

February 12, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
c/o State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Letter of Urgency Requesting Reimbursement for Costs to Administer the 2019 Special Election for State Senate District 1**

Honorable Governor Gavin Newsom,

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors requests your assistance with an issue of great importance to our County – the costs of administering the 2019 Special Election to fill the vacancy of the office of State Senator of the 1<sup>st</sup> Senate District resulting from the resignation of Senator Ted Gaines.

The Special Election Calendar for this election identifies a Primary Special Election to be held on March 26, 2019. We want to assure you that Nevada County is prepared to meet the election needs of the State, and will conduct this election with utmost care. However, the election is projected to cost Nevada County approximately \$300,000. These activities were not included in the Fiscal Year 2018/19 Nevada County Adopted Budget, and represent an 18% increase over the Adopted Budget for the Nevada County Registrar of Voters. Additionally, if the Primary Election does not conclude with a 50% + 1 result, Nevada County anticipates similar costs to run a General Election, which will cost an additional \$300,000, for a total possible cost of up to \$600,000.

At present, there are no revenue sources available to offset the costs associated with the administration of Special Elections held solely for State offices. This will require use of General Fund reserves and as such impact the health and public safety programs that serve the citizens of the Nevada County with little voting benefit.

We respectfully request that you consider allocating resources to help alleviate this impact. Allocating resources to accommodate reimbursement of actual costs to the County – currently estimated at \$300,000 to \$600,000 – would be a drop in the bucket for the State but would go a long way in Nevada County to safeguard funding for such vital services as public safety, road and bridge repairs and safety net programs for our most vulnerable citizens.

The County of Nevada appreciates your consideration and assistance in resolving this important issue.

Sincerely,

Richard Anderson  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Copied to:

Senator Holly J. Mitchell, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
Assembly Member Phil Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee