

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

November 18, 2025

FROM

JOANI FINWALL, Registrar of Voters

SUBJECT

Registrar of Voters Budgetary Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2025-26

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. Accept the allocation from the California Department of Finance in the amount of \$24.8 million for full funding of the November 4, 2025 Statewide Special Election, received on September 25, 2025.
2. Authorize the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector to post the necessary budget adjustments, as detailed in the Financial Impact Section, for expenses related to the November 4, 2025 Statewide Special Election (Four votes required).

(Presenter: Joani Finwall, Registrar of Voters, 387-2100)

COUNTY AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER GOALS & OBJECTIVES

Operate in a Fiscally-Responsible and Business-Like Manner.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

Approval of this item will not result in the use of additional Discretionary General Funding (Net County Cost). The Registrar of Voters (ROV) requests budget adjustments to the 2025-26 budget, as reflected in the table below, to provide sufficient appropriation for costs associated with the one-time November 4, 2025 Statewide Special Election. The budget adjustments will be funded by the allocation from the California Department of Finance of \$24.8 million.

Funds Center	Commitment Item/ GL Account	Description	Action	Amount
6800001000	51001010	Regular Salary	Increase	\$258,814
6800001000	52002042	Cellular/Other Services	Increase	\$365,449
6800001000	52002133	ROV Non-County Election Workers	Increase	\$ 2,000,000
6800001000	52002135	Special Department Expense	Increase	\$8,139,695
6800001000	52002304	Office Expense Outside Vendors	Increase	\$286,403
6800001000	52002310	Presort & Packaging	Increase	\$500,000
6800001000	52002335	Temporary Help	Increase	\$9,584,752
6800001000	52002445	Other Professional and Special Services	Increase	\$1,187,208
6800001000	52002450	Application Development Enhancement	Increase	\$1,000,000
6800001000	52002895	Rents & Leases - Equipment	Increase	\$1,149,717
6800001000	52942940	Private Mileage Non-Taxable	Increase	\$3,000

**Registrar of Voters Budgetary Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2025-26
November 18, 2025**

Funds Center	Commitment Item/ GL Account	Description	Action	Amount
6800001000	52942943	Meals – Non-Taxable	Increase	\$30,000
6800001000	55405010	Salaries & Benefit Transfer Out	Increase	\$205,720
6800001000	55405012	Services & Supply Transfer Out	Increase	\$167,000
6800001000	40408840	State Other	Increase	\$24,877,758

On August 19, 2025, the California Department of Finance requested county election officials to estimate the costs of the November 4, 2025 Statewide Special Election. ROV provided the cost estimate of \$24.8 million to the Department of Finance on August 21, 2025. On September 25, 2025, the Department of Finance electronically deposited the allocated amount.

At the time the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted the 2025-26 budget, the Governor had not declared that there would be a special election. Therefore, ROV did not include the special election expenses in the budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On August 21, 2025, the State Legislature approved, and Governor Gavin Newsom signed Senate Bill (SB) 280, which, among other things, called for a special election to be held throughout the state on November 4, 2025.

ROV's 2025-26 budget did not include funding for the special election. SB 280 appropriated an amount from the General Fund for the necessary cost for counties to conduct the special election, as determined by the Director of Finance.

On September 5, 2025, the Department of Finance requested the State Controller's Office to remit payment directly to the county elections officials for the special election.

On September 25, 2025, ROV received \$24.8 million to cover all the election expenses, therefore not requiring the use of any additional General Fund money.

The budget adjustment consists of election expenses, such as payroll expenses for temporary staff, poll workers (County and non-County), other county departments, and Innovation and Technology staff; special department expenses like ballots, Voter Information Guides, polling places payments; postage and mail chargers, professional services and rental services for equipment and vehicle rentals; and office supplies.

There is no contract associated with this State funding; however, the Department of Finance will require ROV to submit a report providing documentation of expenses to show how the funding was spent. Any State funds not used for the special election must be carried over to help finance the share of the cost of the June 2026 Statewide Primary Election, attributed to State offices and initiatives on the ballot.

PROCUREMENT

Not applicable.

**Registrar of Voters Budgetary Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2025-26
November 18, 2025**

REVIEW BY OTHERS

This item has been reviewed by County Counsel (Jolena Grider, Deputy County Counsel, 387-5455) on October 3, 2025; Auditor-Controller/Treasurer/Tax Collector (Charlene Huang, Auditor-Controller Manager, 382-7022) on October 7, 2025; and County Finance and Administration (Elias Duenas, Administrative Analyst, 387-4052) on October 21, 2025.

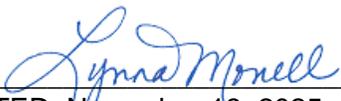
**Registrar of Voters Budgetary Adjustments for Fiscal Year 2025-26
November 18, 2025**

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors
San Bernardino County

APPROVED (CONSENT CALENDAR)

Moved: Curt Hagman Seconded: Joe Baca, Jr.
Ayes: Jesse Armendarez, Dawn Rowe, Curt Hagman, Joe Baca, Jr.
Absent: Col. Paul Cook (Ret.)

Lynna Monell, CLERK OF THE BOARD

BY 
DATED: November 18, 2025



cc: File - Registrar of Voters
JLL 11/25/2025