

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0072
(916) 319-2072
FAX (916) 319-2172

DISTRICT OFFICE
210 BIRCH STREET, SUITE 202
BREA, CA 92821
(714) 672-4734
FAX (714) 672-4737

Assembly California Legislature



CHRIS NORBY
ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
VICE CHAIR, EDUCATION
APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

February 23, 2011

California Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Introduction of AB 1146

Dear Chairwoman and Commissioners,

This letter is to inform you of the introduction of AB 1146 which seeks to amend the Political Reform Act of 1974 to conform the state campaign contribution and expenditure reporting threshold of \$100 to the \$200 federal threshold. The current state threshold of \$100 was established more than 30 years ago. By 2010 estimates, \$100 indexed to reflect inflation is approximately \$440. AB 1146 is a common-sense measure which eliminates confusion between federal and state reporting requirements, and will garner greater participation by small donors in future elections.

AB 1146 reflects suggestions of The Bipartisan Commission formed in 1998 as a result of legislation authored by Sen. Bruce McPherson. The report found that the threshold for disclosing receipts and disbursements on campaign reports should be raised to generally reflect inflation. The Commission also received public testimony asking that the Political Reform Act's reporting requirements be simplified. The Commission's final recommendation was to match the state's threshold with federal threshold of \$200.

Taking these suggestions into account, AB 1146 is a common-sense measure which seeks to eliminate confusion in reporting between federal and state contributions, and will allow greater participation by small donors in future elections. I look forward to working with staff and the Commission to reach a support position on AB 1146.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Norby".

Assemblyman Chris Norby
72nd Assembly District

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0072
(916) 319-2072
FAX (916) 319-2172

DISTRICT OFFICE
210 BIRCH STREET, SUITE 202
BREA, CA 92821
(714) 672-4734
FAX (714) 672-4737

Assembly California Legislature



CHRIS NORBY
ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
VICE CHAIR, EDUCATION
APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

February 23, 2011

California Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 800
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairwoman and Commissioners,

This letter is to inform you of the introduction of AB 1241 which is a reintroduction of AB 2164 (Norby, 2010). This bill would amend the Levine Act of 1982, to clarify that officers directly elected to local agencies are not held to two standards if the agency includes appointed members.

The Levine Act is unique among the provisions of the Political Reform Act, in that it defines a campaign contribution to an elected official as the basis for a disqualifying conflict of interest. AB 1241 proposes a very narrow modification to the Levine Act and would only apply to agencies that have a combination of appointed and directly elected members. By striking the words "elected or" from statute, it would ensure that campaign contribution disclosure and conflict of interest requirements originally intended for appointed members of agencies do not extend to members who are directly elected to such agencies.

This amendment would only impact eight special districts in the state with a combined total of 59 members, 39 of whom are elected and 20 of whom are appointed. The objective is to treat officials who are directly elected to serve on an agency that has both directly elected and appointed membership in the same manner as all other directly elected officials (e.g. city council members, county supervisors). Please note that AB 1241 does not exempt elected officials from the disclosure and disqualification provisions of the Levine Act when they are serving on a board or commission to which they were not directly elected (e.g. AQMD, LAFCO).

The Commission had previously taken a "neutral" position on AB 2164. AB 1241 seeks accomplish the same as AB 2164. I would like to work with staff and the Commission to reach a support position on AB 1241.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Norby".

Assemblyman Chris Norby
72nd Assembly District