



**MEMORANDUM**  
**OFFICE OF THE**  
**PLACER COUNTY CLERK-RECORDER-**  
**REGISTRAR OF VOTERS**

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Jim McCauley, County Clerk-Recorder-Registrar of Voters  
Ryan Ronco, Assistant Recorder-Registrar of Voters  
**DATE:** March 10, 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Informational Memo Re. Special Statewide Election on May 19, 2009

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**RECOMMENDATION**

None. This memo is informational only.

**BACKGROUND**

As you are no doubt well aware, the revised State Budget for the current fiscal year passed late Thursday, Feb 19<sup>th</sup> and was signed by the Governor on Feb. 20. The revised Budget contains certain measures requiring voter approval for enactment and/or extension. Accordingly, the State has set a special Statewide Election to be held on May 19, 2009 – just 71 calendar days from your Board's meeting today – for voters to consider these measures. While reimbursement for the additional election has not been included within the revised State Budget, the Governor and various legislators have indicated that counties should be reimbursed for their additional costs for conducting this unbudgeted election. The election cost estimates for Placer County are shown below in the Fiscal Impact section of this memo.

While special local elections may also be held in conjunction with this upcoming election, our office does not believe there will be any requested due to the relatively short timeframe before the election must be held. Should there be any timely requests, however, our office would indentify these for your Board's approval to consolidate with the May 19<sup>th</sup> election, with the additional costs to be reimbursed by the requesting local government agency.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Based on the costs of elections in 2008, it is expected that the election will cost Placer County an estimated \$866,000 in "out-of-pocket" expenditures for poll and absentee ballots, postage, costs for election poll workers, and other direct election services and supplies costs; these costs would be in addition to the costs of staff salaries and benefits.

The department is committed to minimizing the fiscal impact to the County without adversely affecting voters through use of Clerk-Recorder staff in lieu of Elections extra help, consolidating polls, and employing innovative ways to reduce sample ballot printing costs. A supplemental appropriation may be required later this fiscal year to provide funding for a significant portion of the additional out-of-pocket costs for this new unbudgeted election. Staff will continue to evaluate the potential to fund out of pocket costs to the extent possible within the existing appropriation. Any State reimbursement for the election would almost certainly not be received before FY 2009-10 at the earliest, but virtually all of the additional costs will be incurred over the next four months of this current fiscal year.