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August 13, 2021

The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, California 95814

**Re: SB 504 (Becker) – Elections: voter registration
SUPPORT – As Amended July 8, 2021
Set for Hearing – August 19, 2021 – Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 counties in the state, I am pleased to support SB 504, by Senator Becker, which would help ensure that military and overseas voters and justice-involved Californians, when appropriate, are able to vote.

Counties support efficient and accessible voting for all. Election policies should aim to further our government’s democratic republican nature by allowing and encouraging voting by a broad range of citizens, so that the government’s decisions express the will of the people as fully as possible.

SB 504 makes two changes that would further these goals. First, it would give military and overseas voters the same opportunity other California voters have to use the conditional voter registration process if they miss the registration deadline. Second, it improves the dataflow and reliability of information county election officials receive about Californians imprisoned for felonies and released on parole, thus improving the accuracy of the voters rolls and ensuring those who are eligible to vote can do so.

For these reasons, CSAC supports SB 504 and requests your “aye” vote when it comes before you. Should you have any questions, please contact me at gneill@counties.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Geoff Neill
Legislative Representative

Cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Honorable Josh Becker, California State Senate
Assembly Republican Caucus