

ACTION ALERT!!

AB 2550 (Hernandez). Election Dates

OPPOSE

Background:

AB 2550 (Hernandez) would require that all cities consolidate their municipal and district elections with statewide election dates by July 1, 2015; any other established election days would be eliminated. This requirement that would be imposed on local governments is unreasonable and would place a significant financial burden on local election offices and if rushed could jeopardize the integrity of Election Day operations. Established election days that would remain are June of even years and November of even and odd years.

Cities that would be impacted include: *Avalon, Azusa, Bellflower, Beverly Hills, Bradbury, Calabasas, Carmel-by-the-Sea, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Clovis, Commerce, Covina, Cudahy, El Segundo, Gardena, Glendora, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Industry, La Canada Flintridge, La Habra Heights, La Mirada, La Puente, La Verne, Lakewood, Lancaster, Lawndale, Malibu, Manhattan Beach, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Norwalk, Palos Verdes Estates, Paramount, Rancho Mirage, Rolling Hills, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Fernando, San Gabriel, Santa Clarita, Sierra Madre, South Gate, Walnut, and West Hollywood.*

Charter Cities

Charter cities that are listed as impacted is due to their charter not stating when elections should be held, which then defaults their election date to that of general law cities, unless it is amended in their city charter. Please consult with your city attorney to determine applicability of this measure to your city.

Apart from the increased costs and outdated voter equipment, participation in local contests and measures could be adversely affected. On consolidated ballots local elections fall further down the ballot and the focus on those outcomes is minimized against much larger contests such as presidential and congressional races.

The League has remained committed to public engagement and voter participation. Voters should not be disenfranchised because of the length of time it takes to cast a vote on a lengthy consolidated ballot, local measures not being the focal point, or because the voting system lacks the necessary capacity to operate correctly.

ACTION:

AB 2550 is set to be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee. Please send LETTERS of OPPOSITION through the League [Action Center](#) to Assembly Member Mike Gatto, Chair of the Assembly Appropriations Committee and copy your legislators. We ask that letters be sent ASAP as this bill could be heard in committee within the next couple weeks. We especially encourage you to send letters if you have a member on the Assembly Appropriations Committee (see below).

Legislator addresses and fax numbers can be searched [online](#) by address. All contact info is pre-loaded to the Action Center.