



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

**September 17, 2018**

## **ASSISTED VOTING**

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

While **FOUR** California election codes mandate that voters mark their ballots **ALONE** in a **BOOTH** or **COMPARTMENT**, voters are also entitled to any assistance they may need to mark their ballots. But before any two or more people over the age of 18 are allowed to share a booth, there is a security procedure that **must be followed**.

Voters who cannot read or mark their ballot without assistance may ask a poll worker to help them, or they may provide **up to two** people of their own choosing. **BUT...**

- The voter must first request the assistance.
- Then the poll worker must administer the Assisted Voter Oath, by which the voter affirms that he or she cannot vote unassisted.
- Next the Poll Worker must record the name of the assisted voter on a **special** list.
- Then, **and only then**, may the assistance occur.

**Not even married couples or family members** are allowed to assist one another or be in the same booth without following the Assisted Voter procedure and without one of them taking the Assisted Voter oath. ***This is to protect each voter's autonomy, and protect those who might otherwise be bullied, domineered or abused.*** An assistor may **not** be an employer or union representative of the voter, and may not advise the voter **HOW** to vote. It is important that an assisted voter still retain full personal will.

Poll Workers may know of these laws, but they are rarely given the understanding of how vital these laws are to protecting the right of a secret ballot. They either don't want the potential hassle of confronting insistent voters or they just "don't see what the big deal is" and therefore they allow **unlawful voter assistance**, and by extension they **facilitate voter intimidation**.

Most voters should be able to vote without the help of another human being.

- Ballots and facsimile ballots are available in all languages serviced by the individual county, as mandated by federal law.
- Voting machines are programmable in those languages.
- Voting machines can provide a ballot with large print for people with visual difficulties.
- Voters who cannot read the ballot for whatever reason may have the ballot read to them by way of the headphones on the machine.

When you are in the polls as an official observer or as a voter, keep an eye out to see that if voters are being assisted, proper procedures are being followed. Protect yourself and others by **politely questioning** the Precinct Inspector about inappropriate voter assistance, or voters refused assistance needed. Remember **never** to **interfere** with the voting process, and contact EIPCa if the situation remains unchanged. ([www.eip-ca.com](http://www.eip-ca.com))

One person who speaks up can protect votes and voters for the rest of the voting day. Be sure to use your knowledge to help others who may not know how their rights are being violated. Fair and honest elections **KEEP THE REPUBLIC**. Thanks for doing your part.

*Linda and the EIPCa Team*

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

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