



Agenda Date: 6/12/2007
Agenda Placement: 6Q

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Tuteur, John - Registrar of Voters
Elections
REPORT BY: BELLE ALTMAN, STAFF SERVICES MANAGER , 707-253-4295
SUBJECT: ASSESSOR-RECORDER-COUNTY CLERK REQUESTS BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT CERTAIN PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICIALS CONFIDENTIAL VOTER STATUS

RECOMMENDATION

Assessor-Recorder-County Clerk in his capacity as ex-officio Registrar of Voters requests the Board of Supervisors grant authority to the Registrar to implement the provisions of Elections Code 2166.7 allowing certain public safety officials to apply for confidential voter status.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under Elections Code § 2166.7 (f) a Board of Supervisors may authorize the Registrar of Voters to make confidential the residence address, telephone number and e-mail address appearing on the affidavit of voter registration of certain public safety officials such as peace officers, judges, and government attorneys primarily practicing criminal law. The Registrar of Voters is requesting such authority in order to make this option available to eligible officials.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	General fund for supplies and staff salaries
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	The cost of this program will be less than \$500 annually for staff time and materials to design, make available and process applications and application renewals. Primary-General elections can absorb this increase annually without budget changes.

Is the general fund affected? Yes

Future fiscal impact: Annual expenditure of approximately \$500 maximum being absorbed in Primary-General Election current budget.

Consequences if not approved: Eligible officials whose lives are threatened will not have the ability to make certain registration information confidential which could lead to risks of harassment, bodily harm or worse.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Elections Code ("EC") § 2166.7 (f) [see attachment A] effective January 1, 2007 allows Boards of Supervisors to authorize the Registrar of Voters to make confidential the residence address, telephone number and e-mail address appearing on the affidavit of voter registration of certain public safety officials such as peace officers, judges, and government attorneys primarily practicing criminal law whose lives are threatened.

Prior to the passage of 2166.7 confidentiality of voter information applied to individuals when ordered by a court due to life threatening circumstances, as well as to victims of domestic violence and stalking, and reproductive health care service providers, employees, volunteers and patients. These provisions are not affected by this action which supplements the eligible officials who can request confidentiality.

Once authorized by the Board, the Registrar will provide applications to eligible persons upon request. The application shall contain a statement, signed under penalty of perjury, that the person is a public safety officer, as defined by law, and that a life threatening circumstance exists to the officer or member of the officer's family. The application for confidentiality of the voter's information is a public record.

The confidentiality granted shall terminate no more than two years after commencement, as determined by the Registrar. A single renewal may be granted, upon application, for one additional two year period after expiration. In addition, the person granted confidentiality must provide a valid mailing address to be used in place of the residence address for election, scholarly, political research, and governmental purposes.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . Confidential Voter Statutes

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Karen Gratton