

# County Ballot Measure Written Argument Guide



Prepared by:  
**Candace J. Grubbs**  
**County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters**  
Hall of Records  
155 Nelson Avenue, Oroville CA 95965-3411  
(530) 552-3400  
(800) 894-7761 within Butte County  
Fax: (530) 538-6853  
<http://buttevotes.net>

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This guide was developed in an effort to provide general information regarding running for elective office. It is for general information only and does not have the force and effect of law, regulation or rule. In the case of conflict, the law, regulation or rule will apply. It is distributed with the understanding that the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters is not rendering legal advice and, therefore, this guide is not to be a substitute for legal counsel for the individual, organization or committee using it. Persons using this guide must bear full responsibility to make their own determinations as to all legal standards and duties. For information regarding municipal offices, please contact your City/Town Clerk's Office.

# Measure Letter Assignment

## Letter Designation

All measures have a letter designation. This designation will be printed in the county voter information guide and on the official ballot.

All letter assignments are made by the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters. The assignment will not take place before E-88 (refer to Calendar of Events for exact date). California Elections Code section 13116

The County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters shall determine if the alphabetical sequence will start over on January 1 of each even numbered year and continue through the succeeding odd numbered year, or continue sequentially until it is determined that the alphabetical sequence shall restart. When the period is complete, all leftover letters will remain unused. Each new lettering period begins with the letter "A".

It is general office policy to not use the following letters:

- "F" Some associate this to "Fail"
- "I" Some associate this with the numeral "One"

The Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division does not permit any requests for letter changes.

The Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division does not permit any requests for a specific letter assignment.

## Measures that include More Than One County

For districts that overlap into multiple counties, the county with the largest number of registered voters will act as the lead county. The lead county is responsible for corresponding with the district and providing all correspondence to each county, assigning the measure letter, and filing the arguments and supplying them to all affected counties.

Please note: all counties will use the same measure letter to prevent voter confusion. The letter assignment may not be in alphabetical order.

## Order of Measures on the Ballot

Measures will appear on the ballot in the following order pursuant to California Elections Code section 13109: College, Unified School District, High School District, Elementary School District, County, City, District. In order to allow for the most efficient use of space, the County may vary the order of the measures.

# General Information for Writing an Argument in Favor of or Argument Against

## Filing Deadline

Based on the time reasonably necessary to prepare and print the arguments, analysis, and sample ballots and to permit the 10-calendar-day public examination, the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters shall fix and determine a reasonable date prior to the election after which no arguments for or against any county measure may be submitted. (Elections Code section 9162)

See “Election Calendar” (separate document) for filing deadline.

## Preparation of the Argument

### STEP 1: Guidelines for writing your statement

1. The statement can be printed on the form provided or on a separate sheet of paper. If using a separate sheet of paper, allow a 2” top margin for our file stamp. All statements will contain the standardized title of either “Argument in Favor Of Measure \_\_\_\_\_” or “Argument Against Measure \_\_\_\_\_”. The blank spaces will be filled in only with the measure letter or number, if any, which designates the measure.
2. The statement must be typed and not exceed 300 words (word count guidelines are included in this guide). Elections Code Section 9162(a). The statement must be written to address a single measure on the ballot. An argument combining statements pertaining to more than one measure will not be accepted.
3. Use block paragraph style with spacing between paragraphs. Any argument that does not conform to the guidelines will be reformatted.
4. Do not use symbols, signs, tables, lists or any other materials requiring unusual spacing or indentation.
5. Limited use of CAPITALS, bold, underline, italics and bullets.
6. Do not refer to any political party; membership or activity in any political organization.
7. Statements shall not, in any way, make false comments or remarks intending to mislead the voter. They may not contain any demonstrably false, slanderous or libelous statements or contain any obscene or profane language

**STEP 2:** Proof the argument, as it will be printed as submitted. Spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors will not be corrected.

**STEP 3:** Print the written statement and attach it to the Ballot Argument Signature Statement (Attachment A). Get signatures of person(s) who will be signing the argument as Authors.

### **Who May Sign the Argument**

The Board of Supervisors or any member or members of the board, or any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure, or bona fide association of citizens, or any combination of these voters and associations may file a written argument for or against any county measure. (Elections Code section 9162(a))

### **Ballot Argument Signature Statement**

A ballot argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by the printed name and signature or printed names and signatures of the person(s) submitting it, or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers. (Elections Code section 9164)

No more than five signatures are allowed. If any argument is signed by more than five persons, the signatures of the first five will be printed. (Elections Code section 9164)

Use Attachment A - Ballot Argument Signature Statement.

**STEP 4:** Prepare the statement for filing.

1. Print a hard copy of the statement.
2. An Electronic copy of the statement is needed, however, if you cannot provide the statement on CD or email the hard copy will be used.

Email your statement to: [elections@buttecounty.net](mailto:elections@buttecounty.net)

### **STEP 5: TO BE COMPLETED IN OUR OFFICE**

1. Please allow time and do not wait until the last minute! Staff will print a copy of the argument you have provided from CD or email.
2. You (the filer contact) will be required to review the printed copy of the electronic argument submitted. If the argument is ok, you will sign at the bottom of the printed page.
3. Staff will complete a word count of the argument and review the content to make sure it meets the argument guidelines.
4. Staff will file the statement.

### **Order of Statements in County Voter Information Guide**

Measures will appear on the ballot in the following order pursuant to California Elections Code section 13109: College, Unified School District, High School District, Elementary School District, County, City, District. In order to allow for the most efficient use of space, the County may vary the order of the measures.

The following statement shall be printed on the heading at the top of each page: "Arguments in support of or in opposition to the proposed laws are the opinions of the authors." (Elections Code section 9162(a))

## **Argument Selection**

If more than one argument for or more than one argument against any county measure is submitted within the time prescribed, the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters shall select one of the arguments in favor and one of the arguments against the measure for printing and distribution to the voters. In selecting the argument, preference and priority shall be given in the order named to the arguments of the following:

- (a) The Board of Supervisors or a member(s) of the board.
- (b) The individual voter, or bona fide association of citizens, or combination of voters and associations, who are the bona fide sponsors or proponents of the measure.
- (c) Bona fide associations of citizens.
- (d) Individual voters who are eligible to vote on the measure.

(Elections Code section 9166)

# General Information for Writing a Rebuttal Arguments

## General Information

When an argument in favor and an argument against a measure have been selected for publication in the County Voter Information Guide, copies shall be provided of the argument in favor of the measure to the author(s) of the argument against the measure and copies of the arguments against the measure to the author(s) of the argument in favor. (Elections Code section 9167(a))

## Filing Deadline

The rebuttal arguments shall be submitted to the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division no later than a date designated. (Elections Code section 9167(a))

See “Election Calendar” (separate document) for filing deadline.

## Preparation of the Rebuttal Argument

### STEP 1: Guidelines for writing your statement

1. The statement can be printed on the form provided or on a separate sheet of paper. If using a separate sheet of paper, allow a 2” top margin for our file stamp. All statements will contain the standardized title of either “Rebuttal to Argument in Favor Of Measure \_\_\_\_\_” or “Rebuttal to Argument Against Measure \_\_\_\_\_”. The blank spaces will be filled in only with the measure letter or number, if any, which designates the measure.
2. The statement must be typed and not exceed 250 words. (Elections Code section 9167(a)). The statement must be written to address a single measure on the ballot. An argument combining statements pertaining to more than one measure will not be accepted.
3. Use block paragraph style with spacing between paragraphs. Any argument that does not conform to the guidelines will be reformatted.
4. Do not use symbols, signs, tables, lists or any other materials requiring unusual spacing or indentation.
5. Limited use of CAPITALS, bold, underline, italics and bullets.
6. Do not refer to any political party; membership or activity in any political organization.
7. Statements shall not, in any way, make false comments or remarks intending to mislead the voter. They may not contain any demonstrably false, slanderous or libelous statements or contain any obscene or profane language

**STEP 2:** Proof the argument, as it will be printed as submitted. Spelling, punctuation and grammatical errors will not be corrected.

**STEP 3:** Print the written statement and attach it to the Ballot Argument Signature Statement (Attachment A). Get signatures of person(s) who will be signing the argument as Authors.

### **Who May Sign the Rebuttal Argument**

The authors who signed the original argument may sign the rebuttal. If an author of the original argument chooses to not sign the rebuttal argument, they may authorize in writing, another person to sign the rebuttal argument on their behalf.

If, an original author wishes to allow another person to sign the rebuttal argument in their place, they must do this in writing. (Elections Code section 9167) See Rebuttal Argument Alternate Signer Authorization” form (Attachment B).

### **Ballot Argument Signature Statement**

A ballot argument shall not be accepted unless accompanied by the printed name and signature or printed names and signatures of the person(s) submitting it, or, if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers. (Elections Code section 9164)

No more than five signatures are allowed. If any argument is signed by more than five persons, the signatures of the first five will be printed. (Elections Code section 9164)

Use Attachment A - Ballot Argument Signature Statement.

**STEP 4:** Prepare the statement for filing.

3. Print a hard copy of the statement.
4. An Electronic copy of the statement is needed, however, if you cannot provide the statement on CD or email the hard copy will be used.

Email your statement to: [elections@buttecounty.net](mailto:elections@buttecounty.net)

### **STEP 5: TO BE COMPLETED IN OUR OFFICE**

5. Please allow time and do not wait until the last minute! Staff will print a copy of the argument you have provided from CD or email.
6. You (the filer contact) will be required to review the printed copy of the electronic argument submitted. If the argument is ok, you will sign at the bottom of the printed page.
7. Staff will complete a word count of the argument and review the content to make sure it meets the argument guidelines.
8. Staff will file the statement.



## Word Count Guidelines

Counting of words, for purposes of this code, shall be as follows:

All words shall be counted as one word with the following exceptions:

Punctuation ..... Not Counted

Proper Nouns, including Geographical Names ..... Counted, one word  
Examples: "County of Butte", "City and County of San Francisco", "City of Oroville"

Abbreviations for a word, phrase or expression ..... Counted, one word  
Examples: "CSUC", "USAF"

Hyphenated Words ..... Counted, per word  
**Note:** This applies to hyphenated words that appear in any generally available standard reference dictionary, published in the United States at any time within the 10 calendar years immediately preceding the election for which the words are counted, shall be considered as one word. Each part of all other hyphenated words shall be counted as a separate word.

Dates ..... Counted, one word

Numbers – digits (1, 10, etc) or spelled out (one, ten, etc) ..... Counted, one word

Telephone Numbers ..... Counted, one word

Internet Website addresses ..... Counted, one word

This guidelines above do not apply to counting words for ballot designations under Elections Code section 13107.

(Elections Code section 9)

# Website Posting

All measure information is placed on the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division website. This allows the public and media easy access to the various documents filed related to a local measure, as shown in the example below.

## **MEASURE G: GRIDLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DIST Gridley High Modernization and Repair Measure**

Requires 55% passage

### **Group In Favor**

Address: 429 Magnolia St, Gridley 95948  
Contact: Rick Rubino  
Telephone: 530-846-4721  
Fax:  
E-Mail: rrubino@gusd.org  
Website:

### **Group Opposing**

Address: 1908 State Highway 70, Oroville 95965  
Contact: Sally B. Donati  
Telephone: 530-846-6548  
Fax:  
E-Mail: donatiranch@wcisp.com  
Website:

### **Argument and Impartial Analysis Filing Deadlines**

Impartial Analysis Due: August 17, 2012  
Arguments Due: August 17, 2012  
Rebuttals Due: August 24, 2012  
Last day for Public Inspection: 10 calendar days after the deadline stated above.

### **Measure Artwork Information**

Resolution: [Click here to view measure information](#)  
Final Ballot Artwork: [Click here to view measure information](#)

**NOTE: Any filing deadlines are 5:00 p.m. on the date stated unless otherwise noted.**

The resolution, impartial analysis, argument in favor of, argument against, rebuttal to argument in favor of (if applicable), rebuttal to argument against (if applicable) are placed on the website the next business day following the filing deadline.

Upon completion of the ballot typesetting, the artwork pages will be placed on the website and the original filed documents will be removed, except the resolution from the governing body.

## **Public Contact Website Information Release Form**

Once your ballot measure committee is formed, complete the Public Contact Website Information Release form (Attachment C). The information provided on this form will be placed on our website for public and media requests.

# Confidentiality, Public Inspection & Withdrawal

## Confidentiality

Arguments and rebuttals will remain confidential until 5pm on the filing deadline. (Elections Code section 9190, 13313)

## Public Inspection

A copy of the ordinance or resolution, Impartial Analysis, Tax Rate Statement, Fiscal Impact Statement, Arguments and Rebuttals filed pertaining to a ballot measure shall be made available for public examination in the County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division for a period of 10 calendar days immediately following the deadline for submission of those materials. Any person may obtain a copy of the materials from the office for use. A fee may be charged to any person obtaining a copy of the material. The fee may not exceed the actual cost incurred by providing the copy.

During the 10-calendar-day public examination period provided by this section, any voter of the jurisdiction in which the election is being held, or the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters, himself or herself, may seek a writ of mandate or an injunction requiring any or all of the materials to be amended or deleted. The writ of mandate or injunction request shall be filed no later than the end of the 10-calendar-day public examination period.

A peremptory writ of mandate or an injunction shall be issued only upon clear and convincing proof that the material in question is false, misleading, or inconsistent with this chapter, and that issuance of the writ or injunction will not substantially interfere with the printing or distribution of official election materials as provided by law.

The County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters shall be named as respondent and the person or official who authored the material in question shall be named as real parties in interest. In the case of the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters bringing the mandamus or injunctive action, the Board of Supervisors of the County shall be named as the respondent and the person or official who authored the material in question shall be named as the real party in interest.

(Elections Code sections 9190, 13313)

## Withdrawal

Whenever any ballot arguments for or against any measure submitted to the voters for approval are authorized, these arguments may be withdrawn by their proponents at any time prior to and including the final date fixed for filing arguments. (Elections Code section 9601)

# Campaign Disclosure Requirements

## General Information

The Political Reform Act of 1974 requires proponents of local ballot measures who control a ballot measure committee and petition circulation committees, to file campaign disclosure statements disclosing contributions received and expenditures made.

It is the responsibility of the ballot measure committee to be aware of and to file the required campaign disclosure statements in a correct and timely manner. Filing by the deadline is the responsibility of the candidate and/or committee. If a candidate and/or committee fail to file within the specified deadlines, a reminder late notice will be sent. Obtain a copy of the Campaign Disclosure Filing Schedule from the Fair Political Practices Commission website at <http://fppc.ca.gov> or by contacting the County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division.

## Electronic Filing – Campaign Disclosure Statements

Butte County has adopted an electronic filing campaign disclosure ordinance. This means that ballot measure committees may submit their campaign disclosure statements electronically, through the Netfile campaign disclosure system. Statements submitted on paper will still be accepted via the mail or in person at the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division.

Ballot measure committees are highly encouraged to utilize the Netfile electronic system. Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division will provide account information to access the system from the convenience of a home computer and it is accessible 24/7, 365 days a year. The system assists ballot measure committees by helping track contributions received, expenditures made, loans received, unpaid bills and much, much more. The system performs an audit of data entered and notifies the candidate of any errors that need to be corrected prior to filing. This helps to avoid the need to file amended statements.

## Campaign Disclosure Packet

All ballot measure committees will be provided a campaign disclosure packet. This folder will contain Campaign Disclosure Manual 3, various forms and other pieces of information vital to campaign reporting.

## Where to Obtain Campaign Disclosure Forms

Forms are available from the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) website at: [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov) or at the Butte County Elections Office.

Before accepting any contributions or making expenditures toward a campaign, it is vital that a candidate and/or committee obtain the correct forms required by law for reporting campaign contributions and expenditures. **Failure to file could lead to fines and/or civil or criminal penalties.**

## Filing Deadlines

Obtain a copy of the Filing Schedule from the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) website at: [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov) or at the Butte County Elections Office.

## Campaign Disclosure Information Manuals

It is vital that candidates review the “Campaign Disclosure Manual” pertaining to the type of office they are seeking. These manuals are provided by the Fair Political Practices Commission and will have important information regarding who is required to file, when they are required to file, where to file and which forms to use. These manuals also cover what information is required to be disclosed and how to report that disclosure on the forms. These manuals are available on the Fair Political Practices Commission website at [www.fppc.ca.gov](http://www.fppc.ca.gov).

## Ballot Measure Committee Quarterly Statement Requirement

Before the measure is voted upon, committees must file quarterly statements, in addition to semi-annual and pre-election statements.

Statement Due Date	Period Covered
April 30	January 1-March 31
October 31	July 1-September 30

If a committee fails to qualify a measure for the ballot, or the measure does not otherwise appear on a ballot, the committee must file quarterly until terminated. After an election, a quarterly statement is due only if the committee makes contributions or expenditures to support another measure.

## Potential Penalties for Failure to Comply

Government Code §91000. (a) Any person who knowingly or willfully violates any provision of this title is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) In addition to other penalties provided by law, a fine of up to the greater of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or three times the amount the person failed to report properly or unlawfully contributed, expended, gave or received may be imposed upon conviction for each violation.

(c) Prosecution for violation of this title must be commenced within four years after the date on which the violation occurred.

Government Code §91013. (a) **If any person files an original statement or report after any deadline imposed by this act, he or she shall, in addition to any other penalties or remedies established by this act, be liable in the amount of ten dollars (\$10) per day after the deadline until the statement or report is filed,** to the officer with whom the statement or report is required to be filed. Liability need not be enforced by the filing officer if on an impartial basis he or she determines that the late filing was not willful and that enforcement of the liability will not further the purposes of the act, except that no liability shall be waived if a statement or report is not filed within 30 days for a statement of economic interest, other than a candidate’s statement filed pursuant to Section 87201, five days for a campaign statement required to be filed 12 days before an election, and 10 days for all other statements or reports, after the filing officer has sent specific written notice of the filing requirement.

(b) If any person files a copy of a statement or report after any deadline imposed by this act, he or she shall, in addition to any other penalties or remedies established by this chapter, be liable in the amount of ten dollars (\$10) per day, starting 10 days, or five days in the case of a campaign statement required to be filed 12 days before an election, after the officer has sent specific written notice of the filing requirement and until the statement is filed.

(c) The officer shall deposit any funds received under this section into the general fund of the jurisdiction of which he or she is an officer. No liability under this section shall exceed the cumulative amount stated in the late statement or report, or one hundred dollars (\$100), whichever is greater.

## **Campaign Disclosure Forms**

### **Form 410–Statement of Organization**

A committee shall file the original statement of organization with the Secretary of State and shall also file a copy with the Local Elections Office. The original and copy of the statement of organization shall be filed within 10 days after the committee has qualified as a committee.

The Secretary of State shall assign a number to each committee that files a statement of organization and shall notify the committee of the number and send a copy to the county elections official. (Government Code §84101)

The Secretary of State shall charge each committee that is required to file a statement of organization (Form 410) a fee of fifty dollars (\$50) per year until the committee is terminated. The fee shall be paid no later than 15 days after filing its statement of organization; or no later than January 15 of each year, whichever occurs first.

If a committee files a statement of organization in the final three months of a calendar year, it is not subject to the annual fee for the following calendar year.

Failure to pay the fee timely will be subject to a penalty equal to three times the amount of the fee. (Government Code §84101.5)

### **Form 460–Recipient Committee Campaign Statement**

Any committee that has filed a Form 410–Statement of Organization and has a candidate controlled or ballot measure committee may use the Form 460–Recipient Committee Campaign Statement to report their campaign activity during the reporting periods. (Government Code §84211)

### **Form 497-Late Contribution Report**

A contribution, including a loan, that totals in the aggregate one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more and is made to or received within 90 days before the date of the election. (Government Code §82036)

### **Form 496–Late Independent Expenditure Report**

An independent expenditure that totals one thousand dollars (\$1,000) or more and is made for or against a specific candidate or measure involved in an election within 90 days before the date of the election. (Government Code §82036.5)

## **Auditing**

The Franchise Tax Board shall make audits and field investigations with respect to the following:

(a) Reports and statements filed with the Secretary of State under Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 84100), Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 85100), and Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 86100).

(b) Local candidates and their controlled committees selected for audit pursuant to subdivision (i) of Section 90001. (Government Code §90000)

# Votes Needed To Pass Measures

## County Measures

If a majority of the voters voting on a proposed ordinance vote in its favor, the ordinance shall become a valid and binding ordinance of the county. The ordinance shall be considered as adopted upon the date the vote is declared by the board of supervisors, and shall go into effect 10 days after that date. (Elections Code section 9122)

## Bond Measures or Imposition of Special Taxes

**Reference:** California Constitution, Article XIII A, Section 4.

Cities, counties and special districts may, by a two-thirds vote of the qualified electors of such district, impose special taxes on such district, except ad valorem taxes on real property or a transaction tax or sales tax on the sale of real property within such city, county or special district.

# Campaign Literature Requirements

## **Polling place information sent to the voters**

All registered voters receive a sample ballot booklet that contains their polling place location.

There have been select cases where a polling place location changed at the last minute due to unforeseen circumstances. Though we do not recommend that campaign literature be sent with the polling place location on it, any data files purchased prior to 30 days before the election must be confirmed by the Butte County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters that no last minute changes have been made. The purchaser may email [elections@buttecounty.net](mailto:elections@buttecounty.net) to receive confirmation.

## **Distribution of precinct polling place information; penalty**

Every person is guilty of a misdemeanor who knowingly causes to be mailed or distributed, or knowingly mails or distributes, literature to any voter that includes a designation of the voter's precinct polling place other than a precinct polling place listed for that voter in an official precinct polling list that constituted the latest official precinct polling list at some time not more than 30 days prior to the mailing or distribution. (Elections Code section 18302)

## **Campaign advertising or communication definition**

"Campaign advertising or communication" means a communication authorized by a candidate or a candidate's controlled committee, as defined in section 82016 of the Government Code, or by a committee making independent expenditures, as defined in section 82031 of the Government Code, or by a committee formed primarily to support or oppose a ballot measure, as defined in section 82047.5 of the Government Code, for the purpose of advocating the election or defeat of a qualified candidate or ballot measure through any broadcasting station, newspaper, magazine, outdoor advertising facility, direct mailing, or any other type of general, public, political advertising.

## **Mass mailing**

Government Code section 82041.5. "Mass mailing" means over two hundred substantially similar pieces of mail, but does not include a form letter or other mail which is sent in response to an unsolicited request, letter or other inquiry.

## **Mass mailing requirements**

Government Code section 84305. (a) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee shall not send a mass mailing unless the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee are shown on the outside of each piece of mail in the mass mailing and on at least one of the inserts included within each piece of mail of the mailing in no less than 6-point type that is in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the candidate's, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate's, or political party committee's address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.

(2) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate or a political party committee, shall not send a mass mailing that is not required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84502 unless the name, street address, and city of the committee is shown on the outside of each piece of mail in the mass mailing and on at least one of the inserts included within each piece of mail of the mailing in no less than 6-point type that is in a color or print that contrasts with the background so



as to be easily legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the committee's address is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State.

(b) If the sender of the mass mailing is a single candidate or committee, the name, street address, and city of the candidate or committee need only be shown on the outside of each piece of mail.

(c) (1) A candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee shall not send a mass electronic mailing unless the name of the candidate or committee is shown in the electronic mailing preceded by the words "Paid for by" in at least the same size font as a majority of the text in the electronic mailing.

(2) A committee, other than a candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate or a political party committee, shall not send a mass electronic mailing that is not required to include a disclosure pursuant to Section 84502 or 84504.3 unless the name of the committee is shown in the electronic mailing preceded by the words "Paid for by" in at least the same size font as a majority of the text in the electronic mailing.

(d) If the sender of a mass mailing is a controlled committee, the name of the person controlling the committee shall be included in addition to the information required by subdivision (a).

(e) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meaning:

(1) "Mass electronic mailing" means sending more than two hundred substantially similar pieces of electronic mail within a calendar month.

(2) "Sender" means the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, or political party committee who pays for the largest portion of expenditures attributable to the designing, printing, and posting of the mailing which are reportable pursuant to Sections 84200 to 84217, inclusive.

(3) To "pay for" a share of the cost of a mass mailing means to make, to promise to make, or to incur an obligation to make, any payment: (A) to any person for the design, printing, postage, materials, or other costs of the mailing, including salaries, fees, or commissions, or (B) as a fee or other consideration for an endorsement or, in the case of a ballot measure, support or opposition, in the mailing.

(f) This section does not apply to a mass mailing or mass electronic mailing that is paid for by an independent expenditure.

### **Mass mailing prohibitions**

Government Code section 89001. No newsletter or other mass mailing shall be sent at public expense.

### **Mass Mailing by Candidates on Ballot within 60 Days of Election**

Government Code section 89002. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), a mailing is prohibited by Section 89001 if all of the following criteria are met:

(1) An item sent is delivered, by any means, to the recipient at his or her residence, place of employment or business, or post office box. The item delivered to the recipient must be a tangible item, such as a videotape, record, or button, or a written document.

(2) The item sent either:

(A) Features an elected officer affiliated with the agency that produces or sends the mailing.

- (B) Includes the name, office, photograph, or other reference to an elected officer affiliated with the agency that produces or sends the mailing, and is prepared or sent in cooperation, consultation, coordination, or concert with the elected officer.
- (3) Any of the costs of distribution are paid for with public money or the costs of design, production, and printing exceeding fifty dollars (\$50) are paid with public moneys, and the design, production, or printing is done with the intent of sending the item other than as permitted by this section.
- (4) More than 200 substantially similar items are sent in a single calendar month, excluding any item sent in response to an unsolicited request and any item described in subdivision (b).
- (b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a mass mailing of the following items is not prohibited by Section 89001:
- (1) An item in which the elected officer's name appears only in the letterhead or logotype of the stationery, forms, including "For Your Information" or "Compliments of" cards or stamps, and envelopes of the agency sending the mailing, or of a committee of the agency, or of the elected officer, or in a roster listing containing the names of all elected officers of the agency. For purposes of this section, the return address portion of a self-mailer is considered the envelope. In any such item, the names of all elected officers must appear in the same type size, typeface, type color, and location. The item shall not include the elected officer's photograph, signature, or any other reference to the elected officer, except as specifically permitted by this section. The item may, however, include the elected officer's office or district number and the elected officer's name or district number in his or her Internet Web site address or electronic mail address.
- (2) A press release sent to members of the media.
- (3) An item sent in the normal course of business from one governmental entity or officer to another governmental entity or officer, including all local, state, and federal officers or entities.
- (4) An intra-agency communication sent in the normal course of business to employees, officers, deputies, and other staff.
- (5) An item sent in connection with the payment or collection of funds by the agency sending the mailing, including tax bills, checks, and similar documents, in any instance in which use of the elected officer's name, office, title, or signature is necessary to the payment or collection of the funds. The item shall not include the elected officer's photograph, signature, or any other reference to the elected officer, except as specifically permitted by this section.
- (6) Any item sent by an agency responsible for administering a government program, to persons subject to that program, in any instance in which the mailing of the item is essential to the functioning of the program, the item does not include the elected officer's photograph, and use of the elected officer's name, office, title, or signature is necessary to the functioning of the program.
- (7) Any legal notice or other item sent as required by law, court order, or order adopted by an administrative agency pursuant to the Administrative Procedure Act (Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2), and in which use of the elected officer's name, office, title, or signature is necessary in the notice or other mailing. For purposes of this paragraph, inclusion of an elected officer's name on a ballot as a candidate for elective office, and inclusion of an elected officer's name and signature on a ballot argument, shall be considered necessary to that notice or other item.
- (8) A telephone directory, organization chart, or similar listing or roster which includes the names of elected officers as well as other individuals in the agency sending the mailing, in which the name of each elected officer and individual listed appears in the same type size, typeface, and type color. The item shall not include an elected officer's photograph, name, signature, or any other reference to an elected officer, except as specifically permitted by this section.
- (9) (A) An announcement of any meeting or event of either of the following:
- (i) An announcement sent to an elected officer's constituents concerning a public meeting that is directly related to the elected officer's incumbent governmental duties, is to be held by the elected officer, and that the elected officer intends to attend.

- (ii) An announcement of any official agency event or events for which the agency is providing the use of its facilities or staff or other financial support.
- (B) Any announcement provided for in this paragraph shall not include the elected officer's photograph or signature and may include only a single mention of the elected officer's name except as permitted elsewhere in this section.
- (10) An agenda or other writing that is required to be made available pursuant to Sections 11125.1 and 54957.5, or a bill, file, history, journal, committee analysis, floor analysis, agenda of an interim or special hearing of a committee of the Legislature, or index of legislation, published by the Legislature.
- (11) A business card that does not contain the elected officer's photograph or more than one mention of the elected officer's name.
- (c) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (1) "Elected officer affiliated with the agency" means an elected officer who is a member, officer, or employee of the agency, or of a subunit thereof such as a committee, or who has supervisory control over the agency or appoints one or more members of the agency.
- (2) "Features an elected officer" means that the item mailed includes the elected officer's photograph or signature or singles out the elected officer by the manner of display of his or her name or office in the layout of the document, such as by headlines, captions, type size, typeface, or type color.
- (3) "Substantially similar" is defined as follows:
- (A) Two items are "substantially similar" if any of the following applies:
- (i) The items are identical, except for changes necessary to identify the recipient and his or her address.
- (ii) The items are intended to honor, commend, congratulate, or recognize an individual or group, or individuals or groups, for the same event or occasion, are intended to celebrate or recognize the same holiday, or are intended to congratulate an individual or group, or individuals or groups, on the same type of event, such as birthdays or anniversaries.
- (iii) Both of the following apply to the items mailed:
- (I) Most of the bills, legislation, governmental action, activities, events, or issues of public concern mentioned in one item are mentioned in the other.
- (II) Most of the information contained in one item is contained in the other.
- (B) Enclosure of the same informational materials in two items mailed, such as copies of the same bill, public document, or report, shall not, by itself, mean that the two items are "substantially similar." The informational materials shall not include the elected officer's name, photograph, signature, or any other reference to the elected officer except as permitted elsewhere in this section.
- (C) An item is only considered substantially similar to other items sent by the same official, not to items sent by other officials in the same agency.
- (4) "Unsolicited request" is defined as follows:
- (A) A written or oral communication, including a petition, that specifically requests a response and is not requested or induced by the recipient elected officer or by any third person acting at his or her behest. However, an unsolicited oral or written communication, including a petition, that does not contain a specific request for a response shall be deemed to constitute an unsolicited request for a single written response.
- (B) An unsolicited request for continuing information on a subject shall be deemed an unsolicited request for multiple responses directly related to that subject for a period of time not to exceed 24 months. An unsolicited request to receive a regularly published agency newsletter shall be deemed an unsolicited request for each issue of that newsletter.
- (C) A previously unsolicited request to receive an agency newsletter or mass mailing on an ongoing basis shall not be deemed to have become solicited by the sole fact that the requestor responds to an agency notice indicating that, in the absence of a response, his or her name will be purged

from the mailing list for that newsletter or mass mailing. A notice in the following language shall be deemed to meet this standard:

“The law does not permit this office to use public funds to keep you updated on items of interest unless you specifically request that it do so.”

Inclusion of a similar notice in other items does not constitute a solicitation under this section.

(D) A communication sent in response to an elected officer’s participation at a public forum or press conference, or to his or her issuance of a press release, shall be deemed an unsolicited request.

(E) A person who subscribes to newspapers or other periodicals published by persons other than elected officers shall be deemed to have made unsolicited requests for materials published in those subscription publications.

Government Code section 89003. Notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 89002, a mass mailing, as defined in Section 82041.5, that meets the criteria of subdivision (a) of Section 89002 shall not be sent within the 60 days preceding an election by or on behalf of a candidate whose name will appear on the ballot at that election, except as provided in paragraphs (2) to (8), inclusive, and paragraph (10) of subdivision (b) of Section 89002.

### **Mass mailing penal provisions**

Elections Code section 18303. Every person who violates section 84305 of the Government Code relating to mass mailing is subject to the penal provisions set forth in Chapter 11 (commencing with section 91000) of Title 9 of the Government Code.

### **Political advertisement requirements**

Elections Code section 20008. Any paid political advertisement that refers to an election or to any candidate for state or local elective office and that is contained in or distributed with a newspaper, shall bear on each surface or page thereof, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type or lettering of the advertisement or in 10-point roman type, whichever is larger, the words “Paid Political Advertisement.” The words shall be set apart from any other printed matter.

As used in this section “paid political advertisement” shall mean and shall be limited to, published statements paid for by advertisers for purposes of supporting or defeating any person who has filed for an elective state or local office.

### **Political advertisement; penalty**

Penal Code section 115.2. (a) No person shall publish or cause to be published, with actual knowledge, and intent to deceive, any campaign advertisement containing false or fraudulent depictions, or false or fraudulent representations, of official public documents or purported official public documents.

(b) For purposes of this section, “campaign advertisement” means any communication directed to voters by means of a mass mailing as defined in section 82041.5 of the Government Code, a paid newspaper advertisement, an outdoor advertisement, or any other printed matter, if the expenditures for that communication are required to be reported by Chapter 4 (commencing with section 84100) of Title 9 of the Government Code.

(c) Any violation of this section is a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail, or by a fine not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), or both.

### **Phone Banks**

California Government Code section 84310 (a) A candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, political party committee, or slate mailer organization shall not expend campaign funds, directly or indirectly, to pay for telephone calls that are similar in nature and aggregate 500 or more in number, made by an individual, or individuals, or by

electronic means and that advocate support of, or opposition to, a candidate, ballot measure, or both, unless during the course of each call the name of the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, political party committee, or slate mailer organization that authorized or paid for the call is disclosed to the recipient of the call. Unless the organization that authorized the call and in whose name it is placed has filing obligations under this title, and the name announced in the call either is the full name by which the organization or individual is identified in any statement or report required to be filed under this title or is the name by which the organization or individual is commonly known, the candidate, candidate controlled committee established for an elective office for the controlling candidate, political party committee, or slate mailer organization that paid for the call shall be disclosed. This section does not apply to telephone calls made by the candidate, the campaign manager, or individuals who are volunteers.

(b) Campaign and ballot measure committees are prohibited from contracting with any phone bank vendor that does not disclose the information required to be disclosed by subdivision (a).

(c) A candidate, committee, or slate mailer organization that pays for telephone calls as described in subdivision (a) shall maintain a record of the script of the call for the period of time set forth in Section 84104. If any of the calls qualifying under subdivision (a) were recorded messages, a copy of the recording shall be maintained for that period.

(d) This section does not apply to a telephone call that is paid for by an independent expenditure.

### **Slate mailers**

Government Code section 82048.3. "Slate mailer" means a mass mailing which supports or opposes a total of four or more candidates or ballot measures.

Government Code section 82048.4. (a) "Slate mailer organization" means, except as provided in subdivision (b), any person who, directly or indirectly, does all of the following:

- (1) Is involved in the production of one or more slate mailers and exercises control over the selection of the candidates and measures to be supported or opposed in the slate mailers.
- (2) Receives or is promised payments totaling five hundred dollars (\$500) or more in a calendar year for the production of one or more slate mailers.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a slate mailer organization shall not include any of the following:

- (1) A candidate or officeholder or a candidate's or officeholder's controlled committee.
- (2) An official committee of any political party.
- (3) A legislative caucus committee.
- (4) A committee primarily formed to support or oppose a candidate, officeholder, or ballot measure.

(c) The production and distribution of slate mailers by a slate mailer organization shall not be considered making contributions or expenditures for purposes of subdivision (b) or (c) of section 82013. If a slate mailer organization makes contributions or expenditures other than by producing or distributing slate mailers, and it reports those contributions and expenditures pursuant to sections 84218 and 84219, no additional campaign reports shall be required of the slate mailer organization pursuant to section 84200 or 84200.5.

Government Code section 84305.5. (a) No slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures shall send a slate mailer unless:

- (1) The name, street address, and city of the slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures are shown on the outside of each piece of slate mail and on at least one of the inserts included with each piece of slate mail in no less than 8-point roman type which shall be in a color or print which contrasts with the background so as to be easily

legible. A post office box may be stated in lieu of a street address if the street address of the slate mailer organization or the committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measure is a matter of public record with the Secretary of State's Political Reform Division.

(2) At the top or bottom of the front side or surface of at least one insert or at the top or bottom of one side or surface of a postcard or other self-mailer, there is a notice in at least 8-point roman boldface type, which shall be in a color or print which contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible, and in a printed or drawn box and set apart from any other printed matter. The notice shall consist of the following statement:

### **NOTICE TO VOTERS**

THIS DOCUMENT WAS PREPARED BY (name of slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures), NOT AN OFFICIAL POLITICAL PARTY ORGANIZATION. Appearance in this mailer does not necessarily imply endorsement of others appearing in this mailer, nor does it imply endorsement of, or opposition to, any issues set forth in this mailer. Appearance is paid for and authorized by each candidate and ballot measure which is designated by an \*.

(3) The name, street address, and city of the slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures as required by paragraph (1) and the notice required by paragraph (2) may appear on the same side or surface of an insert.

(4) Each candidate and each ballot measure that has paid to appear in the slate mailer is designated by an \*. Any candidate or ballot measure that has not paid to appear in the slate mailer is not designated by an \*.

The \* required by this subdivision shall be of the same type size, type style, color or contrast, and legibility as is used for the name of the candidate or the ballot measure name or number and position advocated to which the \* designation applies except that in no case shall the \* be required to be larger than 10-point boldface type. The designation shall immediately follow the name of the candidate, or the name or number and position advocated on the ballot measure where the designation appears in the slate of candidates and measures. If there is no slate listing, the designation shall appear at least once in at least 8-point boldface type, immediately following the name of the candidate, or the name or number and position advocated on the ballot measure.

(5) The name of any candidate appearing in the slate mailer who is a member of a political party differing from the political party which the mailer appears by representation or indicia to represent is accompanied, immediately below the name, by the party designation of the candidate, in no less than 9-point roman type which shall be in a color or print that contrasts with the background so as to be easily legible. The designation shall not be required in the case of candidates for nonpartisan office.

(b) For purposes of the designations required by paragraph (4) of subdivision (a), the payment of any sum made reportable by subdivision (c) of section 84219 by or at the behest of a candidate or committee, whose name or position appears in the mailer, to the slate mailer organization or committee primarily formed to support or oppose one or more ballot measures, shall constitute a payment to appear, requiring the \* designation. The payment shall also be deemed to constitute authorization to appear in the mailer.

### **Simulated ballot Requirements**

Elections Code section 20009. (a) Every simulated ballot or simulated sample ballot shall bear on each surface or page thereof, in type or lettering at least half as large as the type or lettering of the statement or words or in 10-point roman type, whichever is larger, in a printed or drawn box and set apart from any other printed matter, the following statement:

“NOTICE TO VOTERS  
“(Required by Law)  
“This is not an official ballot or an official sample ballot prepared by the county elections official or the Secretary of State.  
“This is an unofficial, marked ballot prepared by \_\_\_\_\_ (insert name and address of the person or organization responsible for preparation thereof).”

Nothing in this section shall be construed to require this notice in any editorial or other statement appearing in a regularly published newspaper or magazine other than a paid political advertisement.

(b) No simulated ballot or simulated sample ballot referred to in subdivision (a) shall bear any official seal or the insignia of any public entity, nor shall that seal or insignia appear upon the envelope in which it is mailed or otherwise delivered.

(c) The superior court, in any case brought before it by any registered voter, may issue a temporary or permanent restraining order or injunction against the publication, printing, circulation, posting, or distribution of any matter in violation of this section, and all cases of this nature shall be in a preferred position for purposes of trial and appeal, so as to assure the speedy disposition thereof.

### **Printing of simulated sample ballots**

Elections Code section 18301. In addition to any other penalty, any person who prints or otherwise duplicates, or causes to be printed or duplicated, a simulated ballot or simulated sample ballot that does not contain the statement required by section 20009 or that uses an official seal or insignia in violation thereof, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

### **Truth In Endorsements Law**

Elections Code section 20000 et. seq. provides additional information regarding restrictions on endorsements, representation requirements, etc. A link is available for viewing the Elections Code Online on the Butte County Clerk-Recorder website: [www.ButteVotes.net](http://www.ButteVotes.net), or a copy of the applicable pages may be purchased in the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division for the standard copy fee.

# Outdoor Political Signs

## Local Ordinances/Regulations

### County of Butte:

Butte County Code Chapter 24, Division 10 section 101

“It is unlawful for any person to place or maintain any encroachment on any portion of the right-of-way of any County highway without having first obtained an encroachment permit therefore, or in violation of any of the provisions or conditions of the permit or of this chapter. (Ord. No. 3907, section 1, 3-1-2005)”. (Encroachment refers to signs, billboards, etc.)

Additionally, Butte County Code Chapter 24, Division 10 section 108

#### Political Signs:

1. Signs shall be installed no earlier than 90 days prior to the election and removed no later than 7 days following the election.
2. Signs shall be prohibited within the public right-of-way.

### City/Town Ordinances:

Each city or town may have rules and regulations regarding outdoor political advertising. Contact the City Clerk or Town Clerk for more information.

### Homeowner Associations:

Homeowner Associations may have rules and regulations regarding political outdoor advertising.

Listing of Homeowner Associations within the unincorporated county (note: this list may not be complete, there may be additional associations not covered on the list):

Butte Creek Country Club, 175 Estates Dr, Chico CA 95928, 343-7979

Kelly Ridge Estates Owner's Association, P. O. Box 1893, Oroville CA 95965, 589-2665

Paradise Pines Property Owner's Association Inc., 14211 Wycliff Way, Magalia CA 95954, 873-1114

Hignell & Hignell Property Managers serve as a representative to the various Home/Land/Property Owner Associations listed below. For further information, please contact Hignell Incorporated, 1750 Humboldt Rd, Chico CA 95928, 894-0404.

California Park

Canyon Oaks

Country Club

Chateau East

Chico Oaks

Hollybrook

Lucas Ranch

Mission Ranch

Morseman Village

Mountain Oaks

Parque Estates

Pebblewood Pines

Philadelphia Square

Plantation

Plaza West

Ridgeview II

Sierra Lakeside

Sierra Sunrise

Stonebridge

Stoneridge

The Retreat

The Villas

Tierra Oaks

Upper Park

Village Square

Waterford

Windmill Falls

Woodcrest

Woodoak



**Mobile Home Parks:**

Many mobile home parks have rules regarding outdoor political advertising. As a courtesy, please call the Park Manager for information.

**State Department of Transportation (CalTrans) Guidelines**

Each candidate will be furnished with a copy of the State Outdoor Political Advertising Guidelines and Statement of Responsibility which outlines section 5405.3 of the Outdoor Advertising Act pertaining to Temporary Political Signs. For questions contact: (916) 654-6473.

Nothing in this chapter, including, but not limited to, section 5405, shall prohibit the placing of temporary political signs, unless a federal agency determines that such placement would violate federal regulations. However, no such sign shall be placed within the right-of-way of any highway or within 660 feet of the edge of and visible from the right-of-way of a landscaped freeway.

A temporary political sign is a sign which:

- (a) Encourages a particular vote in a scheduled election.
- (b) Is placed not sooner than 90 days prior to the scheduled election and is removed within 10 days after that election.
- (c) Is no larger than 32 square feet.
- (d) Has had a statement of responsibility filed with the department certifying a person who will be responsible for removing the temporary political sign and who will reimburse the department for any cost incurred to remove it.

(Business and Professions Code section 5405.3)

# Vote by Mail Ballot Application Information

## Application for Vote by Mail Ballot

An application for a vote by mail voter's ballot shall be made in writing to the elections official having jurisdiction over the election between the 29th and the 7th day prior to the election. The application shall be signed by the applicant and shall show his or her place of residence. Any applications received by the elections official prior to the 29th day shall be kept and processed during the application period. (Elections Code section 3001)

## Form of Printed Application for Vote by Mail Ballot

State law requires you to use the Secretary of State approved application form. It is available in the County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division office or online at <https://www.sos.ca.gov>

(a) A printed application that is to be distributed to a voter for requesting a vote by mail voter's ballot shall inform the voter that the application for the vote by mail voter's ballot must be received by the elections official not later than seven days prior to the date of the election and shall contain spaces for the following:

- (1) The printed name and residence address of the voter as it appears on the affidavit of registration.
- (2) The address to which the ballot is to be mailed.
- (3) The voter's signature.
- (4) The name and date of the election for which the request is to be made.

(b)(1) The information required by paragraphs (1) and (4) of subdivision (a) may be preprinted on the application. The information required by paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (a) shall be personally affixed by the voter.

(2) An address, as required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), may not be the address of a political party, a political campaign headquarters, or a candidate's residence. However, a candidate, his or her spouse, immediate family members, and any other voter who shares the same residence address as the candidate may request that a vote by mail ballot be mailed to the candidate's residence address.

(3) An application that contains preprinted information shall contain a conspicuously printed statement substantially similar to the following: "You have the legal right to mail or deliver this application directly to the local elections official of the county where you reside."

(c) The application shall inform the voter that if he or she has declined to disclose a preference for a political party, the voter may request a vote by mail ballot for a particular political party for the partisan primary election, if that political party has adopted a party rule, duly noticed to the Secretary of State, authorizing that vote.

The application shall contain a toll-free telephone number, established by the Secretary of State that the voter may call to access information regarding which political parties have adopted such a rule. The application shall contain a checkoff box with a conspicuously printed statement that reads substantially similar to the following:

"I have declined to disclose a preference for a qualified political party. However, for this primary election only, I request a vote by mail ballot for the \_\_\_\_\_ Party." The name of the political party shall be personally affixed by the voter.

(d) The application shall provide the voter with information concerning the procedure for establishing permanent vote by mail voter status, and the basis upon which permanent vote by mail voter status is claimed.

(e) The application shall be attested to by the voter as to the truth and correctness of its content, and shall be signed under penalty of perjury. (Elections Code section 3006)

### **Time Period for Organizations to Return Vote by Mail Ballot Application**

(a) Any individual, organization, or group that distributes applications for vote by mail voter ballots and receives completed application forms shall return the forms to the appropriate elections official within 72 hours of receiving the completed forms, or before the deadline for application, whichever is sooner. The name, address, and telephone number of any organization that authorizes the distribution of the applications shall be included on the application.

(b) Any application for a vote by mail voter's ballot that is sent by an individual, group, or organization to a voter shall be nonforwardable. Any vote by mail voter's ballot that is returned to an elections official as undeliverable shall not be forwarded by the elections official.

(c) A person may not submit a vote by mail ballot application electronically for another registered voter. (Elections Code section 3008)

### **Non-Conforming Vote by Mail Application**

Any individual, group, or organization that knowingly distributes any application for a vote by mail ballot that does not conform to Chapter 1 (commencing with section 3000) of Division 3 is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Elections Code section 18402)

### **Willful Interference with Return of Vote by Mail Ballot Application**

Any person who willfully

(a) interferes with the prompt delivery of a completed vote by mail ballot application,

(b) retains a completed vote by mail ballot application, without the voter's authorization, for more than three days excluding weekends and state holidays, or by the deadline for return of vote by mail ballot applications, whichever is earlier, or

(c) denies an applicant the right to return his or her own completed vote by mail ballot application to the local elections official having jurisdiction over the election, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Elections Code section 18576)

# Electioneering Laws

## “Electioneering” Definition

“Electioneering” means the visible display or audible dissemination of information that advocates for or against any candidate or measure on the ballot within 100 feet of a polling place, an elections official’s office, or a satellite location under section 3018. Prohibited electioneering information includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:

- (a) A display of a candidate’s name, likeness, or logo.
- (b) A display of a ballot measure’s number, title, subject, or logo.
- (c) Buttons, hats, pencils, pens, shirts, signs, or stickers containing electioneering information.
- (d) Dissemination of audible electioneering information. (Elections Code section 319.5)

## Electioneering within 100 feet of a polling place

No person, on election day, or at any time that a voter may be casting a ballot, shall, within 100 feet of a polling place, a satellite location under section 3018, or an elections official’s office:

- (a) Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, or nomination petition or any other petition.
- (b) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his or her ballot.
- (c) Place a sign relating to voters’ qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his or her qualifications except as provided in section 14240.
- (d) Do any electioneering as defined by section 319.5.

As used in this section, “100 feet of a polling place, or an elections official’s office” means a distance 100 feet from the room or rooms in which voters are signing the roster and casting ballots.

Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Elections Code section 18370)

## Electioneering during vote by mail voting

(a) No candidate or representative of a candidate, and no proponent, opponent, or representative of a proponent or opponent, of an initiative, referendum, or recall measure, or of a charter amendment, shall solicit the vote of a vote by mail voter, or do any electioneering, while in the residence or in the immediate presence of the voter, and during the time he or she knows the vote by mail voter is voting.

(a) Any person who knowingly violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) This section shall not be construed to conflict with any provision of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, nor to preclude electioneering by mail or telephone or in public places, except as prohibited by section 18370, or by any other provision of law.

(Elections Code section 18371)

## Solicitation dissuading persons from voting

(a) No person shall, with the intent of dissuading another person from voting, within 100 feet of a polling place, do any of the following:

- (1) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his or her ballot.
- (2) Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his or her qualifications except as provided in section 14240.
- (3) Photograph, video record, or otherwise record a voter entering or exiting a polling place.

(b) Any violation of this section is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 12 months, or in the state prison. Any person who conspires to violate this section is guilty of a felony.

(c) For purposes of this section, 100 feet means a distance of 100 feet from the room or rooms in which voters are signing the roster and casting ballots.  
(Elections Code section 18541)

## **Exit polls**

Election Day is a big news day. There is always the possibility that the press will visit your polling place to get some camera footage, an interview or to conduct an "Exit Poll".

The California Secretary of State and the Attorney General have reviewed the Electioneering provisions and have determined that these provisions do not apply to the Press and Media conducting "Exit Polls." However, no one may interfere with the conduct of the election. Therefore, news media conducting "Exit Polls" have been advised to remain at least 25 feet from the entrance to the polls.

As a rule, the person conducting the "Exit Poll" has been advised of the 25-foot restriction and is more than willing to comply. Occasionally we have had problems, particularly in stormy weather. If you have any problems regarding members of the press or "Exit Polling", call the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division as soon as possible and request to speak with a Supervisor.

The Press and Media may take pictures or run a television camera inside the polling place providing they respect the voter's privacy and do not interfere with voting. They may speak to voters regarding how they are voting at a distance of 25 feet from the entrance to the polling place.

The Press and Media provide a valuable service to our community and we ask that you treat them courteously and with respect. If you have any questions regarding the activities of the Press and Media, please telephone the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division and ask to speak with a Supervisor.

## **Poll watchers**

Poll watchers are allowed at the polling place as long as they obey the rules set out in the California Elections Code.

A Poll Watcher may:

- Inspect the "Roster of Voters" or "Master Precinct Street Index". Any such inspection, however, must be done without impeding, interfering or interrupting the normal process of voting and counting.

- Inspect and write down information off the Indexes posted inside the polling place without removing them from the posted location.
- Observe all activities at the polling place (including activities after the polls close) providing there is no interference with the normal process.

A Poll Watcher may not:

- Engage in any electioneering (see “ELECTIONEERING”) within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place. This includes wearing campaign buttons, T-shirts, etc. This is a prohibited activity and will not be tolerated.
- Sit at the table used by the precinct board. Only members of the precinct board (and voters who are signing the Roster) are allowed to sit at the table used by the precinct board during the time the polls are open. Also, only members of the precinct board may sit at this table while they are in the process of closing the polls and packaging the ballots, supplies and equipment.
- Be within the immediate area of the voting booths while the polls are open.
- Remove the indexes posted at the entrance, inside the polling place.
- Disrupt or interfere with the process in any way.

If there is a Poll Watcher, observer or campaign worker who does not comply with these rules, you must inform this person that they may not continue the prohibited activity.

Be pleasant and reasonable (i.e. if there are not any voters in the polling place, and you are not using the “*Roster of Voters*” or “*Master Precinct Street Index*”, it is available for inspection).

Remember that Poll Watchers may not sit at the table or interfere with the process.

If the person argues with you or persists with the activity, either telephone the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division and speak with a Supervisor or contact the appropriate police authorities directly.

Do not be intimidated by Poll Watchers, observers and campaign workers. They have been known to use false statements to intimidate precinct officers into allowing prohibited activities. If you have any questions, telephone the Butte County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division and speak with a Supervisor.

# Laws on Campaign and Voting Violations

It is strongly urged that candidates provide all campaign workers and volunteers with copies of the following penal provisions.

## ELECTION CAMPAIGNS

### Printing of simulated sample ballots

In addition to any other penalty, any person who prints or otherwise duplicates, or causes to be printed or duplicated, a simulated ballot or simulated sample ballot that does not contain the statement required by section 20009 or that uses an official seal or insignia in violation thereof, is guilty of a misdemeanor. (Elections Code section 18301)

### Distribution of precinct polling place information

Every person is guilty of a misdemeanor who knowingly causes to be mailed or distributed, or knowingly mails or distributes, literature to any voter that includes a designation of the voter's precinct polling place other than a precinct polling place listed for that voter in an official precinct polling list that constituted the latest official precinct polling list at sometime not more than 30 days prior to the mailing or distribution.

(Elections Code section 18302)

### Mass mailing penal provisions

Every person who violates section 84305 of the Government Code relating to mass mailing is subject to the penal provisions set forth in Chapter 11 (commencing with section 91000) of Title 9 of the Government Code.

(Elections Code section 18303)

### Use of seal in campaign literature is misdemeanor

(a) Any person who uses or allows to be used any reproduction or facsimile of the seal of the county or the seal of a local government agency in any campaign literature or mass mailing, as defined in section 82041.5 of the Government Code, with intent to deceive the voters, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(b) For purposes of this section, the use of a reproduction or facsimile of a seal in a manner that creates a misleading, erroneous, or false impression that the document is authorized by a public official is evidence of intent to deceive.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "local government agency" means a school district, special or other district, or any other board, commission, or agency of local jurisdiction.

(Elections Code section 18304)

## POLITICAL PARTY CAUCUSES

### Payment for voting

A person shall not directly or through any other person pay or receive any money or other valuable consideration before, during, or after an election in order to reward any person or as a reward for voting for or against or agreeing to vote for or against the election or endorsement of any other person as the nominee or candidate of any caucus, convention, organized assemblage of delegates, or other body representing or claiming to represent a political party, candidate, or principle, or any club, society, or

association. A violation of this section shall be punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.  
(Elections Code section 18310)

### **Bribes offered or received at political gathering**

Every person is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years who:

(a) Gives or offers a bribe to any officer or member of any political convention, committee, or political gathering of any kind, held for the purpose of nominating candidates for offices of honor, trust, or profit in this state, with intent to influence the person to whom the bribe is given or offered to be more favorable to one candidate than another.

(b) Being a member of any of the bodies mentioned in this section receives or offers to receive any bribe described in subdivision (a).  
(Elections Code section 18311)

## **DECEPTIVE ONLINE ACTIVITIES**

### **“Political cyberfraud” defined**

(a) This act shall be known and may be cited as the “California Political Cyberfraud Abatement Act.”

(b) It is unlawful for a person, with intent to mislead, deceive, or defraud, to commit an act of political cyberfraud.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) “Political cyberfraud” means a knowing and willful act concerning a political Web site that is committed with the intent to deny a person access to a political Web site, deny a person the opportunity to register a domain name for a political Web site, or cause a person reasonably to believe that a political Web site has been posted by a person other than the person who posted the Web site, and would cause a reasonable person, after reading the Web site, to believe the site actually represents the views of the proponent or opponent of a ballot measure. Political cyberfraud includes, but is not limited to, any of the following acts:

(A) Intentionally diverting or redirecting access to a political Web site to another person’s Web site by the use of a similar domain name, meta-tags, or other electronic measures.

(B) Intentionally preventing or denying exit from a political Web site by the use of frames, hyperlinks, mousetrapping, popup screens, or other electronic measures.

(C) Registering a domain name that is similar to another domain name for a political Web site.

(D) Intentionally preventing the use of a domain name for a political Web site by registering and holding the domain name or by reselling it to another with the intent of preventing its use, or both.

(2) “Domain name” means any alphanumeric designation that is registered with or assigned by any domain name registrar, domain name registry, or other domain registration authority as part of an electronic address on the Internet.



(3) "Political Web site" means a Web site that urges or appears to urge the support or opposition of a ballot measure.

(Elections Code section 18320)

### **Application of article**

This article does not apply to a domain name registrar, registry, or registration authority.

(Elections Code section 18321)

### **Court may order transfer of domain name**

In addition to any other remedies available under law, a court may order the transfer of a domain name as part of the relief awarded for a violation of this article.

(Elections Code section 18322)

### **Jurisdiction**

Jurisdiction for actions brought pursuant to this article shall be in accordance with section 410.10 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(Elections Code section 18323)

## **SOLICITATION OF FUNDS**

It is unlawful for any person that includes in any part of its name the name of any political party that was qualified to participate in the last preceding primary election, to directly or indirectly solicit funds for any purpose whatsoever upon the representation either express or implied that the funds are being solicited for the use of that political party unless that person shall have previously obtained the written consent of one of the following: a member of the national committee from California or the majority of the members of the national committee if there are more than two national committee members from California, chairman of the state central committee, executive committee of the state central committee, or executive committee of the county central committee of the party whose name is being used in the county in which the solicitation is to be made. If the county central committee of the party in that county does not have an executive committee, the written consent of the chairman and secretary of that county central committee is sufficient.

All persons soliciting funds in accordance with this section shall be furnished with adequate credentials bearing the name of the solicitor and a copy of the written consent that bears the signature of the person authorizing the solicitation.

(Elections Code section 20201)

Any person who violates section 20201 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Elections Code section 18360)

### **Unauthorized use of candidate or committee name**

Upon the complaint of the affected candidate or committee, any person who violates section 20202 or 20203 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Elections Code section 18361)

## **CORRUPTION OF THE VOTING PROCESS**

### **Fraud in connection with vote cast**

Any person who commits fraud or attempts to commit fraud, and any person who aids or abets fraud or attempts to aid or abet fraud, in connection with any vote cast, to be cast, or attempted to be cast, is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 1850)

### **Public official who knowingly allows fraud shall forever be disqualified from holding office**

Any public official who knowingly violates any of the provisions of this chapter, and thereby aids in any way the illegal casting or attempting to cast a vote, or who connives to nullify any of the provisions of this chapter in order that fraud may be perpetrated, shall forever be disqualified from holding office in this state and upon conviction shall be sentenced to a state prison for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18501)

### **Interference with election officers**

Any person who in any manner interferes with the officers holding an election or conducting a canvass, or with the voters lawfully exercising their rights of voting at an election, as to prevent the election or canvass from being fairly held and lawfully conducted, is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18502)

## **CORRUPTION OF VOTERS**

### **Promise of employment**

A person shall not directly or through another person give, offer, or promise any office, place, or employment, or promise to procure or endeavor to procure any office, place, or employment to or for any voter, or to or for any other person, in order to induce that voter at any election to:

- (a) Refrain from voting.
- (b) Vote for any particular person.
- (c) Refrain from voting for any particular person.

A violation of any of the provisions of this section shall be punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18520)

### **Consideration for voting**

A person shall not directly or through any other person receive, agree, or contract for, before, during or after an election, any money, gift, loan, or other valuable consideration, office, place, or employment for himself or any other person because he or any other person:

- (a) Voted, agreed to vote, refrained from voting, or agreed to refrain from voting for any particular person or measure.
- (b) Remained away from the polls.
- (c) Refrained or agreed to refrain from voting.

- (d) Induced any other person to:
  - (1) Remain away from the polls.
  - (2) Refrain from voting.
  - (3) Vote or refrain from voting for any particular person or measure.

Any person violating this section is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18521)

### **Consideration for voting**

Neither a person nor a controlled committee shall directly or through any other person or controlled committee pay, lend, or contribute, or offer or promise to pay, lend, or contribute, any money or other valuable consideration to or for any voter or to or for any other person to:

- (a) Induce any voter to:
  - (1) Refrain from voting at any election.
  - (2) Vote or refrain from voting at an election for any particular person or measure.
  - (3) Remain away from the polls at an election.
  
- (b) Reward any voter for having:
  - (1) Refrained from voting.
  - (2) Voted for any particular person or measure.
  - (3) Refrained from voting for any particular person or measure.
  - (4) Remained away from the polls at an election.

Any person or candidate violating this section is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18522)

### **Bribery at election**

A person shall not directly or through any other person advance or pay, or cause to be paid, any money or other valuable thing to or for the use of any other person, with the intent that it, or any part thereof, shall be used in bribery at any election, or knowingly pay or cause to be paid any money or other valuable thing to any person in discharge or repayment of any money, wholly or in part, expended in bribery at any election.

Any person violating this section is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years. (Elections Code section 18523)

### **Payment for securing vote**

Elections Code section 18524. A person shall not directly or through any other person advance or pay, or cause to be paid, any money or other valuable thing to or for the use of any other person, with the intent that it, or any part thereof, will be used for boarding, lodging, or maintaining a person at any place or domicile in any election precinct, ward, or district, with intent to secure the vote of that person or to induce that person to vote for any particular person or measure.

Any person violating this section is punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18524)

## INTIMIDATION OF VOTERS

### Compelling another in voting

(a) Every person who makes use of or threatens to make use of any force, violence, or tactic of coercion or intimidation, to induce or compel any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election or to vote or refrain from voting for any particular person or measure at any election, or because any person voted or refrained from voting at any election or voted or refrained from voting for any particular person or measure at any election is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(b) Every person who hires or arranges for any other person to make use of or threaten to make use of any force, violence, or tactic of coercion or intimidation, to induce or compel any other person to vote or refrain from voting at any election or to vote or refrain from voting for any particular person or measure at any election, or because any person voted or refrained from voting at any election or voted or refrained from voting for any particular person or measure at any election is guilty of a felony punishable by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years.

(Elections Code section 18540)

### Solicitation dissuading persons from voting

(a) No person shall, with the intent of dissuading another person from voting, within 100 feet of a polling place, do any of the following:

(1) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking his or her ballot.

(2) Place a sign relating to voters' qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of his or her qualifications except as provided in section 14240.

(3) Photograph, video record, or otherwise record a voter entering or exiting a polling place.

(b) Any violation of this section is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than 12 months, or in the state prison. Any person who conspires to violate this section is guilty of a felony.

(c) For purposes of this section, 100 feet means a distance of 100 feet from the room or rooms in which voters are signing the roster and casting ballots.

(Elections Code section 18541)

## CORRUPTION OF VOTING

### Willful interference with return of vote by mail ballot application

Any person who willfully:

(a) interferes with the prompt delivery of a completed vote by mail ballot application,

(b) retains a completed vote by mail ballot application, without the voter's authorization, for more than three days excluding weekends and state holidays, or by the deadline for return of vote by mail ballot applications, whichever is earlier, or

(c) denies an applicant the right to return his or her own completed vote by mail ballot application to the local elections official having jurisdiction over the election, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Elections Code section 18576)

### Willful interference with return of vote by mail ballot

Any person having charge of a completed vote by mail ballot who willfully interferes or causes interference with its return to the local elections official having jurisdiction over the election is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment in the county jail not exceeding six months, by a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or by both the fine and imprisonment.  
(Elections Code section 18577)

## **MISUSE OF CAMPAIGN FUNDS**

### **Wrongful appropriation of money**

Every person who is entrusted with money or things of value for the purpose of promoting or defeating any initiative, referendum, or recall petition or any measure that has qualified for the ballot is a trustee of the money or things of value. If a person wrongfully appropriates the money or things of value to any use or purpose not in the due and lawful execution of the trust, the person shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars (\$5,000), or by imprisonment pursuant to subdivision (h) of section 1170 of the Penal Code for 16 months or two or three years, or in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment.

The following expenses are within the due and lawful execution of the trust:

- (a) Securing signatures to initiative, referendum, or recall petitions.
- (b) Circulating initiative, referendum, or recall petitions.
- (c) Holding and conducting public meetings.
- (d) Printing and circulating prior to an election:
  - (1) Specimen ballots.
  - (2) Handbills.
  - (3) Cards.
  - (4) Other papers.
- (e) Advertising.
- (f) Postage.
- (g) Expressage.
- (h) Telegraphing.
- (i) Telephoning.
- (j) All salaries and expenses of:
  - (1) Campaign managers.
  - (2) Lecturers.
  - (3) Solicitors.
  - (4) Agents.
  - (5) All persons employed in transacting business at headquarters or branch offices, if the business transacted is related to promoting or defeating an initiative, referendum, or recall petition or any measure which has qualified for the ballot.
- (k) Maintaining headquarters and branch offices.

(l) Renting of rooms for the transaction of the business of an association.

(m) Attorney's fees and other costs in connection with litigation where the litigation arises directly out of any of the following:

(1) Activities related to promoting or defeating an initiative, referendum, or recall petition or any measure that has qualified for the ballot.

(2) The enactment, by the initiative process, of any ordinance, charter amendment, statute, or constitutional amendment.

(3) An election contest or recount.

(4) A violation of state or local campaign, disclosure, or election laws.

The amendment of this section by adding subdivision (m) thereto, made at the 1991–92 Regular Session of the Legislature, does not constitute a change in, but is declaratory of, the existing law.

Expenses for food, clothing, shelter and other personal needs of the trustee are not within the due and lawful execution of the trust. However, expenses for travel and necessary accommodations for the trustee are within the due and lawful execution of the trust, if the travel and accommodations are related to promoting or defeating an initiative, referendum, or recall petition or any measure that has qualified for the ballot.

(Elections Code section 18680)

For additional information see Division 18 of the California Elections Code

## Political Activities

The laws governing political activities of County employees include the following:

- Provisions of the California Government Code concerning political activities of public employees (California Government Code §3201, et seq.)
- The Federal Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §7301, et seq.)
- The Butte County Charter (Article XII, Section 3), and Butte County Personnel Rule 7.7.

All County officers and employees are covered by the prohibitions of state law contained in Government Code sections 3201 through 3209 concerning political activities, and the Butte County Charter and Personnel Rules. In addition, a limited number of County officers and employees who are paid with federal grant money or loans, or whose principal employment is in connection with an activity or program which is financed in whole or in part by grants or loans made by the U.S. or a federal agency are also subject to the political restrictions of the Federal Hatch Act.

# Election Night Results

All ballots are tabulated at central location.

Hall of Records  
155 Nelson Avenue, Oroville

Website: [www.ButteVotes.net](http://www.ButteVotes.net)  
Telephone: (530)552-3400 or (800)894-7761 toll free within Butte County.

## **Election Night Results**

The first election results are released at approximately 8:15pm. These results are vote by mail ballots cast and “mailed ballot precinct” ballots cast throughout the county.

Following the initial release of results, we have to wait until ballots cast at the polling place are received for tabulation at the County Clerk-Recorder Elections Division. This is usually around 9:30pm and results will be released approximately every 45 minutes thereafter until all ballots have been received and tabulated.

## **Updated Election Results**

Election results will be updated every Friday after 9am until Official Final Results are certified by the County Clerk-Recorder/Registrar of Voters.

The first update will contain polling place ballots that have been reviewed for voter intent and re-tabulated and some vote by mail ballots dropped at the polling place on Election Day.

Additional updates will contain vote by mail ballots dropped at the polls on Election Day and provisional ballots.

## **Final Election Results**

The Official Final Results are certified by the County Clerk-Recorder when the official canvass has been completed and all votes are tabulated. The certification must be no later than the 30<sup>th</sup> day following the election.



## Important Contact Information

Office	Phone Number	Fax Number	Website Address
<b>Butte County Elections Office</b> 155 Nelson Ave Oroville, CA 95965-3361	(530) 552-3400 (800) 894-7761	(530) 538-6853	<a href="http://buttevotes.net">http://buttevotes.net</a>
<b>Butte County District Attorney</b> 25 County Center Drive, Suite 245 Oroville, CA 95965-3370	(530) 538-7411	(530) 538-7071	<a href="http://buttecounty.net/da">http://buttecounty.net/da</a>
<b>City of Biggs</b> 465 C Street / P.O. Box 307 Biggs, CA 95917	(530) 868-5493	(530) 868-5239	<a href="http://www.biggs-ca.gov">http://www.biggs-ca.gov</a>
<b>City of Chico</b> Administrative Offices 411 Main Street Chico, CA 95928 P.O. Box 3420, Chico, CA 95927-3420	(530) 896-7250	(530) 896-7298	<a href="http://www.ci.chico.ca.us">http://www.ci.chico.ca.us</a>
<b>City of Gridley</b> Administrative Offices – City Hall 685 Kentucky Street Gridley, CA 95948	(530) 846-5695	(530) 846-3229	<a href="http://www.gridley.ca.us">http://www.gridley.ca.us</a>
<b>City of Oroville</b> Administrative Offices – City Hall 1735 Montgomery Street Oroville, CA 95965	(530) 538-2405	(530) 538-2468	<a href="http://www.cityoforoville.org">http://www.cityoforoville.org</a>
<b>Town of Paradise</b> Administrative Offices – Town Hall 5555 Skyway Paradise, CA 95969	(530) 872-6291	(530) 877-5059	<a href="http://www.townofparadise.com">http://www.townofparadise.com</a>
<b>Secretary of State's Office</b> <b>Election Division</b> 1500 11th Street Sacramento, CA 95814	(916) 657-2166 (800) 345-VOTE	(916) 653-3214	<a href="http://www.sos.ca.gov">http://www.sos.ca.gov</a>
<b>Election Fraud Investigation Unit</b>	(800) 345-VOTE		
<b>Political Reform Division</b>	(916) 653-6224	(916) 653-5045	
<b>Fair Political Practices Commission</b> 428 J Street, Suite 620 Sacramento, CA 95814	(866) 275-3772	(916) 322-0886	<a href="http://www.fppc.ca.gov">http://www.fppc.ca.gov</a>
<b>State Department of Transportation</b> Division of Traffic Operations Outdoor Advertising Branch P.O. Box 942874, MS-36 Sacramento, CA 94274-001	(916) 654-6473	(916) 651-9359	<a href="http://www.dot.ca.gov/oda">http://www.dot.ca.gov/oda</a>
<b>State Franchise Tax Board</b>	(800) 338-0505		<a href="http://www.ftb.ca.gov">http://www.ftb.ca.gov</a>
<b>Internal Revenue Service</b>	(800) 829-1040		<a href="http://www.irs.gov">http://www.irs.gov</a>
<b>Attorney General</b> P.O. Box 944255 Sacramento, CA 94244-2550	(800) 952-5225	(916) 323-5341	<a href="http://oag.ca.gov">http://oag.ca.gov</a>
<b>Federal Elections Commission</b> 999 E Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20463	(800) 424-9530 (202) 624-1000		<a href="http://www.fec.gov">http://www.fec.gov</a>

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**Attachment A**  
**Ballot Argument Signature Statement**

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# Ballot Argument Signature Statement

The Butte County Elections Office requires this statement be completed and submitted with the argument. Names and titles listed will be printed in the order provided, and will appear as indicated. In addition, no more than 5 names may be printed following the written argument statement in the Sample Ballot Voter Information Booklet.

**Argument/Rebuttal Filed by** (Check any of the following that apply)

- Board of Supervisors or any member(s) of the Board
- Individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure
- Bona Fide Association of Citizens

**Ballot Argument Contact:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Day Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Evening Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**The undersigned author(s) of the:**

- Argument in Favor of**
- Argument Against**
- Rebuttal to the Argument in Favor of**
- Rebuttal to the Argument Against**

Ballot measure letter \_\_\_\_\_, to be voted on at the (Primary or General) election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_ in the County of Butte, and hereby state that this argument is true and correct to the best of his/her/their knowledge and belief.

**Each person must clearly print and sign as indicated below. Printing will be in the order as submitted.**

	Print Name clearly	Print Title and Name of Organization	Signature	Date
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2				
3				
4				
5				

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**Attachment B**  
**Rebuttal Argument**  
**Alternate Signer Authorization Form**

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# Rebuttal Argument Alternate Signer Authorization Form

Any original author who wishes to allow someone else to sign the rebuttal argument in their place must authorize in writing on the form below.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ authorize the following person(s) to sign  
(Filer's Name)

rebuttal to the:

- Argument in Favor of  
 Argument Against

Ballot Measure letter \_\_\_\_\_ for the election to be held on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date of Election)

One or more people who signed the argument may be replaced with other people to sign the rebuttal argument:

*Please print clearly:*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ to sign instead of \_\_\_\_\_  
name of rebuttal signer name of argument signer
2. \_\_\_\_\_ to sign instead of \_\_\_\_\_  
name of rebuttal signer name of argument signer
3. \_\_\_\_\_ to sign instead of \_\_\_\_\_  
name of rebuttal signer name of argument signer
4. \_\_\_\_\_ to sign instead of \_\_\_\_\_  
name of rebuttal signer name of argument signer
5. \_\_\_\_\_ to sign instead of \_\_\_\_\_  
name of rebuttal signer name of argument signer

**Filer's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

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**Attachment C**  
**Public Contact Website Information Release Form**

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## PUBLIC CONTACT WEBSITE INFORMATION RELEASE

The Butte County Elections Office requires all ballot measure committees to complete this form.

Customers, including, but not limited to, vendors and media obtain lists of local measures. Only provide the information you want released to the public below.

Please print clearly.

Group in Favor of Measure \_\_\_\_\_

Group Opposing Measure \_\_\_\_\_

1. Committee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

3. Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City or Town Zip

3. Telephone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Email: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Website: http:// \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_