June 8, 2010, Ballot Pamphlet Letter from SOS

Dear Fellow Voter:

By registering to vote, you have taken the first step in playing an active role in deciding California's future. Now, to help you make your decisions, my office has created this Official Voter Information Guide that contains titles and summaries prepared by Attorney General Edmund G. Brown Jr.; impartial analyses of the law and potential costs to taxpayers prepared by Legislative Analyst Mac Taylor; arguments in favor of and against ballot measures prepared by proponents and opponents; text of the proposed laws prepared by Legislative Counsel Diane F. Boyer-Vine; and other useful information. The printing of the guide was done under the supervision of Acting State Printer Kevin P. Hannah.

Voting is easy, and any registered voter may vote by mail or in his or her local polling place. The last day to request a vote-by-mail ballot from your county elections office is June 1.

Primary elections are held to determine which nominee in each political party will represent the party in each contest in the general election. The winning candidate from each party (or the top two voter-getters in nonpartisan contests) in the June 8, 2010, primary will move on to the November 2, 2010, general election in which all voters, regardless of political affiliation, will be allowed to vote for any candidate on that ballot.

Some political parties are allowing decline-to-state (also known as nonpartisan or unaffiliated) voters to request and vote their party's ballot in this primary election. See page ___ of this guide for more information.

There are more ways to participate in the electoral process. You can:

- Be a poll worker on Election Day, helping to make voting easier for all eligible voters and protecting ballots until they are counted by elections officials;
- Spread the word about voter registration deadlines and voting rights through emails, phone calls, brochures, and posters; and
- Help educate other voters about the candidates and issues by organizing discussion groups or participating in debates with friends, family, and community leaders.

For more information about how and where to vote, as well as other ways you can participate in the electoral process, call (800) 345-VOTE or visit *www.sos.ca.gov*.

It is a wonderful privilege in a democracy to have a choice and the right to voice your opinion. Whether you cast your ballot at a polling place or by mail, I encourage you to take the time to carefully read about your voting rights and each ballot measure in this information guide.

Thank you for taking your civic responsibility seriously and making your voice heard!

SUBJECT TO COURT ORDERED CHANGES