

Senator Bill Monning
California Legislature
bill.monning@senate.ca.gov

Subject: SB 72 – Expansion of Election Day Registration

Dear Senator Monning:

In 2018, California voters had the right to register and vote up to and including Election Day. Unfortunately, most Californians could not access Election Day Registration. This must change! The League of Women Voters of Monterey County urges you to vote yes on SB72 to address this problem.

Passing SB 72 will ensure same day registration works in practice and not just in theory. Last year, most counties limited election day registration to a single site: the county elections office. Those who were able to make the trip waited in lines of up to 4 hours. That's why the League is co-sponsoring SB 72, which will expand Election Day Registration to every voting location starting in 2020.

Election Day Registration benefits both voters and elections officials. Not only does Election Day Registration increase voter turnout, it:

- Eliminates deadlines that turn voters away at the moment of highest interest
- Improves the accuracy of voter rolls
- Assists the registration of voters who are underrepresented in our electorate including those who are geographically mobile, lower-income, or young

California has 5.5 million eligible but unregistered voters, a disproportionate number of whom are young, of limited English proficiency, people of color, or people with disabilities. With SB 72, we can close the participation gap and boost voter turnout.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Howard Fosler
President, LWVMC