

Introduced by Senator Block

February 25, 2015

An act to relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 437, as introduced, Block. California Voting Rights Act of 2001.

The California Voting Rights Act of 2001 (CVRA) prohibits the use of an at-large election in a political subdivision if it would impair the ability of a protected class, as defined, to elect candidates of its choice or otherwise influence the outcome of an election. The CVRA provides that a violation of the act is established if it is shown that racially polarized voting, as defined, has occurred, and requires that the occurrence of racially polarized voting be determined from examining the results of elections in which at least one candidate is a member of a protected class or elections involving ballot measures or other electoral choices that affect the rights and privileges of members of a protected class.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that ensures that elections held in California comply with the requirements of the act.

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. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact
- 2 legislation that ensures that elections held in California comply
- 3 with the requirements of the California Voting Rights Act of 2001.

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