



April 28, 2023

Members Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee
Senator Steven M. Glazer, Chair

SCA 1

OPPOSE

Members of the Committee,

Election Integrity Project®*California*, Inc. (EIPCa) **Opposes SCA 1** as written and amended as of the date of this letter.

As uncomfortable as it can be for everyone involved when the citizenry determines that a recall of their elected Governor is necessary, the people of a Republic have a right to self-govern, to choose officials to represent and govern them honorably and to oust those who betray that trust.

On the rare occasion when a recall of a sitting state Governor is qualified, it is the people's right not only to vote to oust the person in question, but to **choose a replacement**.

The job description of the Lieutenant Governor is, in part, to be a stop-gap Governor if that person CANNOT (due to physical or mental disability) do the job, **not** if that person WILL NOT or REFUSES to do the job adequately in the mind's of the constituency.

The Lieutenant Governor is almost always on the same partisan and ideological "page" as the Governor, and as such would be just as unacceptable to the citizenry as the person they are "firing".

The proposal of SCA 1 that the Lieutenant Governor simply assume the governorship in the event of a successful recall would make a gubernatorial recall effort a "frying pan vs the fire" situation, and monumentally suppress not only the people's right to self-govern but their eagerness to participate in government at all.

Every step should be taken to encourage full participation of all eligible voters in making the decisions and choices that affect their lives and keep our Republic not only strong but also responsive to its constituents. SCA 1 is definitely a step in the wrong direction.

The current system of having a ballot with both a YES or NO choice regarding recall and a slate of potential replacements to select from in the event the recall is successful is effective, streamlined, fiscally responsible and fair to the voters.

EIPCa strongly urges a NO vote on SCA 1.

Sincerely,

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