

From the desk of

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SA2005RF0036

January 12, 2005

Ms. Tricia Knight
Initiative Coordinator, Office of the Attorney General
State of California
PO Box 994255
Sacramento, CA 94244-2550

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INITIATIVE COORDINATOR
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE

Re: Request for Title and Summary for Proposed Initiative

Dear Ms. Knight:

Please find enclosed an initiative entitled the "Every Vote Counts – The Voter Identification Act". I am submitting the proposed attached statewide ballot measure to your office and request that you prepare a title and summary of the measure as provided by law. I have also included with this letter the required statement under California Elections Code Section 9608, and a check in the amount of \$200.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Please contact me at the number above if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Very truly yours,

Robert D. Ming

Enclosure

INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE VOTERS

SECTION 1. Title

This initiative shall be known and may be cited as the Voter Identification Act.

SECTION 2. Declaration of Findings and Purposes

The People of California value the right to vote as one of their most important and fundamental rights, and have a special and compelling interest in safeguarding each and every vote from abuse or fraud.

Present law does not require any proof of identity to be presented at the time of voting in person or by absentee ballot.

To deter potential voter fraud, the People of California desire that poll workers verify the identity of each person desiring to vote to ensure that the person actually casting a ballot is the person entitled to vote.

SECTION 3. Voter Identification

California Elections Code §2000 shall be amended by adding a new subsection (c) as follows:

“(c) Any person who desires to vote in person at a polling place shall present at the time of voting one of the following forms of valid picture identification:

- (1) California drivers license,
- (2) California Department of Motor Vehicles issued identification card,
- (3) military identification card or
- (4) United States Passport.

Precinct officers shall visually confirm the photograph and signature of the person desiring to vote, and shall record the identifying number and the type of identification presented in the roster of voters. Any violation or attempted violation of this subsection (c) shall constitute fraud pursuant to California Elections Code §18500. Any voter desiring to vote in person who is unable to present one of the forms of valid picture identification listed above shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot. The requirement to present valid picture identification when voting shall be prominently printed on all sample ballots near the location where the voter’s polling place is indicated.”

SECTION 4. Severability

If any provision of this initiative is held invalid or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications which can reasonably be given effect in the absence of the invalid provision or application.