



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **BRUCE McPHERSON**

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Contact: Nghia Nguyen Demovic
916-653-6575

Secretary of State Bruce McPherson Issues Election Day Voter Bulletin

Educates Californians About Election Day "Do's and Don'ts"

SACRAMENTO, CA - With less than 24 hours to go before the polls open, Secretary of State Bruce McPherson today issued the following important Voter Bulletin, a list of "Do's and Don'ts" for California voters, pollsters, campaigners and businesses.

- DO:** Vote for candidates and ballot measures of YOUR choice at your designated polling place location between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. If you need assistance locating your polling place, visit the Secretary of State's website, www.ss.ca.gov or call 1-800-345-VOTE.
- DON'T:** Coerce, influence, discourage, or interfere with any voter's right to vote. Impeding or interfering with any individual's right to vote, or intimidating anyone desiring to exercise his or her right to vote is a crime under the California Elections Code. **VOTER INTIMIDATION WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!**
- DO:** Encourage your family, friends, employees, and customers, who are registered voters to cast ballots on Election Day. **100% VOTER PARTICIPATION IS OUR GOAL!** Also, check out LIVE ELECTION NIGHT RETURNS on the Secretary of State's election night website, <http://vote.ss.ca.gov> for up-to-the-minute results on statewide candidate races and ballot measures.
- DON'T:** Offer incentives to voters for agreeing to vote or refraining from voting pursuant to both state and federal laws.
- DO:** Make sure you return your completed absentee ballot to your county registrar of voters' office or to any polling place located in your county before 8:00 p.m. on Election Day. Absentee ballots received after 8:00 p.m. will not be counted.
- DON'T:** Circulate a petition, solicit a vote, speak to a voter about marking his or her ballot, or advocate votes for or against a candidate or ballot measure within 100 feet of a polling place location per the California Elections Code. **ABSOLUTELY NO ELECTIONEERING!**

DO: Ask a poll worker if you need help casting a ballot on the voting equipment. Many counties purchased new voting systems to meet federal and state laws, so you may be casting a ballot on unfamiliar systems. You can find out how to use the equipment for your county by visiting the Secretary of State's website, www.ss.ca.gov.

DON'T: Do not leave the polling place just because your name does not appear on the roster at your polling place. If your name is not on the list of voters at the polling place, you have a right to cast a "provisional" ballot. This is a ballot that goes into a special envelope and will be counted if the elections official confirms that you are eligible to vote. The poll worker will give you information to find out if your vote was counted, and if it was not, why not.

DO: Check your voter verified paper audit trail before you leave the voting booth. New state law requires that all electronic voting machines be equipped with a paper audit trail. If you vote on an electronic voting machine, be sure to verify that the paper record accurately reflects your choice(s) prior to leaving the voting booth. However, you will not be given the paper receipt, so don't expect to walk out with it. The system keeps the audit trail as a back-up.

Secretary McPherson encouraged any voters who observe election misconduct to call the Secretary of State's toll-free hotline at 1-800-345-VOTE.