one public service announcement in the media,
- 21 including newspapers, radio, and television, that serve
- 22 English-speaking citizens for purposes of informing voters of the
- 23 upcoming election and promoting the toll-free voter assistance
- 24 hotline.
- 25 (vii) At least one public service announcement in the media,
- 26 including newspapers, radio, and television, that serve
- 27 non-English-speaking citizens for each language in which the
- 28 ~~county~~ *eligible entity* is required to provide voting materials and
- 29 assistance under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal
- 30 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.) for
- 31 purposes of informing voters of the upcoming election and
- 32 promoting the toll-free voter assistance hotline.
- 33 (viii) A voter education social media strategy that is developed
- 34 in partnership with community organizations and individuals that
- 35 advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, non-English-speaking
- 36 individuals and individuals with disabilities.
- 37 (B) The voter education and outreach plan shall be posted on
- 38 the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State and on the Internet
- 39 Web site of the ~~county~~ elections official.
- 40 (b)

1 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the election
2 day procedures shall be conducted in accordance with Division
3 14 (commencing with Section 14000).

4 ~~(e)~~

5 (d) The ~~county~~ elections official may provide, at his or her
6 discretion, additional ballot dropoff locations and polling places
7 for purposes of this section.

8 ~~(d)~~

9 (e) The return of voted mail ballots is subject to Sections 3017
10 and 3020.

11 ~~(e)~~

12 (f) (1) If the ~~county~~ *eligible entity* conducts a special election
13 pursuant to this section, it may process vote by mail ballot return
14 envelopes beginning 29 days before the election. Processing vote
15 by mail ballot return envelopes may include verifying the voter's
16 signature on the vote by mail ballot return envelope and updating
17 voter history records.

18 (2) If the ~~county~~ *eligible entity* conducts a special election
19 pursuant to this section, it may start to process vote by mail ballots
20 on the 10th business day before the election. Processing vote by
21 mail ballots includes opening vote by mail ballot return envelopes,
22 removing ballots, duplicating any damaged ballots, and preparing
23 the ballots to be machine read, or machine reading them, but under
24 no circumstances shall a vote count be accessed or released until
25 8 p.m. on the day of the election.

26 ~~(f)~~

27 (g) Results of any vote by mail ballot tabulation or count shall
28 not be released before the close of the polls on the day of the
29 election.

30 ~~(g)~~

31 (h) For the sole purpose of reporting the results of an election
32 conducted pursuant to this section, upon completion of the ballot
33 count, the ~~county~~ elections official shall divide the jurisdiction
34 into precincts pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section
35 12220) of Chapter 3 of Division 12 and shall prepare a statement
36 of the results of the election in accordance with Sections 15373
37 and 15374.

38 ~~(h)~~

39 (i) The ~~county~~ elections official shall compile an index, list, or
40 file of all persons who voted in an election conducted pursuant to

1 this section. If the elections official uses data-processing equipment
2 to compile the index, list, or file, he or she shall retain an accurate
3 copy of that index, list, or file in electronic format for a period of
4 10 years.

5 (i)

6 (j) (1) If an election is conducted pursuant to this section, ~~San~~
7 ~~Diego County~~ *the eligible entity* shall report to the Legislature and
8 to the Secretary of State regarding the success of the election,
9 including, but not limited to, all of the following:

10 (A) Any statistics on the cost to conduct the election.

11 (B) The turnout of different populations, including, but not
12 limited to and to the extent possible, the population categories of
13 race, ethnicity, language preference, age, gender, disability,
14 permanent vote by mail status, and political party preference.

15 (C) The number of ballots that were not counted and the reasons
16 they were rejected.

17 (D) Voter fraud.

18 (E) Any other problems that become known to the ~~county~~
19 *eligible entity* during the election or canvass.

20 (2) Whenever possible, using the criteria set forth in paragraph
21 (1), the report shall compare the election conducted pursuant to
22 this section to similar elections not conducted pursuant to this
23 section in the same jurisdiction or comparable jurisdictions.

24 (3) Within six months after the date of the election or before
25 the date of a subsequent election conducted pursuant to this section,
26 whichever is sooner, ~~San Diego County~~ *the eligible entity* shall do
27 all of the following with respect to the report required by this
28 subdivision:

29 (A) Submit the report to the Legislature in compliance with
30 Section 9795 of the Government Code.

31 (B) Submit the report to the Secretary of State.

32 (C) Post the report on the Internet Web site of the ~~county~~
33 elections official.

34 (k) *For purposes of this section, “eligible entity” means both*
35 *of the following:*

36 (1) *San Diego County.*

37 (2) *A city, school district, community college district, special*
38 *district, or other district or political subdivision organized pursuant*
39 *to state law, whose boundaries are located wholly or in part within*
40 *San Diego County.*

1 (j)
 2 (l) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, ~~2020,~~
 3 ~~2021~~, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute,
 4 that is enacted before January 1, ~~2020,~~ ~~2021~~, deletes or extends
 5 that date.

6 SEC. 2. Section 4004 of the Elections Code is amended to read:
 7 4004. (a) “*Small city*” means a city with a population of
 8 100,000 or less, as determined by the annual city total population
 9 rankings by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department
 10 of Finance.

11 (a)
 12 (b) “Eligible entity” means a ~~city, county, city and county,~~
 13 ~~school district, or school district or a special district.~~

14 (b)
 15 (c) Notwithstanding Sections 1500 and 4000, an election in an
 16 eligible entity may be conducted wholly as an all-mailed ballot
 17 election, subject to the following conditions:

18 (1) The legislative body *of the small city* or governing body of
 19 the eligible entity, by resolution, authorizes the use of mailed
 20 ballots for the election.

21 (2) The election is either of the following:
 22 (A) A special election to fill a vacancy in the legislative body
 23 or governing body.

24 (B) A special election conducted pursuant to ~~Chapter 2~~
 25 ~~(commencing with Section 9100),~~ Chapter 3 (commencing with
 26 ~~Section 9200),~~ 9200) or Chapter 4 (commencing with Section
 27 9300) of Division 9.

28 (3) The election is not held on the same date as a statewide
 29 primary or general election, ~~or any other election conducted in an~~
 30 ~~overlapping jurisdiction that is not consolidated and conducted~~
 31 ~~wholly by mail.~~ *election.*

32 (4) *The election is not consolidated with any other election,*
 33 ~~except another special election.~~

34 (5) *The return of voted mail ballots is subject to Section 3017.*

35 (4) (A) ~~If the boundaries of the jurisdiction of the eligible entity~~
 36 ~~overlap with the boundaries of a city, at least one ballot dropoff~~
 37 ~~location is provided per city and is open during business hours to~~
 38 ~~receive voted ballots beginning not less than seven days before~~
 39 ~~the date of the election.~~

1 ~~(B) The number of dropoff locations in unincorporated areas~~
2 ~~shall be based on the number of unincorporated registered voters~~
3 ~~divided by 100,000 (rounded to the next whole number) with no~~
4 ~~less than one location to be selected.~~

5 ~~(C) A ballot dropoff location provided for under this section~~
6 ~~shall consist of a locked ballot box located in a secure public~~
7 ~~building that meets the accessibility requirements for a polling~~
8 ~~place.~~

9 ~~(5) On at least one Saturday and Sunday on or after the date the~~
10 ~~elections official first delivers ballots to voters, the elections official~~
11 ~~allows any voter to vote the ballot at a satellite location within the~~
12 ~~jurisdiction of the eligible entity pursuant to Section 3018. The~~
13 ~~elections official shall determine the hours of operation for each~~
14 ~~Saturday and Sunday, provided that the satellite location is open~~
15 ~~to voters for a minimum of six hours on each designated Saturday~~
16 ~~and Sunday.~~

17 ~~(6) (A) At least one polling place is provided per eligible entity~~
18 ~~or the polling places are fixed in a manner so that there is one~~
19 ~~polling place for every 10,000 registered voters within the~~
20 ~~jurisdiction of the eligible entity, as determined on the 88th day~~
21 ~~before the day of the election, whichever results in more polling~~
22 ~~places. A polling place shall allow a voter to request and vote a~~
23 ~~ballot between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. on the day of the election.~~

24 ~~(B) The polling places provided under this section shall be~~
25 ~~established in accordance with the accessibility requirements~~
26 ~~described in Article 5 (commencing with Section 12280) of Chapter~~
27 ~~3 of Division 12, the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of~~
28 ~~1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), the federal Help America~~
29 ~~Vote Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 20901 et seq.), and the federal~~
30 ~~Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), and~~
31 ~~shall, to the extent possible, ensure that access is evenly distributed~~
32 ~~throughout the eligible entity.~~

33 ~~(C) The polling places provided under this section shall be~~
34 ~~established at accessible locations and shall be equipped with~~
35 ~~voting units or systems that are accessible to individuals with~~
36 ~~disabilities and that provide the same opportunity for access and~~
37 ~~participation as is provided to voters who are not disabled,~~
38 ~~including the ability to vote privately and independently in~~
39 ~~accordance with Sections 12280 and 19240.~~

1 ~~(D) If a polling place consolidates one or more precincts for~~
2 ~~which the elections official is required to recruit precinct board~~
3 ~~members who are fluent in a language in addition to English~~
4 ~~pursuant to the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec.~~
5 ~~10101 et seq.), the elections official shall ensure that the polling~~
6 ~~place is staffed by precinct board members who speak those~~
7 ~~languages.~~

8 ~~(E) If a polling place consolidates one or more precincts for~~
9 ~~which the elections official is required to recruit precinct board~~
10 ~~members who are fluent in a language in addition to English~~
11 ~~pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 12303, the elections official~~
12 ~~shall make reasonable efforts to ensure that the polling place is~~
13 ~~staffed by precinct board members who speak those languages.~~

14 ~~(7) (A) The elections official delivers to each voter all supplies~~
15 ~~necessary for the use and return of the mail ballot, including an~~
16 ~~envelope for the return of the voted mail ballot with postage~~
17 ~~prepaid.~~

18 ~~(B) The elections official delivers to each voter, with either the~~
19 ~~sample ballot sent pursuant to Section 13303 or with the voter's~~
20 ~~ballot, all of the following:~~

21 ~~(i) A notice, translated in all languages required under~~
22 ~~subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and Section 203 of the federal~~
23 ~~Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.), that~~
24 ~~informs voters of all of the following:~~

25 ~~(I) An all-mailed ballot election is being conducted and each~~
26 ~~eligible voter will receive a ballot by mail.~~

27 ~~(II) The voter may cast a ballot in person at a satellite location~~
28 ~~provided for under paragraph (5) or at a polling place on election~~
29 ~~day.~~

30 ~~(III) The voter may request the elections official to send a vote~~
31 ~~by mail ballot in a language other than English pursuant to Section~~
32 ~~203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101~~
33 ~~et seq.) or a facsimile copy of the ballot printed in other languages~~
34 ~~pursuant to Section 14201.~~

35 ~~(ii) A list of the ballot dropoff locations, satellite locations, and~~
36 ~~polling places established pursuant to this section. The list shall~~
37 ~~also be posted on the Internet Web site of the elections official.~~

38 ~~(iii) A postage-paid postcard that the voter may return to the~~
39 ~~elections official for the purpose of requesting a vote by mail ballot~~
40 ~~in a language other than English.~~

- 1 ~~(8) (A) The elections official submits to the Secretary of State~~
2 ~~a voter education and outreach plan to be implemented by the~~
3 ~~eligible entity for any election conducted pursuant to this section.~~
4 ~~The voter education and outreach plan shall include, but shall not~~
5 ~~be limited to, all of the following:~~
- 6 ~~(i) One education and outreach meeting that shall include~~
7 ~~representatives, advocates, and other stakeholders representing~~
8 ~~each community for which the eligible entity is required to provide~~
9 ~~voting materials and assistance in other languages under~~
10 ~~subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting Rights~~
11 ~~Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).~~
- 12 ~~(ii) One education and outreach meeting that shall include~~
13 ~~representatives from community organizations and individuals~~
14 ~~that advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, individuals with~~
15 ~~disabilities.~~
- 16 ~~(iii) At least one in-person bilingual voter education workshop~~
17 ~~for each language in which the eligible entity is required to provide~~
18 ~~voting materials and assistance under subdivision (c) of Section~~
19 ~~14201 and the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec.~~
20 ~~10101 et seq.).~~
- 21 ~~(iv) At least one in-person voter education workshop to increase~~
22 ~~accessibility for participation of eligible voters with disabilities.~~
- 23 ~~(v) A toll-free voter assistance hotline maintained by the~~
24 ~~elections official that shall be operational no later than the date~~
25 ~~that vote by mail ballots are mailed to voters until 5 p.m. on the~~
26 ~~day after the special election. The toll-free voter assistance hotline~~
27 ~~shall provide assistance to voters in all languages in which the city~~
28 ~~or district is required to provide voting materials and assistance~~
29 ~~under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting~~
30 ~~Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).~~
- 31 ~~(vi) At least one public service announcement in the media,~~
32 ~~including newspapers, radio, and television, that serve~~
33 ~~English-speaking citizens for purposes of informing voters of the~~
34 ~~upcoming election and promoting the toll-free voter assistance~~
35 ~~hotline.~~
- 36 ~~(vii) At least one public service announcement in the media,~~
37 ~~including newspapers, radio, and television, that serve~~
38 ~~non-English-speaking citizens for each language in which the city~~
39 ~~or district is required to provide voting materials and assistance~~
40 ~~under subdivision (c) of Section 14201 and the federal Voting~~

1 Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.) for purposes of
2 informing voters of the upcoming election and promoting the
3 toll-free voter assistance hotline.

4 (viii) ~~A voter education social media strategy that is developed
5 in partnership with community organizations and individuals that
6 advocate on behalf of, or provide services to, non-English-speaking
7 individuals and individuals with disabilities.~~

8 (B) ~~The voter education and outreach plan shall be posted on
9 the Internet Web site of the Secretary of State and on the Internet
10 Web site of the elections official.~~

11 (e) ~~Except as otherwise provided in this section, the election
12 day procedures shall be conducted in accordance with Division
13 14 (commencing with Section 14000).~~

14 (d) ~~The elections official may provide, at his or her discretion,
15 additional ballot dropoff locations and polling places for purposes
16 of this section.~~

17 (e) ~~The return of voted mail ballots is subject to Sections 3017
18 and 3020.~~

19 (f) (1) ~~If the eligible entity conducts a special election pursuant
20 to this section, it may process vote by mail ballot return envelopes
21 beginning 29 days before the election. Processing vote by mail
22 ballot return envelopes may include verifying the voter's signature
23 on the vote by mail ballot return envelope and updating voter
24 history records.~~

25 (2) ~~If the eligible entity conducts a special election pursuant to
26 this section, it may start to process vote by mail ballots on the 10th
27 business day before the election. Processing vote by mail ballots
28 includes opening vote by mail ballot return envelopes, removing
29 ballots, duplicating any damaged ballots, and preparing the ballots
30 to be machine read, or machine reading them, but under no
31 circumstances shall a vote count be accessed or released until 8
32 p.m. on the day of the election.~~

33 (g) ~~Results of a vote by mail ballot tabulation or count shall not
34 be released before the close of the polls on the day of the election.~~

35 (h) ~~For the sole purpose of reporting the results of an election
36 conducted pursuant to this section, upon completion of the ballot
37 count, the elections official shall divide the jurisdiction into
38 precincts pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 12220)
39 of Chapter 3 of Division 12 and shall prepare a statement of the~~

1 results of the election in accordance with Sections 15373 and
2 15374.
3 (i) The elections official shall compile an index, list, or file of
4 all persons who voted in an election conducted pursuant to this
5 section. If the elections official uses data-processing equipment
6 to compile the index, list, or file, he or she shall retain an accurate
7 copy of that index, list, or file in electronic format for a period of
8 10 years.