

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: April 26, 2011
POSITION: Oppose

BILL NUMBER: AB 193
AUTHOR: S. Knight

BILL SUMMARY: Polling Place Designation

This bill would prohibit a single-family residence from being designated as a polling place if elections officials determine that it is the registered address of a sex offender. This bill would require elections officials to consult the Megan’s Law sex offender database (maintained by the Department of Justice) prior to designating any single-family home as a polling place.

FISCAL SUMMARY

This bill would likely result in a reimbursable state mandate of unknown cost by requiring elections officials to check (against the specified sex offender registry) the address of every potential polling place that is a single-family home (prior to each election). Finance notes that the California Association of Clerks and Elections Officials (CACEO) indicated that the requirements of this measure would impose an onerous task and ongoing costs on counties. The CACEO also noted that, with approximately 5,000 polling places in Los Angeles County alone, the time and expense to check each location would be significant.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance is opposed to this bill because it would likely result in a reimbursable state mandate of unknown, but potentially significant, General Fund costs.

Existing law requires elections officials to designate a polling place for each precinct at least 29 days prior to the election.

Existing law, the Sex Offender Registration Act, generally requires individuals convicted of specified sex offenses to register, within five working days of coming into (or changing his or her residence within) any city or county, with law enforcement officials, as provided.

This bill would prohibit a polling place from being designated at a single-family home where a registered sex offender resides and also would require elections officials to check the sex offender registry not more than 60 days prior to designating a single-family home as a polling place.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)									
	SO	(Dollars in Thousands)								Fund Code
	LA	CO	PROP	FC	2010-2011	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	
8885/Comm St Mndt	SO	No			-----	See Fiscal Summary	-----			0001

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

Department Deputy Director	Date
----------------------------	------

Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

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