
THIRD READING

Bill No: SB 1430
Author: Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments
Amended: 4/8/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 4/21/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SUBJECT: Elections

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill conforms the Education Code and the Elections Code to provide the same 125-day deadline to adopt a resolution specifying the date and the purpose of an election and requires the resolution to be delivered to the county superintendent of schools and the officer conducting the election.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires, pursuant to the Education Code, when an election for governing board members of a school district or community college district is ordered, the governing board of the district, or the board or officer authorized by law to make such designations, to adopt a resolution specifying the date and the purpose of the election. The resolution must be delivered, not fewer than 123 days before the election, to the county superintendent of schools and the officer conducting the election.
- 2) Requires, pursuant to the Elections Code, on the 125th day prior to the day fixed for the general district election, the secretary of the governing body or a person designated by them, to deliver a notice to the county elections official.

This bill:

- 1) Conforms the Education Code and the Elections Code to have the same 125-day deadline to adopt a resolution specifying the date and the purpose of the election and require the resolution to be delivered to the county superintendent of schools and the officer conducting the election.
- 2) Makes technical and clarifying changes.

Background

Voter's Choice Act. SB 450 (Allen, Chapter 832, Statutes of 2016) created the California Voter's Choice Act (VCA). The VCA, among many other changes, created vote centers. At least one vote center has to be open for every 50,000 registered voters from the 10th day to the fourth day prior to the election. Counties that opt into the VCA must have vote centers open 10 days prior to Election Day and through Election Day.

Comments

Committee Bill. This bill is one of the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments' committee bills and makes changes to the Elections and Education codes. This bill contains changes requested by the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials and by committee staff.

Same Day Deadline. When a general district election is called, on the 125th day prior to the election, a notice of the election is delivered to the county elections official. When a school board calls an election for governing board members, on the 123rd day prior to the election the resolution is to be delivered to the county superintendent of schools and the elections official. The two days make a difference when it comes to preparing notices and getting things ready for nominations. This bill conforms the Elections Code and Education Code to have the same 125-day deadline.

Clarifying Changes. Current language in the Elections Code covers how public buildings and school buildings should operate as polling places and vote centers. After the passage of SB 450, which took effect in 2018, election officials had a difficult time finding public buildings that could be used as vote centers for 10 days. AB 2540 (Mullin, Chapter 343, Statutes of 2018) thus required public and school buildings to serve as vote centers if requested by election officials. As AB 2540 added the word vote centers into the code section, the language became more complicated and confusing, such as making it seem like schools used as vote centers could be closed for 10 days. This bill rewrites the code section to clarify

how schools and public buildings should operate when used as polling places or vote centers.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/21/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/21/26)

None received

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