Proposed Item Local Government Omnibus Act of 2025

Requested by: Nevada County Board of Supervisors

Submitted by Karen Lange, Nevada County Legislative Advocate

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Topic: Amend Section 26802.5 of the Government Code

• You want to *amend/repeal/add* which code section(s)?

Amend Government Code Section 26802.5.

• The *current law* was enacted (or last amended) by which bill number, author, and year?

Last amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 494, Sec. 3 (SB 1514).

• What's the problem that requires your proposed amendment? *Please describe*.

Nevada County will be considering a Board item on June 24, 2025 that would support Nevada County being included in the list of counties that are authorized to appoint a Registrar of Voters (ROV) separately from the County Clerk function.

• What does your proposed amendment do? *Please describe*.

Amendment would simply add Nevada to the list of counties that can appoint an ROV separately from the County Clerk function.

• Has this proposal been tried in the past? Which bill number, author, and year?

No, Nevada County has not tried this before. Other counties have successfully sought this change. Other counties, most recently Sonoma in 2024 (SB 1514), successfully petitioned the Senate Local Government Committee to include Sonoma in the list of eligible counties per Section 26802.5 of the Gov. Code so their Board has the option of exploring a standalone ROV function. Kern County is proposed for inclusion in SB 858.

• Which groups or agencies will be interested? What did they say when you talked to them about your proposal? Please list the names of the people you talked to.

The Nevada County administrator is concurrently submitting this request in order have this request considered this year, and doing outreach to stakeholders in advance of the June 24, 2025 Board of Supervisors agenda item.

• *Please attach* the *specific language* that you request.

Specific language would appear/be amended as follows:

<u>26802.5</u> In the Counties of El Dorado, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Lake, Marin, Merced, Modoc, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Riverside, San Joaquin, Solano, Sonoma, and Tulare, a registrar of voters may be appointed by the board of supervisors in the same manner as other county officers are appointed. In those counties, the county clerk is not ex officio registrar of voters, and the registrar of voters shall discharge all duties vested by law in the county elections official that relate to and are a part of the election procedure.