

CALIF. ELECTION CODES

DIVISION 13. BALLOTS, SAMPLE BALLOTS, AND VOTER PAMPHLETS [13000 - 13502]

(Division 13 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

CHAPTER 3. Ballot Printing Specifications [13200 - 13282]

(Chapter 3 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

ARTICLE 1. General Provisions [13200 - 13220]

(Article 1 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

13200.

Ballots not printed in accordance with this chapter shall not be cast nor counted at any election.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

13201.

The ballots of each political party's central committee shall be designed so that each ballot may be easily and clearly distinguished from, and not confused with, a ballot of any other political party.

(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 199, Sec. 43. Effective January 1, 1999.)

13202.

All ballots of the same sort prepared by any county elections official, clerk or secretary of a legislative body, or other person having charge of preparing ballots for the same polling place, shall be precisely the same size, arrangement, quality and tint of paper, and kind of type, and shall be printed with ink of the same tint, so that without the numbers on the stubs it is impossible to distinguish any one of the ballots from the other ballots of the same sort. The names of all candidates printed upon the ballot shall be in type of the same size and character. If there is not sufficient space for a candidate name, the size may be adjusted as close as possible to the size and character of all the other candidate names printed upon the ballot.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 5. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13203.

Across the top of the ballot shall be printed in boldface capital type not smaller than 30-point, the words "OFFICIAL BALLOT." Beneath this heading, in the case of a partisan primary election, shall be printed in 18-point boldface capital type the official party designation or the words "NONPARTISAN BALLOT" as applicable. Beneath the heading line or lines, there shall be printed, in boldface type as large as the width of the ballot makes possible, the number of the congressional, Senate, and Assembly district, the name of the county in which the ballot is to be voted, and the date of the election.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 6. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13204.

(a) The instructions to voters shall be printed below the district designation. The instructions shall begin with the words "INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:" in no smaller than 16-point capital type. Thereafter, there shall be printed in 10-point capital type all of the following directions that are applicable to the ballot:

“To vote for a candidate for Chief Justice of California; Associate Justice of the Supreme Court; Presiding Justice, Court of Appeal; or Associate Justice, Court of Appeal, mark the voting target next to the word “Yes,” to the right of the name of the candidate. To vote against that candidate, mark the voting target next to the word “No,” to the right of the name of that candidate.”

“To vote for any other candidate of your selection, mark the voting target next to the candidate’s name. [When justices of the Supreme Court or Court of Appeal do not appear on the ballot, the instructions referring to voting after the word “Yes” or the word “No” will be deleted and the above sentence shall read: “To vote for a candidate whose name appears on the ballot, mark the voting target next to the candidate’s name.”] Where two or more candidates for the same office are to be elected, place a mark next to the names of all candidates for the office for whom you desire to vote, not to exceed, however, the number of candidates to be elected.”

“To vote for a qualified write-in candidate, write the person’s name in the blank space provided for that purpose after the names of the other candidates for the same office.”

“To vote on any measure, mark the voting target next to the word “Yes” or after the word “No.”

“Marking the ballot outside of the designated space to vote for a candidate or measure may compromise the secrecy of the ballot.”

“If you wrongly mark, tear, or deface this ballot, return it to the precinct board member and obtain another.”

“On vote by mail ballots mark with pen or pencil.”

(b) The instructions to voters shall be separated from the portion of the ballot that contains the various offices and measures to be voted on.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 7. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13205.

Additional instructions to voters shall appear on the ballot prior to those provided for in Section 13204 under the following conditions:

(a) In a primary election at which candidates for delegate to national convention are to be voted upon, the instructions shall read:

“To vote for the group of candidates preferring a person whose name appears on the ballot, mark the voting target next to the name of the person preferred. To vote for a group of candidates not expressing a preference for a particular candidate, mark the voting target next to the name of the chairman of the group.”

(b) In elections when electors of President and Vice President of the United States are to be chosen, there shall be placed upon the ballot, in addition to the instructions to voters as provided in this chapter, an instruction as follows:

“To vote for all of the electors of a party, mark the voting target next to the names of the presidential and vice presidential candidates of that party. A mark of the voting target next to the name of a party and its presidential and vice presidential candidate, is a vote for all of the electors of that party, but for no other candidates.”

(c) If a group of candidates for electors has been nominated under Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 8400) of Division 8, and has under Chapter 1 (commencing at Section 8300) of Division 8 designated the names of the candidates for President and Vice President of the

United States for whom those candidates have pledged themselves to vote, the instructions to voters shall also contain the following:

“To vote for those electors who have pledged themselves to vote for a candidate for President and Vice President not supported by any particular party mark the voting target next to the names of those presidential and vice presidential candidates.”

(d) If a group of candidates for electors has been nominated by a party not qualified to participate in the election, the instructions to voters shall also contain the following:

“To vote for those electors who have pledged themselves to vote for a candidate for President and for Vice President of any party not qualified to participate in the election write in the names and party of those presidential and vice presidential candidates in the blank space provided for that purpose.”

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 8. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13206.

(a) On the partisan ballot used in a direct primary election, immediately below the instructions to voters, there shall be a box. Within the box shall be printed the words “Party-Nominated Offices.” Immediately below that phrase within the same box shall be printed the following: “Only voters who disclosed a preference upon registering to vote for the same party as the candidate seeking the nomination of any party for the Presidency or election to a party committee may vote for that candidate at the primary election, unless the party has adopted a rule to permit non-party voters to vote in its primary elections.”

(b) The same style of box described in subdivision (a) shall also appear over the columns of the nonpartisan part of the ballot and within the box in the same style and point size of type shall be printed “Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan Offices.” Immediately below that phrase within the same box shall be printed the following:

“All voters, regardless of the party preference they disclosed upon registration, or refusal to disclose a party preference, may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated or nonpartisan office. The party preference, if any, designated by a candidate for a voter-nominated office is selected by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party or that the party approves of the candidate. The party preference, if any, of a candidate for a nonpartisan office does not appear on the ballot.”

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 9. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13206.5.

(a) (1) On the ballot used in a statewide general election in each year evenly divisible by the number four, immediately below the instructions to voters, there shall be a box. Within the box shall be printed the words “Party-Nominated Offices.” Immediately below that phrase within the same box shall be printed the following: “The party label accompanying the name of a candidate for party-nominated office on the general election ballot means that the candidate is the official nominee of the party shown.”

(2) On the ballot used in a statewide general election in each year evenly divisible by the number four, following the portion of the ballot for party-nominated offices, the same style of box described in paragraph (1) shall appear and within the box in the same style and point size of type shall be printed “Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan Offices.” Immediately below that phrase within the same box shall be printed the following: “All voters, regardless of the party preference they disclosed upon registration, or refusal to disclose a party preference,

may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated or nonpartisan office. The party preference, if any, designated by a candidate for a voter-nominated office is selected by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party or that the party approves of the candidate. The party preference, if any, of a candidate for a nonpartisan office does not appear on the ballot.”

(b) On the ballot used in a statewide general election in each even-numbered year that is not evenly divisible by the number four, immediately below the instructions to voters, there shall be a box. Within the box shall be printed the words “Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan Offices.” Immediately below that phrase within the same box shall be printed the following: “All voters, regardless of the party preference they disclosed upon registration, or refusal to disclose a party preference, may vote for any candidate for a voter-nominated or nonpartisan office. The party preference, if any, designated by a candidate for a voter-nominated office is selected by the candidate and is shown for the information of the voters only. It does not imply that the candidate is nominated or endorsed by the party or that the party approves of the candidate. The party preference, if any, of a candidate for a nonpartisan office does not appear on the ballot.”

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 10. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13207.

(a) There shall be printed on the ballot in parallel columns all of the following:

(1) The respective offices.

(2) The names of candidates with sufficient blank spaces to allow the voters to write in names not printed on the ballot, except that no spaces shall be printed for voter-nominated offices at a general election.

(3) Whatever measures have been submitted to the voters.

(b) In the case of a ballot which is intended for use in a party primary and which carries partisan offices, voter-nominated offices, and nonpartisan offices, a vertical solid black line shall divide the columns containing partisan offices, on the left, from the columns containing nonpartisan offices and voter-nominated offices, on the right.

(c) The standard width of columns containing partisan offices, nonpartisan offices, and voter-nominated offices, shall be three inches except that an elections official may vary the width of these columns by up to one inch. The column containing presidential and vice presidential candidates may be as wide as four inches.

(d) A measure that is to be submitted to the voters shall be printed in one or more parallel columns to the right of the columns containing the names of candidates and shall be of sufficient width to contain the title and summary of the measure. To the right of or below the title and summary shall be printed, on separate lines, the words “Yes” and “No.”

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 57, Sec. 5. (AB 2835) Effective January 1, 2019.)

13208.

(a) In the right-hand margin of each column light vertical lines shall be printed in such a way as to create a voting target next to the name of each candidate for partisan office, voter-nominated office, nonpartisan office (except for Justice of the Supreme Court or justice of a court of appeal), or for chairperson of a group of candidates for delegate to a national convention who express no preference for a presidential candidate. In the case of Supreme Court or appellate justices and in the case of measures submitted to the voters, the lines shall be printed so as to create voting targets to the right of the words “Yes” and “No.” The voting

targets shall be used by the voters to express their choices as provided for in the instruction to voters.

(b) The standard voting target may be up to one-half inch wide. Voting targets for measures may be as tall as is required by the space occupied by the title and summary.

(c) As used in this section, "target" means an object designated as the aim for a voter to make a vote selection.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 11. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13209.

Whenever a foreign translation of the ballot is required by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended by Public Law 94-73, to appear on the ballot as well as the English language version, the ballot, including a ballot reference page or pages as specified in Section 301, may be so designed as to place the foreign translation next to the voting target.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 12. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13210.

(a) In the case of candidates for delegate to national convention, there shall be printed in boldface type, not smaller than 12-point, across the column above the names of the persons preferred by the groups of candidates for delegates, the words, "President of the United States." The words "Vote for one group only" shall extend to the extreme right-hand margin of the column.

(b) In the case of candidates for President and Vice President, the words "Vote for One Party" shall appear just below the heading "President and Vice President" and shall be printed so as to appear above the voting targets for that office. The heading "President and Vice President" shall be printed in boldface 12-point type.

(c) In that section of the ballot designated for judicial offices, next to the heading "judicial" shall appear the instruction: "Vote yes or no for each office."

(d) In the case of candidates for Justice of the Supreme Court and court of appeal, within the rectangle provided for each candidate, and immediately above each candidate's name, there shall appear the following: "For (designation of judicial office)." There shall be as many of these headings as there are candidates for these judicial offices. No heading shall apply to more than one judicial office. Underneath each heading shall appear the words "Shall (title and name of Justice) be elected to the office for the term provided by law?"

(e) In the case of all other candidates, each group of candidates to be voted on shall be preceded by the designation of the office for which they are running, and the words "vote for one" or "vote for no more than two," or more, according to the number to be nominated or elected. The designation of the office shall be printed flush with the left-hand margin in boldface type not smaller than 8-point. The words, "vote for ____" shall extend to the extreme right-hand margin of the column. The number of candidates to be nominated or elected shall be printed in boldface type. The designation of the office and the directions for voting shall be separated from the candidates by a light line. There shall be no line between the headings for federal or legislative offices and the designation of the office and the directions for voting.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 13. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13211.

The names of the candidates shall be printed on the ballot, without indentation, in capital, boldface type not smaller than 8-point.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 14. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13211.5.

(a) Each group of names of candidates for a particular office shall be printed in immediate succession to another group of names of candidates for a particular office so as to avoid unnecessary spacing or gaps in the sequence in which each series of groups of names are listed on the ballot.

(b) If it is necessary to leave spaces on the ballot in order to provide for the most efficient and least costly process of printing ballots, the spaces shall be located at the end of a column, page, or ballot card wherever possible.

(c) If due to voting system constraints it is necessary to leave a space between offices on a column, page, or ballot card, and the space exceeds one inch, written instructions and a downward arrow or other visual indicator shall be printed on the ballot to direct the voter to the next voting space.

(Added by Stats. 1996, Ch. 333, Sec. 1. Effective August 5, 1996.)

13211.7.

(a) (1) In jurisdictions required to provide translated ballot materials pursuant to Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10503), as that section may be amended from time to time, any ballot that provides a translation of a candidate's name shall contain a phonetic transliteration of the candidate's name, except as provided in subdivision (b).

(2) This section applies only to character-based languages, including, but not limited to, Mandarin Chinese, Cantonese, Japanese, and Korean.

(3) If a candidate's name is to appear on the ballot in more than one jurisdiction in an election, all of those jurisdictions required to provide translated ballot materials pursuant to Section 203 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10503) shall use the same phonetic transliteration or character-based translation of the name.

(4) (A) In a jurisdiction in which separate ballots containing translations of the candidates' names are printed in different languages, both the alphabet-based names and the translations of the candidates' names, for candidates that have translated names, shall appear on the translated ballot.

(B) If a jurisdiction is unable to comply with subparagraph (A) due to limitations of its existing voting system, any new voting system purchased by the jurisdiction after July 1, 2020, shall be able to accommodate the requirements of subparagraph (A).

(b) If a candidate has a character-based name by birth, that can be verified by birth certificate or other valid identification, the candidate may use that name on the ballot instead of a phonetic transliteration. A candidate who does not have a character-based name by birth, but who identifies by a particular character-based name and can demonstrate to the local elections official that the candidate has been known and identified within the public sphere by that name over the past two years, may use that name instead of a phonetic transliteration.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 82, Sec. 1. (AB 57) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13212.

Except for a voter-nominated office at a general election, under the designation of each office shall be printed as many blank spaces, defined by light lines.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 15. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13213.

Each group of names of candidates for a particular office shall be separated from the succeeding group. Each series of groups shall be headed by the caption "President of the United States," "President and Vice President," "State," "United States Senator," "United States Representative," "State Senator," "Member of the State Assembly," "County," or "City" or other proper general classification, as the case may be, printed in boldface capital type. Each caption shall be separated from the names of the candidates beneath.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 16. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13214.

The left-hand side of the first column of names on the ballot and the right-hand side of the last column of voting targets on the ballot shall be bordered. The binding or stitching of each package of ballots shall be along the top or head of the ballot. If ballots are to be used on a ballot on demand system or another system that prints content onto ballots, ballots are not required to be bound or stitched.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 17. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13215.

(a) The ballots may be printed on the same leaf with a stub not over one inch in depth. The stub may be separated from the ballot by a horizontal perforated line or rule from side to side. Upon this stub shall be printed only the number of the ballot.

(b) Stubs are not required on ballots to be used on a ballot on demand system or another system that prints content onto the ballot.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 18. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13216.

(a) On each ballot a horizontal non-solid-ruled line shall extend across the top of the ballot below the horizontal perforated line. The same number appearing on the stub shall be printed above the horizontal, non-solid-ruled line on the left side of the ballot. Above this number shall be printed in parentheses in small type as follows: "(This number shall be torn off by a precinct board member and handed to the voter.)". The words "I HAVE VOTED—HAVE YOU?" may also be printed immediately above or below the number.

(b) (1) Next to the ballot number there shall be a short vertical perforated rule or line extending upward from the horizontal non-solid-ruled line to the horizontal perforated line. Immediately above this horizontal non-solid-ruled line shall be printed in boldface lowercase type, at least 12-point in size, enclosed in parentheses, the following: "Fold ballot to this line leaving top margin exposed."

(2) Above this printed direction and midway between it and the top edge of the ballot shall be printed in boldface uppercase type, at least 12-point in size, the following: "Mark the ballot with pen or pencil."

(3) Below this direction and midway between it and the next line shall be printed in boldface uppercase type, at least 12-point in size, enclosed in parentheses and with the first four and last five words underlined or otherwise made prominent, the following: "(VOTE BY MAIL BALLOTS MAY BE MARKED WITH PEN AND INK OR PENCIL.)"

(c) A ballot stub is not required if the information listed in subdivisions (a) and (b) is presented to the voter on a separate form accompanying the ballot.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 19. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13216.5.

A ballot stub may be used, but is not required, for a ballot produced on demand if the quantity of ballots produced for the election can be reconciled by the ballot processing method used by the system generating the ballot for use. The ballots may contain printed and distinguishing marks if secrecy in voting is protected.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 20. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13217.

(a) The number on each ballot shall be the same as that on the corresponding stub, and the ballots and stubs shall be numbered consecutively in each county, or the ballots and stubs may be numbered consecutively within each combination of congressional, senatorial, and Assembly districts in each county. In a partisan primary election, the sequence of numbers on the official ballots and stubs for each party within each county, or within each political subdivision in each county, shall begin with the number 1.

(b) In counties using vote centers, ballots may be serialized in the way that best promotes ballot accounting and with the greatest economic efficiency for the county.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 21. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13218.

(a) The Secretary of State shall establish a ballot design advisory committee to assist the Secretary of State to promulgate regulations that prescribe ballot design and format.

(b) The ballot design advisory committee shall consist of the Secretary of State, or the secretary's designee, and members to be appointed by the Secretary of State who are recognized ballot design experts and county elections officials or a designee of a county elections official. Each recognized ballot design expert shall have demonstrated experience with ballot design requirements and knowledge of presenting election materials to voters using plain language methods or another method that is easy for voters to access and understand.

(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 22. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13219.

When printed, all ballots shall be bound in stub books, of such size as the clerk may determine. A record of the number of ballots printed shall be kept by the officer authorizing the printing. If stubs are not used pursuant to Section 13216, ballots may be bound by another method determined by the county elections official.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 23. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13220.

If two or more officers are to be elected for the same office for different terms, the terms for which each candidate for the office is nominated shall be printed on the ballot as a part of the title of the office. If at a general election an office is to be filled for a full term and also for a vacancy in another term, the list of candidates for the full term shall be placed on the ballot under the designation of the office with the words "Full Term" printed immediately after that designation, and the list of candidates to fill the vacancy shall be placed on the ballot under the designation of the office with the words "Short Term" printed immediately after that designation.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

ARTICLE 2. Allowable Changes in Ballot Format and Printing [13230 - 13233]

(Article 2 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

13230.

(a) If the county elections official determines that, due to the number of candidates and measures that must be printed on the ballot, the ballot will be larger than may be conveniently handled, the county elections official may provide that a nonpartisan ballot shall be given to each partisan voter, together with his or her partisan ballot, and that the material appearing under the heading "Voter-Nominated and Nonpartisan Offices" on partisan ballots, as well as the heading itself, shall be omitted from the partisan ballots.

(b) If the county elections official so provides, the procedure prescribed for the handling and canvassing of ballots shall be modified to the extent necessary to permit the use of two ballots by partisan voters. The county elections official may, in this case, order the second ballot to be printed on paper of a different tint, and assign to those ballots numbers higher than those assigned to the ballots containing partisan offices.

(c) "Partisan voters," for purposes of this section, includes both persons who have disclosed a party preference pursuant to Section 2151 or 2152 and persons who have declined to disclose a party preference, but who have chosen to vote the ballot of a political party as authorized by that party's rules duly noticed to the Secretary of State.

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 3, Sec. 41. (AB 1413) Effective February 10, 2012.)

13231.

If the elections official of any county finds it necessary in connection with the use of any approved method of vote counting, the elections official may provide for any of the following changes in the format of ballots in one or more precincts at any election:

(a) Ballots may be bound and padded at the side.

(b) The left and right edge of ballots may be trimmed to the edge of printed material.

(c) A series of punched holes may be provided in the upper right-hand portion of each ballot.

(d) The ballot number may be placed at any place along the top left-hand corner of the ballot.

(e) A cutout section, not to exceed two inches in depth, commencing at the left-hand edge of the far right column of the ballot, may be provided along the top edge of the ballot.

(f) Press perforations may be placed between columns of the ballot, from top to bottom, to permit the folding of the ballot at each perforation.

(g) "Yes" and "No" columns where necessary, may be as narrow as one-quarter inch wide.

(h) The instructions to voters may be placed at the bottom of the ballot instead of at the top of the ballot, and an appropriate reference to the location of the instructions may be printed in the upper right portion of the ballot.

(i) The ballot serial number may be placed on any position of the ballot that does not impact other required text or voting targets on the ballot card.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 863, Sec. 24. (AB 623) Effective January 1, 2020.)

13232.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of conducting the Democratic Party Presidential Primary Election, the Secretary of State may, if it is reasonably necessary to accommodate the limitations of a voter system or vote tabulating device, authorize the county elections officials to do any or all of the following:

(a) Vary the order of any office or measure listed in Section 13109, with the exception of President of the United States, United States Representative, State Senator, Member of the Assembly, and judicial offices.

(b) Place any office listed in Section 13109 on a second ballot, with the exception of United States Representative, State Senator, Member of the State Assembly, judicial offices, County Superintendent of Schools, County Board of Education Members, and county officers.

(c) Place any ballot measure, other than a state measure, on a separate ballot.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

13233.

In a municipal election, if the number of candidates for an office is such that all of the names will not fit in one column of reasonable length, a double column may be used, and all of the following provisions shall apply:

(a) The space between the two halves of the double column shall be less than that between the double column and any other columns on the ballot, and the lines separating the columns and the two halves of the double column shall be printed so as to emphasize the fact that the candidates in the double column are running for the same office.

(b) The designation of the office and any other words required to be at the top of a single column shall be printed across the top of the entire double column with no dividing line. The words "Vote for one," "Vote for two," or more, as the case may be, shall be centered over the entire double column and shall be printed below any other words at the top of the double column.

(c) The names of the candidates, including the blank space or spaces necessary to permit the voter to write in the names of persons not printed on the ballot, shall be apportioned as equally as possible between the two columns. The odd space, if any, shall be included in the left-hand column.

(d) The double column shall be used for no more than one office and for no more than one term for any office.

(e) The order of names and blank spaces in the double column shall be the same as would apply to a single column with the left-hand side of the double column taken first.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

ARTICLE 5. Ballot Labels [13282- 13282.]

(Heading of Article 5 amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 911, Sec. 3.)

13282.

Whenever the Attorney General prepares a ballot label, the Attorney General shall file a copy of the ballot label with the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall make a copy of the ballot label available for public examination prior to the printing of the ballot label on any ballot. The public shall be permitted to examine the ballot label for at least 20 days, and the Secretary of State may consolidate the examination requirement under this section with the public examination requirements set forth in Section 9092. A voter may seek a writ of mandate requiring a ballot label, or portion thereof, to be amended or deleted. The provisions set forth in Section 9092 concerning the issuance of the writ and the nature of the proceedings shall be applicable to this section.

(Amended by Stats. 2009, Ch. 373, Sec. 41. (AB 753) Effective January 1, 2010.)

DIVISION 9. MEASURES SUBMITTED TO THE VOTERS [9000 - 9610]

(Division 9 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

CHAPTER 1. State Elections [9000 - 9096]

(Chapter 1 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

ARTICLE 5. Ballot Titles [9050 - 9054]

(Article 5 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

9051.

(a) (1) The ballot title and summary may differ from the legislative, circulating, or other title and summary of the measure and shall not exceed 100 words, not including the fiscal impact statement.

(2) The ballot title and summary shall include a summary of the Legislative Analyst's estimate of the net state and local government fiscal impact prepared pursuant to Section 9087 of this code and Section 88003 of the Government Code.

(b) The ballot label shall not contain more than 75 words and shall be a condensed version of the ballot title and summary including the financial impact summary prepared pursuant to Section 9087 of this code and Section 88003 of the Government Code.

(c) In providing the ballot title and summary, the Attorney General shall give a true and impartial statement of the purpose of the measure in such language that the ballot title and summary shall neither be an argument, nor be likely to create prejudice, for or against the proposed measure.

(d) The Attorney General shall invite and consider public comment in preparing each ballot title and summary.

(Amended by Stats. 2014, Ch. 697, Sec. 13. (SB 1253) Effective January 1, 2015.)

DIVISION 11. RECALL ELECTIONS [11000 - 11386]

(Division 11 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

CHAPTER 4. General Procedures: Final Steps in the Recall [11300 - 11386]

(Chapter 4 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

ARTICLE 2. Ballots [11320 - 11327]

(Article 2 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

11320.

The following shall appear on the ballots at every recall election, except in the case of a landowner voting district, with respect to each officer sought to be recalled:

(a) The question "Shall [name of officer sought to be recalled] be recalled (removed) from the office of [title of office]?"

(b) To the right of the foregoing question, the words "Yes" and "No" on separate lines with an enclosed voting space to the right of each.

(c) If the officer sought to be recalled holds a voter-nominated office, the officer may elect to have the officer's party preference identified on the ballot. The officer shall inform the Secretary of State whether the officer elects to have a party preference identified on the ballot by the deadline for the officer to file an answer with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 11023. The Secretary of State shall disseminate this information to all appropriate county elections officials. The statement of party preference shall appear immediately to the right of and on the same line as the officer's name, or immediately below the officer's name if there is not sufficient space to the right of the officer's name, and shall appear in substantially the following form:

(1) If the officer stated a political party preference on the officer's affidavit of registration, the statement shall read: "Party Preference: ____" (inserting the name of the qualified political party stated on the affidavit of registration.) The listed political party preference shall be the political party preference stated on the officer's affidavit of registration at the time the notice of intention is filed with the elections official pursuant to Section 11021.

(2) If the officer did not state a political party preference on the officer's affidavit of registration, the statement shall read: "Party Preference: None."

(3) If the officer elects not to have the officer's political party preference identified on the ballot, or if the officer fails to inform the Secretary of State whether the officer elects to have a party preference identified on the ballot by the deadline for the officer to file an answer with the Secretary of State, the statement of party preference shall not appear on the ballot.

(Amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 566, Sec. 1. (SB 151) Effective January 1, 2020.)

11322.

In addition to the material contained in Section 11320, the following shall appear on ballots at all recall elections, except at a landowner voting district recall election:

(a) The names of the candidates nominated to succeed the officer sought to be recalled shall appear under each recall question.

(b) Following each list of candidates, the ballot shall provide one blank line with a voting space to the right of it for the voter to write in a name not printed on the ballot.

(Added by renumbering Section 27312 by Stats. 1996, Ch. 1143, Sec. 67. Effective September 30, 1996.)

11323.

A voter shall indicate, by using the stamp or other marking device to place a mark in the voting space opposite either "Yes" or "No", his vote for or against the recall proposal, respectively.

(Enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

11324.

(a) The official responsible for preparing the ballot shall, at least 10 days before the recall election, mail a voter information guide to each registered voter of the electoral jurisdiction of the officer sought to be recalled.

(b) In the case of a recall of a state officer, the official responsible for preparing the voter information guide pursuant to subdivision (a) shall include in the voter information guide the report of estimated costs of the recall prepared by the Department of Finance pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 11108.

(Repealed and added by Stats. 2017, Ch. 180, Sec. 13. (SB 117) Effective August 24, 2017.)

11325.

(a) With the voter information guide there shall be mailed, for each officer whose recall is sought, a printed copy of the following:

(1) The statement of reasons for recall that appeared on the notice of intent to recall that was filed by the proponents of the recall with the elections official or, in the case of a state officer, with the Secretary of State.

(2) The answer to the statement of reasons for recall that was filed by the officer whose recall is sought with the elections official or, in the case of a state officer, with the Secretary of State, if an answer was filed.

(b) The printed copies of the statement and the answer to that statement shall be mailed with the voter information guide either in a document separate from the voter information guide or as part of the voter information guide. Both the statement and answer shall be printed on the same page, or on facing pages of the document, and shall be of equal prominence.

(c) If the recall of more than one officer is sought, the statement and answer for each officer shall be printed together and shall be clearly distinguished from those of any other officer.

(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 269, Sec. 4. (AB 3258) Effective January 1, 2019.)

11327.

An officer whose recall is being sought may file a statement with the elections official in accordance with Section 13307, to be sent to each voter, together with the voter information guide.

(Amended by Stats. 2016, Ch. 422, Sec. 59. (AB 2911) Effective January 1, 2017.)