



NEWS RELEASE

CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE **KEVIN SHELLEY**

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Contact: Shad Balch
Terri M. Carbaugh
916-653-6575

Shelley Applauds Passage of Poll Worker Training Measure

Poll Workers to be Better Trained for Election Day

SAN FRANCISCO --- Secretary of State Kevin Shelley today announced that his sponsored legislation to set uniform standards for poll worker training and increase the number of high school students working in polling places on Election Day passed the State Senate yesterday. In a 27-10 vote, the full Senate approved Senate Bill 610 (Escutia).

SB 610 authorizes Secretary Shelley to develop uniform poll worker training standards, including: rights of California voters, election challenge procedures, instruction about voting systems, poll hours, cultural competency, and provisional voting. In addition, SB 610 increases the statutorily defined number of allowable high school poll workers authorized per precinct, two to not more than five students.

“I am pleased SB 610 was approved by the State Senate,” said Secretary Shelley. “With uniform training for poll workers, voters will have a better experience at the polls on Election Day.”

“With adequate training, high school students routinely prove themselves to be capable and conscientious poll workers. Engaging high school students in the electoral process is a practical way to increase life-long civic participation while also addressing a poll worker shortage.”

“I am confident the State Assembly and Governor will agree with me and will approve this measure,” Shelley concluded.

SB 610 is supported by the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC), the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund (MALDEF), National Council of La Raza (NCLR), the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the League of Women Voters of California (LWV).

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