

April 14, 2023

AB: 1539

Members Assembly Committee on Elections Assembly Member Isaac Bryan, Chair

OPPOSE

Members of the Assembly Committee on Elections,

Election Integrity Project[®] *California*, Inc. (EIPCa) **Opposes AB 1539** as written and amended as of the date of this letter.

Election integrity is a topic of great concern around the nation.

Voters need to know that their state officials, legislators and law enforcement officials are protective of their rights, especially their civil right to be secure in knowing that each citizen gets ONE vote, that no one is more "equal" than anyone else, and that the penalty for breaching that trust is severe enough to be a powerful deterrent.

The connotation of "misdemeanor" is a simple misstep, an "oops", a slight lapse in judgement that has minor impact on any individual or society. It is a deed that lacks malicious intent and is easily forgivable, to be "paid" for with a sensible fine and/or a little community service.

Doing anything with the intent to manipulate the electoral process or the outcome of any election is **NOT** an "oops." It does **NOT** lack malicious intent and **IS an attack on the very democratic process at the heart of our great Republic.**

Under current CA law, voting twice, whether within the same state or in two different states, is a felony. **It needs to remain a felony**, not be downgraded to a simple misdemeanor.

EIPCa urges a NO vote on AB 1539.

Sincerely,

ELECTION INTEGRITY PROJECT® CALIFORNIA, INC

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