



June 7, 2025

Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee
Sabrina Cervantes, Chair

AB 5

OPPOSE

Members of the Committee,

Election Integrity Project® *California*, Inc. (EIPCa) **opposes AB 5** as written and amended as of the date of this letter.

California is widely and rightly criticized and disdained for taking thirty (30) days after Election Day to certify election results, when **every other U.S. state** does so in **3 days or fewer**, and **virtually every legitimate democratic country in the world does so in even less time.**

AB 5 mandates no change in the chaotic and needlessly complex system that causes the certification delay. It only mandates rushing through the processing of certain ballots.

For what purpose?

AB 5 requires mountains of ballots received on or just before Election Day to be rushed through the complex and (if done properly) time-consuming processing procedures in order to release the results of their tabulation within 10 days.

Nothing is gained by doing so, and integrity is lost.

Not only would the **AB 5** mandate result in less rigorous scrutiny to ensure the validity of each ballot, meeting the 10-day deadline would be **nothing more than a Pyrrhic victory.** **AB 5** does **nothing** to push California toward achieving what all other states already have: **timely election results.**

The California system is **DEEPLY FLAWED**, and the requirements of AB 5 will do **nothing** to resolve the real problems or reassure the public.

The California electoral system unnecessarily:

- **wastes billions** of taxpayer dollars by:
 - extending the election season to 60 days and beyond.
 - renting voting venues that go virtually unused for the vast majority of the open days.
 - hiring workers who often have little to do while getting paid full-time wages.

- printing and mailing millions of ballots that will go to waste.
- purchasing and maintaining faulty technology that continues to be proven unreliable.
- employs practices that **deeply and negatively impact the environment by:**
 - printing, transporting and mailing ballots to all registrants, **at least half of which will discard them unused.**

This waste of ink, paper and carbon footprint is **indefensible**.

- engenders distrust among the citizens and thus **actively promotes voter suppression** through:
 - weak ballot security (unstaffed/un-surveilled drop boxes; use of USPS for mailing ballots to and from the elections office; uncontrolled ballot harvesting)
 - non-existent chain of custody (same list as above)
 - non-standardized and permissive ballot verification procedures

EIPCa urges the legislature to:

- **stop wasting time and political capital** on bills that provide no significant remedy to the real electoral issues plaguing the once-Golden State.
- **take off the blinders** of the soft bigotry of low expectations.
- **adopt the best practices** of successful states and countries.
- **give Californians an electoral process they can respect and trust**

Do the REAL work necessary.

EIPCa urges a NO vote on AB 5.

Sincerely,

ELECTION INTEGRITY PROJECT® *CALIFORNIA*, INC.

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