



May 7, 2021

The Honorable Jacqui Irwin
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 5119
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 751 (Irwin) Vital records: electronic requests
As Introduced on February 16, 2021 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Irwin:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and the Urban Counties of California (UCC), we write in support of your AB 751, which would delete the January 1, 2022 sunset date allowing state and local officials to accept the electronically verified proof of identity of a person requesting a vital record. This bill also includes important provisions to reflect the National Institute of Standards and Technology standards. These standards are considered the most secure and robust guidelines on remote identity proofing, and will ensure the law's requirements remain up-to-date with identity proofing and keeping personal information secure.

There are 25 counties that have utilized remote identity proofing for access to vital records, and they report that approximately 80% of all customers are successful in having their identity authenticated by the process. This streamlined and modernized process has proved to reduce the time and cost to customers who are unable to visit the County Recorder's office in the county in which the particular life event occurred. Since its implementation in 2018 there have been no reported cases of identity fraud related to the use of an electronic identity proofing process.

Over the last year the COVID-19 pandemic has emphasized the importance of having electronic verifications, which allow for social distancing and remote work. AB 751 will ensure that county offices, and their constituents, continue to have a safe and accessible means to conduct business.

For the reasons above, we support AB 751 and thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Geoff Neill'.

Geoff Neill
Legislative Representative
California State Association of Counties
gneill@counties.org

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jean Kinney Hurst'.

Jean Kinney Hurst
Legislative Advocate
Urban Counties of California
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