



September 1, 2022

**VIA Email to the Office of the Governor and Author**

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of the State of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA, 95814

**RE: SB 1131 (Newman) – Address confidentiality: public entity employees and contractors – REQUEST FOR GOVERNOR’S SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The League of Women Voters of California writes to request your signature on SB 1131 (Newman), to allow public entity employees and contractors, including election workers, to use the “Safe at Home” address confidentiality program to keep their personal information from being publicly disclosed. The address confidentiality program is currently available to various public officials, including the Attorney General, public defenders, and members of the Legislature. The legislation also prohibits the release of election board members’ names but retains the requirement to publish their political party affiliation.

It is an unfortunate fact of our current political climate, tainted by the proliferation of violent threats against and harassment of election workers, that we must ensure personal protection and privacy to those working at the vanguard of our democracy. A 2021 nationwide survey of election workers found that as many as 1 in 3 feel unsafe because of their job, and that approximately 1 in 6 listed threats to

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their lives as a job-related concern.<sup>1</sup> Since November 2020, more than 15 percent of California's election officials have left their jobs, due in no small part to the marked increase in aggressive and abusive behavior targeted at them.<sup>2</sup> One of the most serious problems experienced is "doxing" and harassment that result from names, photographs, and addresses being posted online and on social media platforms.

**The League urges you to sign SB 1131 (Newman), because by extending privacy safeguards to election workers we protect Californians' fundamental voting rights.**

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Carol Moon Goldberg

President

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<sup>1</sup> Brennan Center for Justice and the Bipartisan Policy Center, "[Election Officials Under Attack How to Protect Administrators and Safeguard Democracy](#)", June 16th, 2021.

<sup>2</sup> California Voter Foundation, "[Documenting and Addressing Harassment of Election Officials](#)", June 8, 2021.