



*Election Integrity Project California*  
EVERY LAWFULLY CAST VOTE ACCURATELY COUNTED

**August 13, 2018**

## **Will Your Voice Be Heard?**

**[CLICK HERE](#)** for audio-visual presentation of this information)

Last week's article reminded you to verify the status of your voter registration **now** and before each and every election in the future. Systems have glitches, data entry individuals make mistakes, and bad actors abound.

You must protect your voice in government by doing due diligence. (Reminder: go to <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov> to see your current information; also check on your County Elections Office website. The two websites are supposedly in sync, but there are still major bugs in the system, so check in both places.)

**Here is more food for thought: Thousands of ballots and petition signatures are rejected each election cycle. Will yours be one of them?**

Here are some questions to consider:

- Has your signature changed since your latest application to vote?
- Have you gotten older?
- Have you had an illness or injury that affects your writing?
- Have you re-invented the way you present yourself through your autograph?

If you have had no need to recently update your registration, your current signature could be different enough from the signature on file for you with the Registrar of Voters (ROV) that it **might be rejected** by those processing petitions, mail ballots or provisional ballots.

If you have not recently interacted with the ROV, and have been registered to vote for many years with no changes made, it is a very good idea to find time to drop by your county ROV office. **Ask to see the signature(s)** they have on file for you. If your eyes tell you that a change is needed, **request to update your file.**

Another alphabet agency that may be affecting the acceptance or rejection of your petition or ballot signature is the DMV.

**The way you signed your name on that electronic pad when you got, renewed or updated your Driver License now becomes part of your ROV signature file.**

Check your license-is that the way you will sign your name when you sign a petition or an envelope ballot? Probably not.

The ROV is required to attempt a signature match with any and all signatures that may be on file for the voter, so the DMV signature may not do as much damage to long-time registrants.

**Younger voters need to be especially concerned about the DMV connection.**

More and more people are now registered through the DMV, and your license signature may be the **ONLY** signature the ROV has to compare to what you provide in connection with the electoral process.

To be sure your signature will be accepted, either visit the ROV and provide a signature that will match the way you intend to sign when voting, or inspect your license signature and **sign your petitions and ballots the same way.**

**EIPCa recommends NOT voting with a ballot that requires a signature (mail, conditional or provisional ballot) unless absolutely necessary.**

**But always be prepared, and be sure your ballot or petition signature WILL COUNT.**

**PROTECT YOURSELF, AND SPREAD THE WORD TO OTHERS.**

*Linda and the EIPCa Team*

*Linda Paine*  
**President and Co-founder**  
*Election Integrity Project California*

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