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April 26, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2050 (Pellerin): Voter registration database: Electronic Registration Information Center  
As Introduced February 1, 2024 – SUPPORT  
Set to be heard in Assembly Appropriations Committee – May 1, 2024**

Dear Assembly Member Wicks,

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties, representing all 58 counties in California, I am pleased to support Assembly Bill (AB) 2050 by Assembly Member Pellerin. This measure would allow California to enroll in the voter registration database: Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC).

California counties play a crucial role in voter registration by overseeing the processing of voter registration forms, updating voter rolls, and ensuring eligible residents are registered to vote. Additionally, counties amongst a myriad of other duties, administer elections, including managing polling places, distributing ballots, counting votes, and conducting voter outreach and education campaigns.

Existing law requires the Secretary of State to establish a statewide system to remove duplicate or prior voter registrations. This system aims to facilitate reporting election results and voter and candidate information and enhance election administration. As per the Secretary of State's determination, certain voter registration information should be provided to individuals for election, scholarly, journalistic, political, or governmental purposes.

This measure would authorize the Secretary of State to apply for ERIC membership, ensuring that counties maintain their ability to provide voters with the benefits of their services. If approved, the Secretary of State can execute a membership agreement with the Electronic Registration Information Center on behalf of the state. While membership in ERIC would require some upfront costs and annual dues, the costs are *de minimis* compared to the value of improving voter outreach and better-maintaining voter rolls.

AB 2050 would also require the Secretary of State to ensure the confidentiality of any information or data provided by another state. Moreover, the Secretary of State can securely transmit certain confidential information or data under that agreement. The bill will also allow the Secretary of State to develop regulations necessary to implement these provisions in consultation with the California Privacy Protection Agency.

For these reasons, CSAC supports AB 2050 and respectfully requests your AYE vote. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at [elawyer@counties.org](mailto:elawyer@counties.org).

The Honorable Buffy Wicks

April 26, 2024

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Sincerely,



Eric Lawyer

Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Gail Pellerin, California State Assembly  
Members and Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Joe Shinstock, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus