

GPC



NEW CALIFORNIA STATE, SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Board of Supervisors
Santa Barbara County,
105 E. Anapamu Ave., 4th Floor
Santa Barbara, CA, 931012-2000

May 13, 2024

Subj: Election Integrity and Budget Reality.

Supervisor Steve Lavagnino

This cover letter is being made available to you and your colleagues on the Board of Supervisors, to show current fiscal reality in the County of Santa Barbara insofar as it impacts the election integrity within the County of Santa Barbara..

- 1) The recent SCOTUS decision in Sheetz v County of El Dorado, will likely have a definitively negative impact on county funds.
- 2) California State's current deficit in budget was estimated in March to be US\$73 Billion for the 2024-25 Budget.
- 3) California State's State Controller released in April 2024, the fact of a 5.2% Deficit in projected State Tax Revenue receipts, driving the overall deficit to US\$79.7 Billion.
- 4) How large and damaging will the Budget deficit of the State of California become, should inflation/stagflation continue and deepen?
- 5) Supervisor Hartmann mentioned at a Candidates Forum in February, that the County of Santa Barbara received 50% of its budget's revenue, from Federal and State grants.
- 6) Given the real difficulties of the State of California's economy, can our Board of Supervisors ignore reality and not make sensible plans?
- 7) Cutting unnecessary costs would seem to be an obvious place to begin.

Two practical solutions are regarding the dropping of our current ways of conducting elections.

- 1) Save perhaps more than US\$2 Million per year, by dropping Dominion machines.
- 2) Est. cost of the production and processing of mail-in ballots is US\$19.50 per ballot.
- 3) Est. cost of In-Person voted, same day counted Paper Precinct Ballot, is <US\$5/Ballot.

Sincerely, 

Philip Gallanders,
Co-Chair, Santa Barbara County Committee
The State of New California