Proposition 52: Election Day Voter Registration. Voter Fraud Penalties.

What would it do?

Proposition 52 would allow eligible citizens, upon presenting proof of current residence, to register up to and including election day. Under the measure, citizens registering on or after the 28th day before an election must do so at the county elections office, or at a polling place on election day. Local elections officials must provide a separate area and at least one trained staff member at each polling place for election day voter registration. Additionally, the Secretary of State must include information about election day voter registration as part of all voter education efforts.

This measure would establish the "Election Day Registration Fund" within the State Treasury. Each year, approximately \$6 million would be deposited into this fund from the state's General Fund and distributed to counties for their costs of election day voter registration including hiring and training additional personnel, providing voter registration materials, and expanding voter outreach programs. Counties receiving money from the fund would be required to submit an annual report identifying their expenditures.

Proposition 52 would also increase the penalties for fraudulent registration or voting activity. It also creates a new crime of conspiracy of two or more people who commit specified election fraud, punishable by imprisonment in state prison.

Is it good for kids?

Yes. Proposition 52 would help increase voter turnout, and thus help ensure that decisions made on election day better reflect the will of all of the citizens of California. Further, outdated quirks in state law prevent many eligible citizens from voting on election day. For example, those who turn 18 a few weeks before an election could be deprived of the right to vote. Proposition 52 will enable more young voters to get engaged in the political process; the measure is expected to increase voter turnout among young adults aged 18–25 by 12.5%. Young adults are eager to start exercising their right to vote, and Proposition 52 will ensure they are able to do just that. In fact, Proposition 52 is expected to produce better voter turnout across-the-board, while providing appropriate protections against voter fraud.

Prepared by Children's Advocacy Institute — University of San Diego School of Law 5998 Alcalá Park — San Diego, CA 92110 — www.caichildlaw.org