



COUNTY OF EL DORADO

Election's Department Presentation

Senate Bill 450 – Voter's Choice Act for Board Consideration

Agenda

- ✓ SB 450 History
- ✓ How Our Voters Currently Vote
- ✓ Improvements for Voters
- ✓ Community Support
- ✓ The Financials of Vote Centers
- ✓ Implementation in Our County
- ✓ Questions



SB 450 History



- ✓ Signed into Law in 2016
- ✓ Allowed 5 Counties to pilot Vote Centers in 2018
- ✓ Allows remaining Counties Vote Centers in 2020
- ✓ Requires 1 – 11 day center for every 50,000 Voters
 - ✓ 3 required for El Dorado County
- ✓ Requires 1 additional 4 day center for every 10,000 Voters
 - ✓ 10 required for El Dorado County
- ✓ Requires 1 drop box for every 15,000 Voters
 - ✓ 9 required for El Dorado County
- ✓ As we work with Voters the numbers may increase

SB 450 History



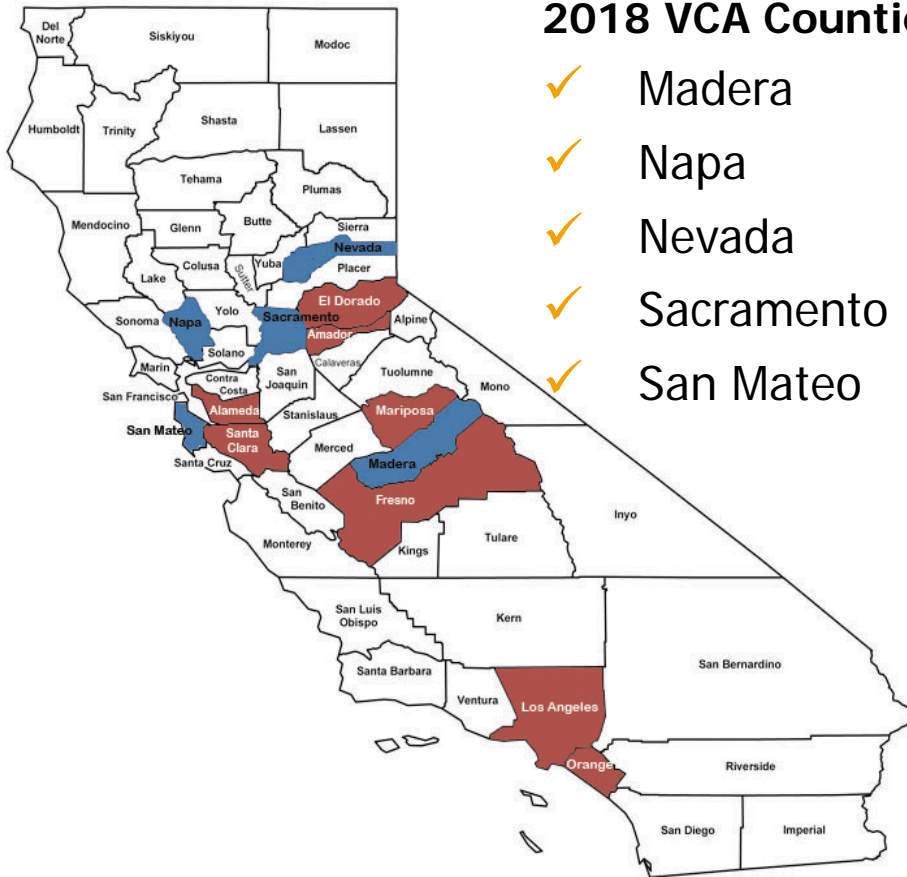
What Other Counties are Doing

2018 VCA Counties:

- ✓ Madera
- ✓ Napa
- ✓ Nevada
- ✓ Sacramento
- ✓ San Mateo

2020 Additional Counties:

- ✓ Alameda (Pending Board Approval)
- ✓ Amador (Pending Board Approval)
- ✓ El Dorado (Pending Board Approval)
- ✓ Fresno
- ✓ Los Angeles
- ✓ Mariposa
- ✓ Orange
- ✓ Merced
- ✓ Santa Clara (Pending Board Approval)



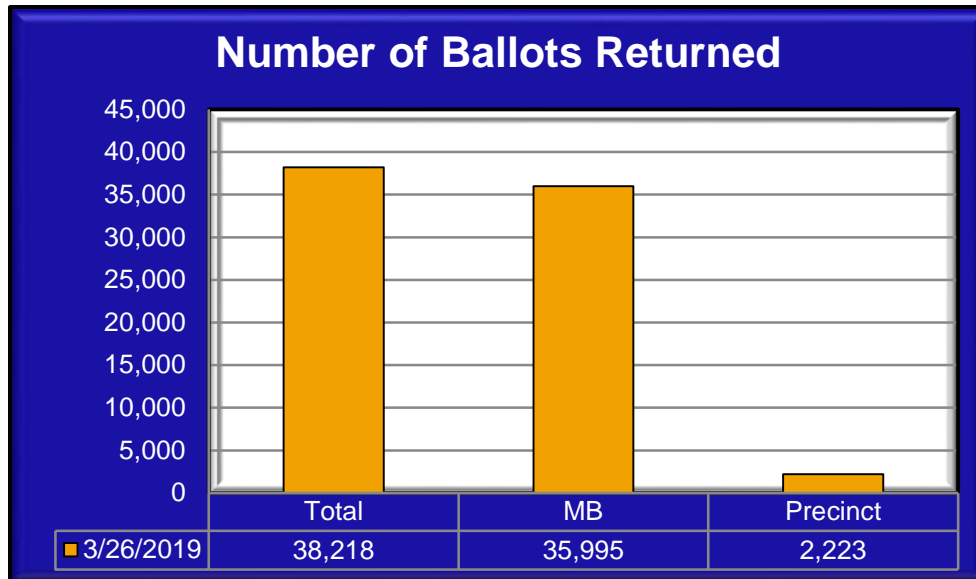
How our Voters Currently Vote



Senate District 1 March 26, 2019 DATA

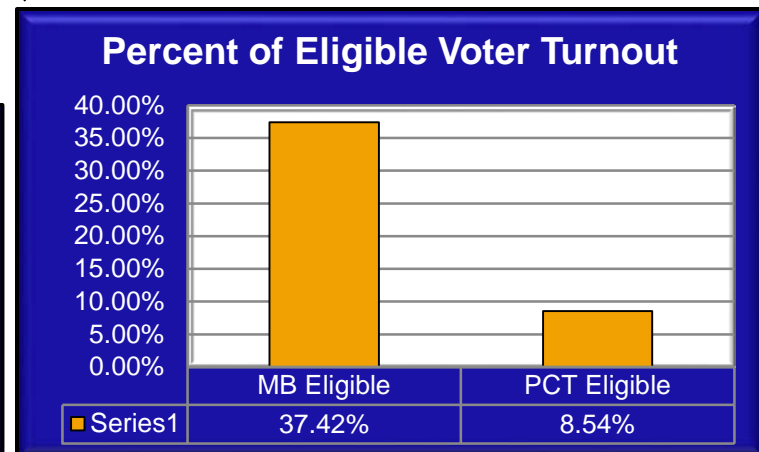
The SD1 Special election on March 26, 2019 was indicative of what we have seen over the past decade.

Number of Ballots Returned

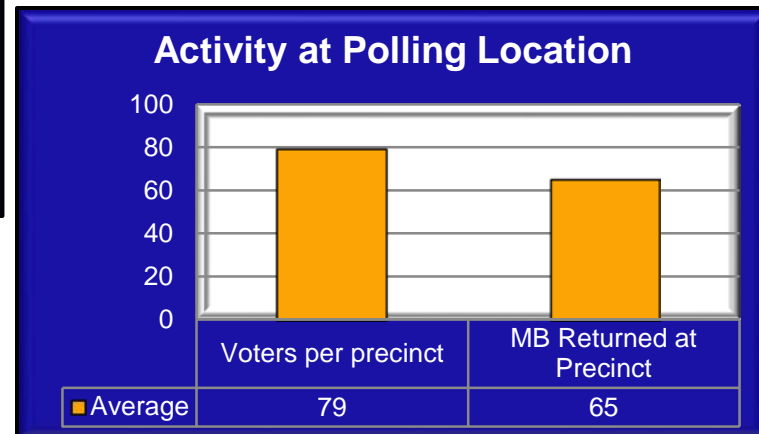


94% of the voter turnout was by Mail

Percent of Eligible Voter Turnout



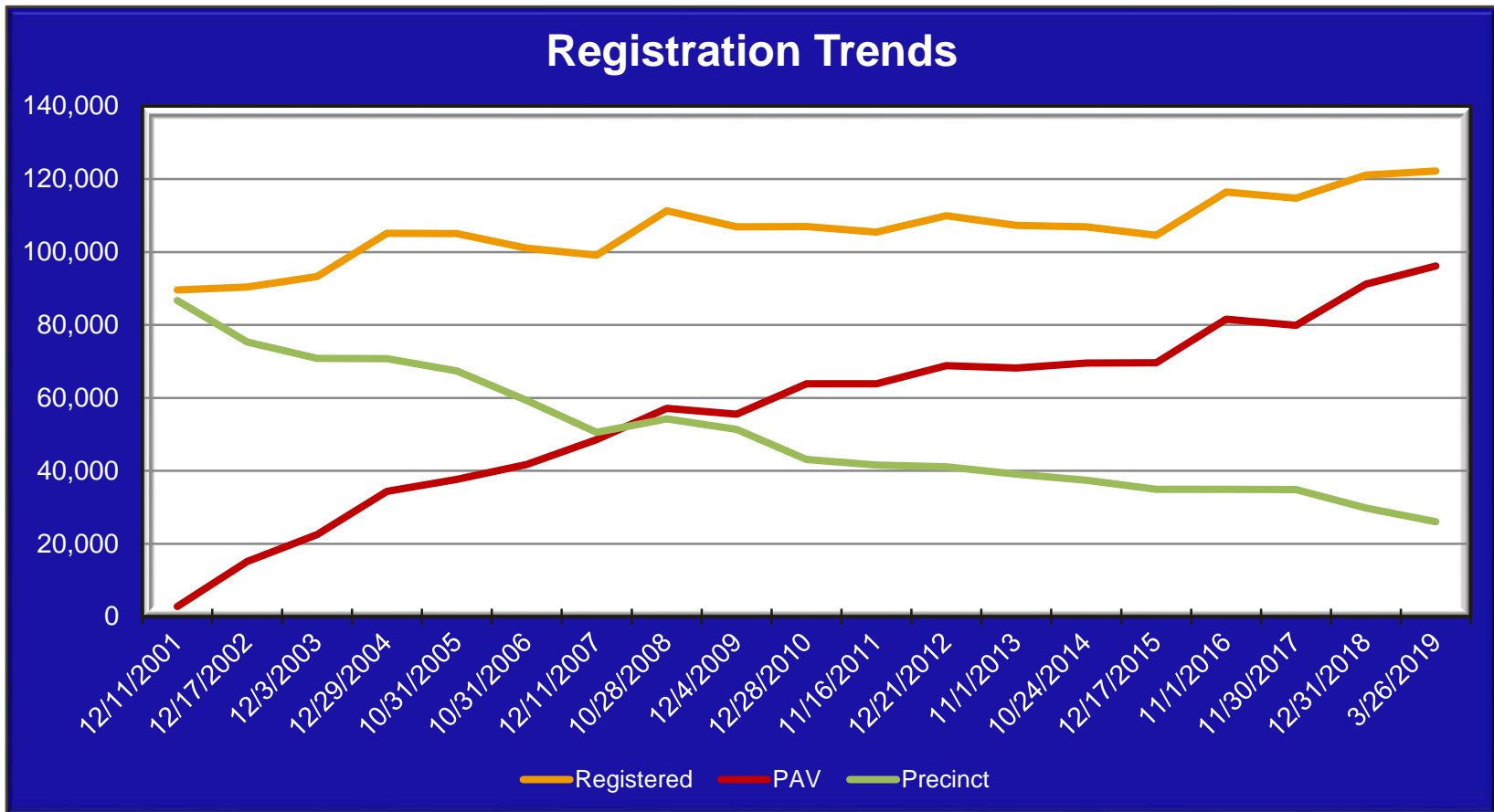
Activity at Polling Location



How our Voters Currently Vote



Every year more voters are registering to be Absentee. We have close to 80% of our Voters receiving a mail ballot.



How our Voters Currently Vote



- ✓ Almost 80% of our voters are already voting by mail.
- ✓ Mail Ballot is consistently higher than Polling Locations.
November, 2018: 81.88% Mail Ballot vs. 18.12% Precinct.
- ✓ Voters are continuing to return more Mail Ballots to the polls:
64 returned in 2002 and now 22,360 in November of 2018.
- ✓ Voters use Building C Drop Box with 9,965 dropped in
November, 2018.
- ✓ Provisional ballots have increased significantly. There were
10 in 2002 and it peaked at 2,641 in November, 2016.
- ✓ Legislatively we are locked at the number of polling places
(up to 102) even though the use has decreased from a high of
39,852 voters to a low of 7,549.

Improvements for Voters



- ✓ Every Voter receives a mail ballot
- ✓ Provides more days and more locations where a voter can get services that are currently only available at the election office.
- ✓ At a Vote Center, voters can:
 - ✓ Vote at ANY location
 - ✓ Open at least 8 hours per day
 - ✓ Drop their ballot at a drop box or vote center
 - ✓ Conditionally Register to Vote
 - ✓ Vote with or without their mailed ballot (reduces provisional ballots)
- ✓ Voters who enjoy the polling place experience can still have it.

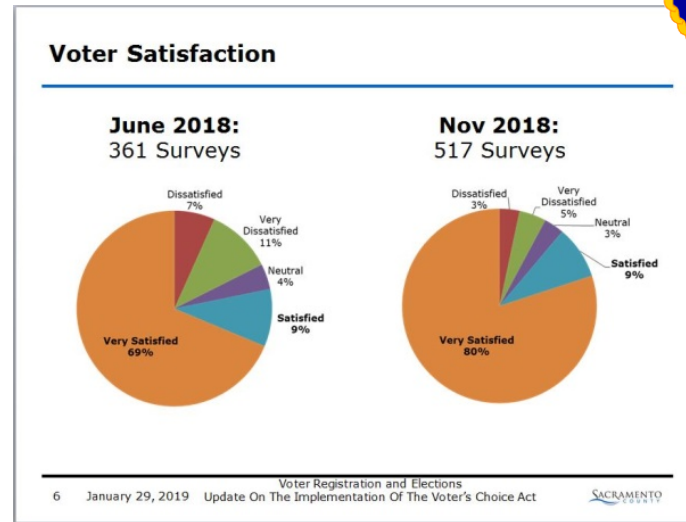
Improvements for Voters



- ✓ More convenient for voters:

- ✓ Open on the weekends
- ✓ Open for up to 11 days
- ✓ Drop boxes where they go:
 - ✓ Supermarkets, Libraries, etc.

- ✓ Sacramento saw an 11% increase in “Very Satisfied” voters from June, 2018 to November, 2018.



- ✓ Significant reduction in Provisional ballots (expensive to process):

- ✓ Nevada County went from 1,500 to 7 provisional ballots.
- ✓ Voters leave knowing their ballot is counted.

- ✓ “Never have to say No to a voter!” – Greg Diaz, Registrar of Voters, Nevada County

Community Support



✓ Vote Centers are unanimously supported by our Voting System Selection Committee comprised of:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| ✓ Democrat Central Committee Member | ✓ Elections Rover |
| ✓ Republican Central Committee Member | ✓ Elections Pollworker |
| ✓ League of Women Voters Member | ✓ County Procurement |
| ✓ Two County Voters | ✓ Members of the County Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee |
| ✓ County IT Staff | ✓ Members of the County Language Accessibility Advisory Committee |
| ✓ CAO Analyst | |
| ✓ City Clerk | |
| ✓ Elections Department Staff | |

- ✓ I have received positive feedback from many community groups (10+) I have spoken with about vote centers.
- ✓ New Legislation has been proposed that will add Vote Centers/Early Voting to polling place Counties. (AB 363)

The Financials of Vote Centers



The Cost – Voting System

- ✓ **Estimated** new voting system cost approximately 48% (\$600,000) less.
 - ✓ Polling Place: \$1.25M
 - ✓ Vote Center \$650K
- ✓ Initial investment will use some of the initial savings:
 - ✓ Transportation Carts
 - ✓ Laptops/Tablets
 - ✓ Inbound Sorter
 - ✓ Ballot on Demand Printers
 - ✓ Secure Network Connectivity
 - ✓ Etc.

The Financials of Vote Centers



The Cost Per Election

- ✓ Per election increase: approximately 2.5% (\$7,062.23) per major election The primary reasons for the increase:
 - ✓ Outreach to voters 2 times prior to each election (@\$50K/election)
 - ✓ 11 Day Vote Centers
 - ✓ There are discussions to reduce these costs to make vote centers less expensive.

Available Funding and County Cost

- ✓ There is both Federal and State Funds available to help pay for the new voting system AND Vote Centers with a County required match.
- ✓ The Maximum County General Fund impact would be \$757,000

Implementation in Our County



- ✓ VOTER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT!
 - ✓ Hold Public Meetings
 - ✓ VAAC and LAAC input
 - ✓ Form Voting Advisory Committee (VAC) to solicit input
 - ✓ Continue with studies to identify locations for Centers and Drop Boxes:
 - ✓ Number of Vote Centers and Drop Boxes for our Community
 - ✓ Secure and Reliable Network Connectivity
 - ✓ Population Centers
 - ✓ Proximity to Low Voter Turnout Areas
 - ✓ Proximity to Public Transportation
 - ✓ Proximity to Voters with Disability
 - ✓ Availability of Free Parking
 - ✓ Distance for Voters to Travel
 - ✓ Serve our outlying areas

Implementation in Our County

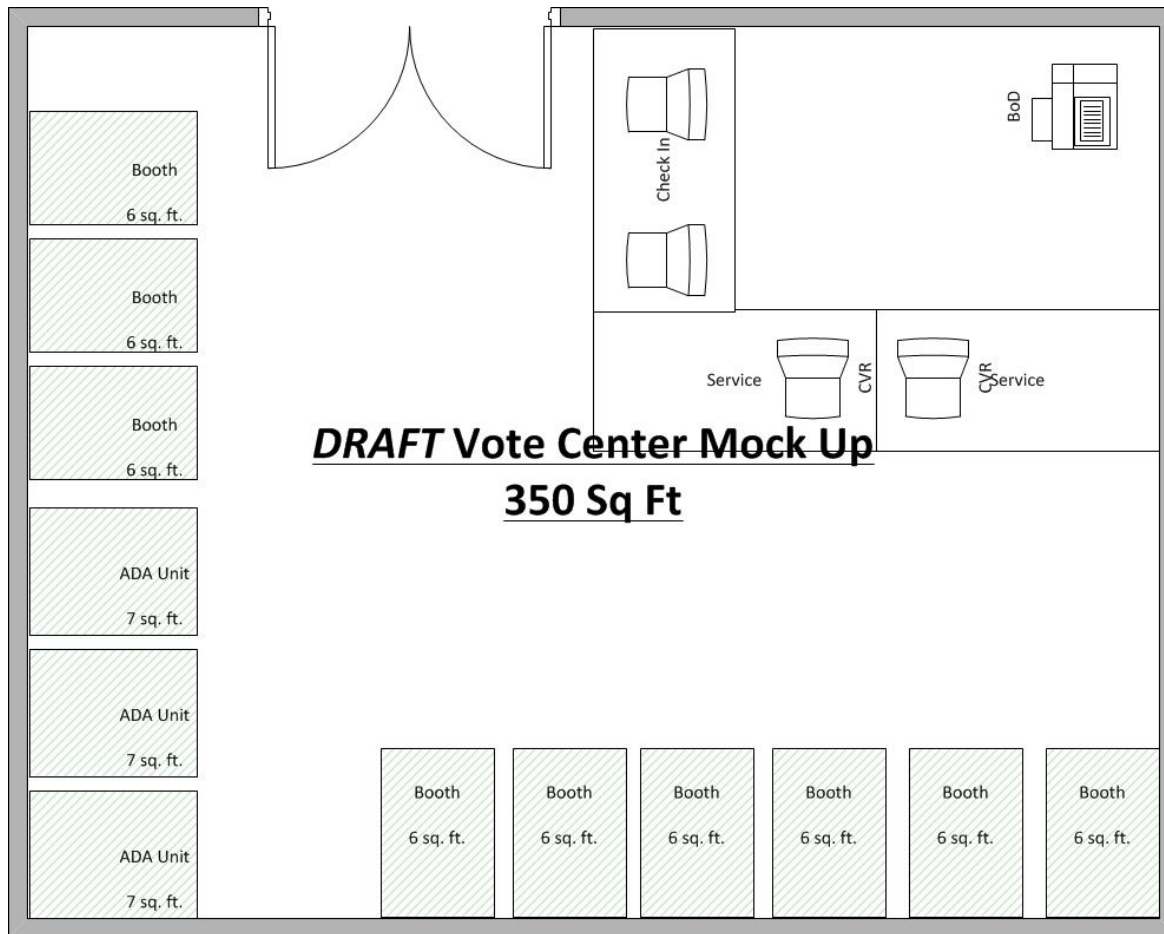


- ✓ Sample Locations:
 - ✓ County Facilities
 - ✓ Building C, Planning Commission Board Room (confirmed)
 - ✓ Libraries – South Lake Tahoe, El Dorado Hills (in process)
 - ✓ Public and Government Facilities
 - ✓ El Dorado Hills Fire Station 85 (confirmed)
 - ✓ Cameron Park Fire (confirmed)
 - ✓ Garden Valley Fire (confirmed)
 - ✓ Pioneer Park (confirmed)
 - ✓ Georgetown Library (confirmed)
 - ✓ Pollock Pines Library (confirmed)
 - ✓ Four Seasons in El Dorado Hills (confirmed)
 - ✓ Lake Tahoe Community College (confirmed)

Implementation in Our County



Sample Vote Center Layout:



Questions

