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SAN BERNARDINO**

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GOVERNMENTAL & LEGISLATIVE
AFFAIRS

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

March 13, 2014

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5158
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1873 (Gonzalez) – As introduced February 19, 2014 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblywoman Gonzalez:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1873, which would authorize a county board of supervisors to conduct a special election or special consolidated election to fill a legislative or municipal office vacancy wholly by mail under specified conditions.

Special elections can cost millions of dollars and cannot be planned for. Counties are often forced to redirect important resources budgeted for critical community services because of special elections. In some cases, special elections are held as stand-alone elections rather than being consolidated into one. This dramatically increases the unplanned expense.

AB 1873 would allow counties to take advantage of cost-saving measures by removing the requirement that an all-mail ballot election be conducted only in cities with populations of 100,000 or less. In addition, it would remove the prohibition against conducting all-mail elections for consolidated elections. This legislation would provide important cost savings to counties and taxpayers.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports AB 1873 and thanks you for addressing this important issue. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4821.

Sincerely,

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Board of Supervisors Chair
Second District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation
Members and Consultants, Elections and Redistricting Committee