

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS**

**AMENDMENT DATE:** Original  
**POSITION:** Neutral

**BILL NUMBER:** AB 2369  
**AUTHOR:** M. Block

**BILL SUMMARY: Elections: Ballots**

This bill would repeal the sunset date on (and make permanent) several provisions of law relating to special absentee ballots, including permitting special absentee voters to return their ballots to the elections officials by facsimile transmission. This bill would also make technical and conforming changes.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

The Secretary of State's Office indicates that this bill would have no fiscal impact to its office. Since this bill only repeals the sunset date, it does not cause the creation of a reimbursable state-mandated local program. We note that there are no current mandate costs associated with the existing statutory provisions this bill would make permanent.

**COMMENTS**

Existing law permits a voter to return a vote-by-mail (VBM) ballot either by mail to the elections official, by personal delivery to the elections official, or to a precinct board member at any polling place within the jurisdiction.

Existing law also permits a special absentee voter to return his or her VBM ballot by facsimile transmission to the elections official until January 1, 2011.

Existing law requires a special absentee voter to agree, under penalty of perjury, to waive his or her right to a secret ballot and that he or she has not applied for a VBM ballot from any other jurisdiction for the election. The elections official is required to determine the voter's eligibility to vote by comparing the voter's signature from the materials returned by facsimile transmission to the signature on the voter's affidavit of registration.

This bill would extend these provisions permanently.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)						Fund Code
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)						
	CO	PROP	2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012	
RV	98	FC	FC	FC	FC			
0890/Secty State	SO	No	-----	No/Minor Fiscal Impact	-----			0001
8885/Comm St Mndt	SO	No	-----	No/Minor Fiscal Impact	-----			0001

Analyst/Principal Date Assistant Program Budget Manager Date  
 (0222)J. Fitzpatrick

Department Deputy Director Date

Governor's Office: By: Date: Position Approved \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position Disapproved \_\_\_\_\_

**BILL ANALYSIS** Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)