

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1432
Author: Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments
Amended: 6/18/26
Vote: 27

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 4/21/26

AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SENATE FLOOR: 36-0, 5/7/26 (Consent)

AYES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Grayson, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Gonzalez, Grove, Niello

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 8/13/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Political Reform Act of 1974

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the Fair Political Practices Commission (FFPC) to have greater flexibility in classifying nonclerical positions, expands the state offices for which a candidate must file their statement of intention online or electronically with the Secretary of State (SOS) to include judicial offices, and increases the minimum text size of a required statement to 10-point Roman boldface type.

Assembly Amendments removed a provision of this bill that made a technical amendment to the Political Reform Act (PRA) and placed that provision into SB 1175 (Rubio) of 2026.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

- 1) Prohibits the FPPC from including a nonclerical position in the same class in the civil service classification plan with any position of any other department or agency.
- 2) Requires, before becoming a candidate for a specific office, an individual to file a statement of intention to be a candidate, signed under penalty of perjury. An individual who intends to be a candidate for elective state office must file the statement of intention online or electronically with the SOS.
- 3) Requires, specified individuals who have to report activity expenses, when sending any written or printed invitation to an elected state officer, candidate for elective state office, legislative official, or agency official, to include on the invitation or on a letter attached to the invitation a printed or handwritten statement that is at least as large and readable as 8-point Roman boldface type, in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. The statement shall read:

“Attendance at this event by a public official will constitute acceptance of a reportable gift.”

This bill:

- 1) Allows the FPPC to include a nonclerical position in a class in the civil service classification plan that is separate and distinct from any other position of any other department or agency.
- 2) Expands the state offices for which candidates must file their statement of intention online or electronically with the SOS to include judicial offices.
- 3) Increases the font size on required statements, described in 3) of existing law, to 10-point Roman boldface type.

Background

Political Reform Act. Proposition 9, which appeared on the June 1974 ballot, created the PRA and established California’s campaign finance and disclosure laws for state and local campaigns, candidates, officeholders, and ballot measures. Proposition 9 created the FPPC to implement, administer, and enforce the PRA.

Under the PRA individuals who intend to be candidates for elective state office must file a statement of intention, Form 501, online or electronically with the SOS. Under the PRA, an “elective state office” includes office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Insurance Commissioner, Controller, SOS, Treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Member of the Legislature, member elected to the Board of Administration of the Public Employees’ Retirement System, member elected to the Teachers’ Retirement Board, and member of the State Board of Equalization.

Separately, all candidates, and elected officers and their controlled committees, as specified, must file campaign statements with the SOS.

Comments

Committee Bill. This bill is one of the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments’ committee bills. This bill contains changes requested by the FPPC and by committee staff.

Personnel Classification Plan. The California Personnel Classification Plan, which is administered by CALHR and the State Personnel Board, is a framework that groups state civil service positions into classes. The allocation of the position into a class is based on the duties and responsibilities of the position. Positions are included in the same class if the positions are sufficiently similar so the duties and responsibilities can use the same descriptive title, the positions have the same requirements for education, experience, knowledge, and the current position holder has the ability to perform the duties, the positions require the same tests of fitness, and the same schedule of compensation can be made to apply with equity.

According to FPPC staff, current law prevents them from using any statewide classifications for nonclerical positions. The proposed language would give the FPPC the option to use statewide classifications that align with the duties and responsibilities of FPPC specific positions, to support a more efficient hiring process and cost-effective exam administration.

Most of the FPPC’s positions can be standardized with other positions in the state classification system, but some specialized positions, such as Political Reform Consultant II, require flexibility allowing the FPPC to mandate knowledge and expertise of the PRA for that position.

Current Form 501. Under the PRA, judicial candidates are not included in the definition of an “elective state officer.” Therefore, no statute requires judicial candidates to file their Form 501 with the SOS. Judicial candidates, however, are

required to file campaign reports with the SOS. Currently, judicial candidates already file with the SOS, as the Form 501 mandates every candidate to do so. This bill would make it explicit in statute that judicial candidates must file their Form 501 with the SOS.

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

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations:

- 1) Minor and absorbable costs to the Department of Human Resources, which oversees civil service job classifications.
- 2) Minor and absorbable costs to the FPPC to conform positions with statewide classifications and update event invitation disclaimer requirements.
- 3) Minor and absorbable costs to the SOS to continue receiving statements of intention from judicial candidates online or electronically.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/13/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/13/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 8/13/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Berman, Bonta, Flora, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz

Prepared by: Rida Shaikh / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/14/26 17:04:29

**** END ****