



June 23, 2022

The Honorable Isaac G. Bryan  
Chair, Assembly Elections Committee  
1020 N St, Room 365  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1480 (Glazer) - Oppose Unless Amended (As Amended April 6, 2022)**

Dear Chairman Bryan and Members of the Committee:

The California Voter Foundation opposes SB 1480, which, if enacted, would permit the California Secretary of State to certify an election system utilizing internet voting. We respectfully suggest this bill be amended to study, rather than implement, alternative ballot return methods for voters with severe disabilities.

The argument that “other states are doing this so California should too” was made twenty years ago when paperless electronic voting started to be widely adopted. Rather than going along with what everyone else was doing, California’s lawmakers took the lead in pivoting our state and nation away from inauditable voting systems and toward voter-verified paper ballots.

With other states following California’s lead, paperless electronic voting was almost entirely eradicated in the United States by 2020. When the 2020 losing presidential candidate refused to concede and insisted (and continues to insist) the election was stolen from him through widespread election fraud, it led to violent political extremists conspiring to halt the certification of the 2020 presidential election. As we know, this resulted in a bloody insurrection in our nation’s Capital, where threats were made to hang the vice president and lawmakers, staff cowered in their offices, and five lives were lost.

Thanks to California’s early leadership, 95 percent of the 2020 presidential ballots were cast on paper, and millions of those ballots were audited, counted and recounted, giving election officials **evidence** they needed to respond to the voracious “Big Lie”. In California, we are also able to assure voters our elections are secure because we do not allow our state’s voting systems to be connected to the internet.

Please do not open the door again to paperless electronic voting, especially over the internet, and permit the introduction of insecure voting practices. California is and should remain a leader in election security. Security and accessibility are not values that must be “balanced” in voting systems, as SB 1480 proponent suggest. Without security there *is no voting system*. There are other ways we can improve the accessibility of our voting system, without subverting it.

Sincerely,

Kim Alexander, President  
California Voter Foundation