

February 07, 2012

Honorable Mike Feuer
State Capitol
Room 2013
Sacramento, CA 94249

RE: AB 1436 (Feuer) –Voter Registration–SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Feuer,

Please accept this letter of support for AB 1436, which will help extend provisional ballots to voters who register after the 15-day prior registration deadline for elections.

AB 1436 will allow for conditional voter registration between election day and 15 days prior. Conditional voter registration will allow people to cast a provisional ballot and will only be counted if the registration information is deemed effective. AB 1436 establishes that if the registration cannot be deemed effective for that election the ballot will not be counted. However, if the person meets all eligibility requirements to vote, he or she will be registered for upcoming elections.

AB 1436 will help increase voter turnout among people that become increasingly aware of election issues and candidates closer to election dates. Election coverage increases in the last two weeks before an election and therefore would attract more people to register to vote. Under our current system these people are ineligible to vote because of the 15-day prior deadline. AB 1436 would give access to those voters who become engaged in elections after the 15-day deadline. This bill has the potential to increase voter registration by 5-10 percent and bring in young or disengaged voters.