

AB 205

CC-18

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

June 16, 1982

**COUNCIL OPPOSES
AB2400 (SHER) MAIL
BALLOT ELECTIONS**

As requested by the Council, a report concerning AB 2400 (Sher) Mail Ballot Elections was placed on the Agenda by the City Clerk. City Clerk Reimche apprised the Council that on March 17, 1982, the Lodi City Council by a 3 to 2 vote adopted Resolution No. 82-24 endorsing this bill. Because a Council-matic Election has been held in Lodi since the original endorsement, City Clerk Reimche asked the Council for an expression of their support or opposition to this bill. Provisions of the bill were then highlighted for the benefit of the Council by City Clerk Reimche.

On motion of Council Member Olson, Pinkerton second, Council opposed AB 2400 (Sher) - Mail Ballot Elections and directed the City Clerk to so advise Senator John Garamendi, State Committee on Elections and Reapportionment. The motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Council Members - Murphy, Olson,
Pinkerton and
Snider

Noes: Council Members - Reid

Absent: Council Members - None

CITY COUNCIL

FRED M. REID, Mayor
ROBERT G. MURPHY,
Mayor Pro Tempore
EVELYN M. OLSON
JAMES W. PINKERTON, Jr.
JOHN R. (Randy) SNIDER

CITY OF LODI

CITY HALL, 221 WEST PINE STREET
POST OFFICE BOX 320
LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241
(209) 334-5634

HENRY A. GLAVES, Jr.
City Manager
ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk
RONALD M. STEIN
City Attorney

June 18, 1982

Mr. Clark Goecker
League of California Cities
1400 K Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Clark:

Please be advised that the Lodi City Council in action taken at its regular meeting of June 16, 1982 rescinded its earlier action of support of AB 2400 (Sher) - Mail Ballot Elections.

The earlier action was passed in March prior to our Councilmatic Election by a three to two vote. Three new Council members were elected in April and last night rescinding vote carried by 4 to 1.

I have been directed to apprise Senator Garamendi; State Committee on Elections and Reapportionment of Council's action in this matter.

Very truly yours,

Alice
Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

AMR/lf



League of California Cities

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1982 JUN -4 AM 9:03
Sacramento, California
June 1, 1982

ALICE M. REIMCHE
CITY CLERK
CITY OF LODI

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City Manager, Salinas
John F. Doyle
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Diane Feinstein
Mayor, San Francisco
George P. Ferrone
Finance Director, Anaheim
Thelma J. Gomez
Vice Mayor, Tulare
Janet Gray Hayes
Mayor, San Jose
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Irene Weinreb
Mayor, Hayward
Lionel Wilson
Mayor, Oakland
Pete Wilson
Mayor, San Diego
Duane Winters
Council Member, Fullerton

Alice Reimche
City Clerk
City of Lodi
221 West Pine Street
Lodi, CA 95240

Dear Alice:

Thank you for agreeing to coordinate efforts locally to gain legislative support of AB 2400 (Sher) - mail ballot elections.

As you may know, AB 2400 (copy enclosed) has passed out the the Assembly and is now scheduled to be heard in the Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment in the near future.

It is extremely important that the Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment hear from city officials urging support of this permissive legislation. We have enclosed a brief fact sheet on the bill.

Senator Garamendi is a member of the Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment. Cities within the Senator's district (see attached) should immediately contact him regarding this legislation. Contact should be both by telephone and letter, and from the city council or mayor, the city clerk and other local constituents who support this type of legislation, i.e., League of Women Voters, Chamber of Commerce, local newspaper editorial.

Please request copies of all correspondence be directed to the League's Sacramento office. Many thanks for your help in securing passage of AB 2400. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Clark Goecker
Assistant Director

CG:ft

cc: Pam Swift, City Clerk, Pasadena, and Second Vice President, City Clerks Association of California

June 8, 1982

Senator John Garamendi
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Garamendi:

We urge your support of AB 2400 (Sher)- mail ballot elections
AB 2400 -

Key Points of the Bill:

1) Limited to Special Elections

Those elections that are more costly to the city
and traditionally have low voter turnout

2) All signatures verified

A greater safeguard against fraud than currently
exists in a polling place election

3) All undelivered ballots returned

Ballots that cannot be delivered to the registered
voter are required to be returned to the
jurisdiction conducting the election.

4) Sanctions against coercion, corruption and fraud

The Election Code, currently provides the
necessary sanctions against coercion, corruption
and fraud to safeguard the integrity of the
election process.

Very truly yours,

Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

June 8, 1982

Senator John Garamendi
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Garamendi:

The City Council of the City of Lodi urges your support of AB 2400 (Sher)- mail ballot elections

AB 2400 -

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Very truly yours,

Fred M. Reid
Mayor



League of California Cities

Sacramento, California
May 4, 1982

TO:

FROM: CLARK GOECKER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: AB 2400 (SHER, L. STIRLING) - MAIL BALLOT

AB 2400 is permissive legislation authorizing cities to conduct special elections by mail for the purpose of reducing election costs while increasing voter turnout.

AB 2400 is an extension of existing procedures. The mail ballot election process is the same used for absentee ballots in cities, and is currently authorized for use by all special districts.

AB 2400 includes specific requirements to safeguard the election process.

Key Points of the Bill:

- (1) Limited to Special Elections
 - Those elections that are more costly to the city and traditionally have low voter turnout.
- (2) All signatures verified
 - A greater safeguard against fraud than currently exists in a polling place election.
- (3) All undelivered ballots returned
 - Ballots that cannot be delivered to the registered voter are required to be returned to the jurisdiction conducting the election.
- (4) Sanctions against coercion, corruption and fraud
 - The Election Code currently provides the necessary sanctions against coercion, corruption and fraud to safeguard the integrity of the election process.

Election by mail should not be confused with voter registration by mail. AB 2400 expands upon existing procedures to ensure the integrity of the election process.

The possibility of voter fraud appears to be the chief concern of those objecting to mail ballot elections. AB 2400 contains the requirement for 100% verification of signatures--something not done at a polling place election--and the requirement for returning all undelivered ballots. We believe these requirements will alleviate concerns regarding fraud.

HEADQUARTERS

1400 K STREET SACRAMENTO 95814
(916) 444-5790

. OVER

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION OFFICE
HOTEL CLAREMONT, BERKELEY 94705
(415) 843-3083

FEDERAL AFFAIRS OFFICE
1301 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. N.W. SUITE 600 WASHINGTON D.C. 20004
(202) 626-3108

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA OFFICE
900 MILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 702, LOS ANGELES 90017
(213) 624-4934

The experience to date suggests that the mail ballot election is a workable, cost-effective procedure to maximize voter participation.

We ask your support of AB 2400 (Sher, L. Stirling)

Partial List of those Supporting AB 2400.

City of San Diego
City of Roseville
City of Pacific Grove
Culver City
City of Duarte
City of Concord
City of Palo Alto
City of Rancho Cucamonga
City of Westminster
City of Walnut Creek
City of Huntington Beach
City of Modesto
City of Napa
Foster City
City of Santa Barbara
City of Lodi
City of Rohnert Park
City of Pinole
County Clerks Association
City Clerks Association of California
League of California Cities

Senate Committee on Elections and Reapportionment

Boatwright (Chair)

Hercules, Antioch, Pinole, Pittsburg, Brentwood, Concord, Pleasant Hill, Clayton, Walnut Creek, Richmond, San Pablo, El Cerrito, Martinez.

Craven (Vice-Chair)

Del Mar, Oceanside, Carlsbad, San Marcos, Vista, Escondido.

Campbell

Brea, Industry, Covina, West Covina, La Habra, La Habra Heights, Walnut, Whittier, Irvine, Yorba Linda, San Juan Capistrano, La Mirada.

Ellis

El Cajon, La Mesa, El Centro, Coronado, Brawley, Calipatria, Calexico, Imperial, Westmorland, Holtville.

Garamendi

Galt, Folsom, Stockton, Lodi, Escalon, Tracy, Isleton, Ione, Senora, Angels Camp, Amador, Sutter Creek, Jackson, Plymouth.

Greene

Lakewood, Bell Gardens, Compton, South Gate, Bell, Cudahy, Huntington Park.

Montoya

Alhambra, Pico Rivera, Monterey Park, Montebello, Irwindale, South El Monte, Industry, La Puente, Rosemead, San Gabriel, Baldwin Park, El Monte.

Consultant: Melanie Adams-Darling, Senior Consultant, Room 4085

CITY COUNCIL

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and fraud to safeguard the integrity of the
election process.

Very truly yours,

Alice M. Reimche
City Clerk

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

TO: THE CITY COUNCIL
FROM: THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

DATE
June 16, 1982

NO.

SUBJECT:

AB2400 (Sher) - Mail Ballot Elections

As requested by Council, AB 2400 (Sher) - mail ballot elections has been placed on the agenda for Council consideration.

On March 17, 1982, the Lodi City Council by a 3 to 2 vote adopted Resolution No. 82-24 endorsing this bill.

AB 2400 is permissive legislation authorizing cities to conduct special elections by mail for the purpose of reducing election costs while increasing voter turnout.

Key points to the Bill are as follows:

1) Limited to Special Elections

Those elections that are more costly to the City and traditionally have low voter turnout

2) All signatures verified

A greater safeguard against fraud that currently exists in a polling place election

3) All undelivered ballots returned

Ballots that cannot be delivered to the registered voter are required to be returned to the jurisdiction conducting the election.

4) Sanctions against coercion, corruption and fraud

The Election Code, currently provides the necessary sanctions against coercion, corruption and fraud to safeguard the integrity of the election process.

The League of California Cities is supportive of this Bill and has asked the City of Lodi to forward its endorsement to Senator Garamendi, State Committee on Elections and Reapportionment.

Because a Councilmatic Election has been held in our City since the original endorsement, I am asking that Council give me an expression of their support or opposition to this Bill.


ALICE M. REIMCHE
City Clerk