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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**JEFF STONE, PHARM.D.**  
TWENTY-EIGHTH SENATE DISTRICT



VICE CHAIR  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY  
VICE CHAIR  
LABOR & INDUSTRIAL  
RELATIONS  
VICE CHAIR  
NATURAL RESOURCES  
& WATER  
MEMBER  
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
PUBLIC SAFETY

September 20, 2017

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Veto Request – Senate Bill 286 (Stern)**

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing today to respectfully request that you veto Senate Bill 286 (Stern).

SB 286 muddies yet another clear standard in California elections, thereby creating more opportunities to potentially manipulate the system.

Vote by mail (VBM) ballots are already far more susceptible to fraud than traditional ballots, due to the separation of both ballot and voter from the polling place. SB 286 looks to expand ways in which VBM ballots can be fraudulently used.

This bill could exacerbate the problem with double voting that occurred in the June 2016 Primary Election as reported in the East Bay Times. VBM ballots are susceptible to voter coercion, intimidation, theft, and even outright purchasing and harvesting and SB 286 makes double voting much easier to those looking to manipulate the election results in their favor.

The integrity of our election process is the lynchpin of a successful democracy and SB 286 corrodes the reliability of this process. Allowing a voter who was previously issued a ballot to cast another ballot at a polling location without being required to surrender the previously issued ballot is an open invitation for voter fraud.

I thank you for your time to read this letter and am available to answer any questions if they arise. I can be contacted at (916) 651-4028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Stone".

Jeff Stone  
Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> District