

County of El Dorado

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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February 27, 2007

The Honorable Ron Calderon
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: OPPOSE - SB 113 (Calderon) – Elections: presidential primary elections
As Amended February 9, 2007

Dear Senator Calderon:

On behalf of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, I write to notify you that on February 27, 2007, our Board voted to formally oppose Senate Bill 113, your bill proposing to move the presidential primary from June to February.

The requirement to conduct a third statewide election in 2008 will cost our county approximately \$450,000. While this number may pale in comparison to anticipated costs for the larger counties, it is truly significant to our county and our overall budget. While we recognize and appreciate the language included in the February 9 version of the bill which states the Legislature's intent to fully reimburse the counties for the costs of the new elections, we must remain opposed until funding for counties is clearly guaranteed.

Of additional concern is that our county will conduct a full-scale election in November 2008. This will result in four major elections within a twelve-month period. This scenario will require election administrators to handle the procedures for multiple elections at the same time, creating the potential for voter confusion and fatigue, poll-worker shortages, human error and cost overrun.

On behalf of the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully request your consideration of our concerns.

Sincerely,

HELEN K. BAUMANN
Chairman
El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Dave Cox, California State Senate
The Honorable Alan Nakanishi, California State Assembly
The Honorable Ted Gaines, California State Assembly
Assembly Committee on Elections, Reapportionment, and Constitutional Amendments