

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

DISTRICT OFFICE
1400 N. HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92835
(714) 526-7272
FAX (714) 526-7278



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

April 3, 2012

Ann Ravel
Chair, Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Chair Ravel:

I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of supporting Assembly Bill 2191, which I authored to amend the definition of "elective office" to exclude members of party county central committees. AB 2191 is part of item #17 on your April 5 agenda. The FPPC staff recommended position is "neutral" on this bill.

County central committee members are simply political party volunteers who do not perform any governmental functions. They do not handle any public money, they cannot levy taxes or fees upon citizens, they do not vote on policy issues, and they cannot pass laws or ordinances.

Current law states any person who appears on the ballot is someone who is running for "elective office." The intent of this action was to capture all governmental elected officials, but it inadvertently lumped in thousands of political party volunteers into these reporting requirements. This has cost local governments tens of thousands of dollars each year as local county registrars have had to process the excessive reporting for these numerous political party volunteers.

The Election Code's formulas for central committee membership placed numerous volunteers in this category (the 2002-10 central committee numbers for L.A. and Orange counties are below):

	Los Angeles County	Orange County
Democratic	156	54
Republican	156	54
American Independent	182	63
Peace and Freedom	159	32

Last month, the Governor signed AB 1200 (Ma), which recognizes the reality that a central committee member is not an elected official by: 1) ending the requirement that public officers administer their oaths and 2) no longer providing them a governmental certificate of election.

Correcting the definition of "elective office" will eliminate an unnecessary and excessive process that encumbers thousands of volunteers and dozens of county registrar's offices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Norby". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CHRIS NORBY
Member, California State Assembly

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

DISTRICT OFFICE
1400 N. HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92835
(714) 526-7272
FAX (714) 526-7278



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April 3, 2012

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Prop 34’s attempts to limit money in politics have had the unintended consequences of making money harder to trace and reducing candidate accountability. Ending the Prop 34 caps will render unaccountable independent expenditures and shadowy IE PACs unnecessary, leaving candidates responsible for the contributions they receive and the spending they make.

Eliminating Prop 34 limits while requiring 24-hour disclosure of contributions and expenditures is the only way to hold politicians accountable to the public and render independent expenditures unnecessary, so I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of supporting AB 2239.

Sincerely,


CHRIS NORBY
Member, California State Assembly

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 95831-0072
(916) 319-2022
FAX (916) 319-2172

Assembly California Legislature

COMMITTEES
VETERANS, EDUCATION
APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT OFFICE
1600 N. HARBOUR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92835
(714) 576-7212
FAX (714) 526-7278



CHRIS NORBY

ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY SECOND DISTRICT

April 3, 2012

Sean Eskovitz
Commissioner, Fair Political Practices Commission
c/o Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
355 South Grand Avenue, 35th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071-1560

Dear Commissioner Eskovitz:

I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of supporting Assembly Bill 2191, which I authored to amend the definition of "elective office" to exclude members of party county central committees. AB 2191 is part of item #17 on your April 5 agenda. The FPPC staff recommended position is "neutral" on this bill.

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Sincerely,

CHRIS NORBY

Member, California State Assembly

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-0072
(916) 319-2077
FAX (916) 319-2172

Assembly California Legislature

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

DISTRICT OFFICE
1400 N. HARBOUR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92841
(714) 526-7272
FAX (714) 526-7178



CHRIS NORBY

ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SEVENTH DISTRICT

April 3, 2012

Elizabeth Garrett
Commissioner, Fair Political Practices Commission
c/o Office of the Provost, University of Southern California
Bovard Administration Building, Suite 102
Los Angeles, California 90089

Dear Commissioner Garrett:

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CHRIS NORBY

Member, California State Assembly

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P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-0272
(916) 556-2072
FAX (916) 556-2172

DISTRICT OFFICE
1400 N. HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92835
(714) 526-7277
FAX (714) 526-7270

Assembly California Legislature



CHRIS NORBY

REPRESENTATIVE SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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

April 3, 2012

Lynn Montgomery
Commissioner, Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Commissioner Montgomery:

I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of supporting Assembly Bill 2191, which I authored to amend the definition of "elective office" to exclude members of party county central committees. AB 2191 is part of item #17 on your April 5 agenda. The FPPC staff recommended position is "neutral" on this bill.

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CHRIS NORBY

Member, California State Assembly

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942549
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-9072
(916) 319-2072
FAX (916) 219-2172

DISTRICT OFFICE
1400 N. HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92630
(714) 526-7272
FAX (714) 526-7278

Assembly California Legislature



CHRIS NORBY

ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

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

April 3, 2012

Ronald Rotunda
Commissioner, Fair Political Practices Commission
c/o Chapman University Law School, Room 406
One University Drive
Orange, California 92866-1032

Dear Commissioner Rotunda:

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Sincerely,

CHRIS NORBY

Member, California State Assembly

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 95819-0872
(916) 315-2672
FAX (916) 315-2172

Assembly California Legislature

COMMITTEES
OFF-CHAIN FINANCIAL
APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT OFFICE
1501 N. HARBOUR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92833
(714) 526-7272
FAX (714) 526-7278



CHRIS NORBY

ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

April 3, 2012

Sean Eskovitz
Commissioner, Fair Political Practices Commission
c/o Munger, Tolles & Olson LLP
355 South Grand Avenue, 35th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90071-1560

Dear Commissioner Eskovitz:

I urge you to vote in favor of supporting Assembly Bill 2239, which I authored to increase candidate transparency while substantially reducing the need for independent expenditures. AB 2239 is part of item #17 on your April 5 agenda. FPCC staff has not taken a position on this bill.

Under current law, campaign finance reports are filed as infrequently as a semi-annual basis during non-election periods and every other month during pre-election periods. For example, a candidate on the ballot in June 2012 filed semi-annual statements in 2011 from January 1-June 30 and July 1-December 31 and pre-election statements in 2012 from January 1-March 17, March 18-May 24, and May 25-June 30.

My bill, AB 2239, will require that candidates report contributions and expenditures within 24 hours. With this more rapid reporting requirement, transparency will be greatly increased and will allow the public and watchdog organizations to better monitor the flow of political money and hold politicians accountable.

In 2000, California voters approved Proposition 34 in an effort to "put the brakes on special interest money" and "limit campaign spending." However, efforts to place campaign contribution limits on candidates has proven to be an abject failure. Since Prop 34 passed, independent expenditures have increased a stunning 6000%. Independent expenditures have reduced accountability and reduced transparency.

Prop 34's attempts to limit money in politics have had the unintended consequences of making money harder to trace and reducing candidate accountability. Ending the Prop 34 caps will render unaccountable independent expenditures and shadowy IE PACs unnecessary, leaving candidates responsible for the contributions they receive and the spending they make.

Eliminating Prop 34 limits while requiring 24-hour disclosure of contributions and expenditures is the only way to hold politicians accountable to the public and render independent expenditures unnecessary, so I respectfully urge you to vote in favor of supporting AB 2239.

Sincerely,


CHRIS NORBY

Member, California State Assembly

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942819
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0072
(916) 319-7072
FAX (916) 319-2772

Assembly California Legislature

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

DISTRICT OFFICE
1466 N. HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 601
FULLERTON, CA 92835
(714) 525-7272
FAX: (714) 520-7278



CHRIS NORBY

ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

April 3, 2012

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CHRIS NORBY

Member, California State Assembly

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P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-0817
(916) 445-2012
FAX (916) 445-2172

Assembly California Legislature

COMMITTEES
VICE CHAIR EDUCATION
APPROPRIATIONS
TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

DISTRICT OFFICE
MIDN HARBOR BLVD. SUITE 604
FOLSOM, CA 95635
(916) 536-7273
FAX (916) 536-1276



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Member, California State Assembly

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942649
SACRAMENTO, CA 95834-0672
(916) 319-2072
FAX (916) 319-2172

Assembly California Legislature

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

DISTRICT OFFICE
1400 N. HARBOR BLVD., SUITE 401
FULLERTON, CA 92835
(714) 526-1273
FAX (714) 526-7278



CHRIS NORBY

ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

April 3, 2012

Ronald Rotunda
Commissioner, Fair Political Practices Commission
c/o Chapman University Law School, Room 406
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