

September 22, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Brown Governor, State of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1461 (Gonzalez) Voter registration – Request Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

On behalf of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors, I am writing in support of AB 1461 (Gonzalez), which would enact the California New Motor Voter Act to make voter registration easier when citizens get or renew a driver's license, thereby increasing opportunities for eligible citizens to participate in democracy by voting.

Specifically, AB 1461 does the following:

- Requires the DMV to transfer voter registration information to the Secretary of State (SOS) when a citizen gets or renews a driver's license.
- Requires notification and an opportunity for each person whose information is transferred to choose a political party or decline to be registered to vote.
- Prohibits transfer of non-citizen information from the DMV to SOS.
- Preserves current law allowing a person to cancel his or her voter registration at any time.
- Preserves current law protecting confidentiality of voter information, including for persons who are peace officers, victims of domestic violence, and victims of sexual assault or stalking.
- Requires the SOS to adopt regulations to implement the Act.

California ranked 38th among 50 states in voter registration in 2014 with nearly 7 million Californians eligible to vote but not yet registered. This will increase voter registration by having people opt out rather than opt in through the DMV. Therefore, the Alameda County Board of Supervisors supports AB 1461 and urges you to sign the measure. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 443-8891.

Sincerely,

Micole Wordelman

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