



## CITY OF FULLERTON

City Council Office

Mayor, Jesus J. Silva  
Mayor Pro Tem, Jennifer Fitzgerald  
Jan M. Flory  
Bruce Whitaker  
Ahmad Zahra

February 20, 2019

Honorable Chairwoman Lisa A. Bartlett  
Supervisor, 5<sup>th</sup> District  
County of Orange  
333 W. Santa Ana Blvd.  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: Voter's Choice Act

Honorable Chairwoman Bartlett:

On behalf of the City Council for the City of Fullerton, we are seeking the Board of Supervisor's support for implementation of the Voter's Choice Act as recommended by the Community Election Working Group.

It is our understanding that the Board of Supervisors will consider a Voter's Choice Act Operational Plan Proposal 2019 – 2020 at its February 26, 2019 meeting. In addition to the overall costs savings implementing the concept will bring to the County of Orange, adoption of the Voter's Choice Act provides cities that are not otherwise defined within the Election Code the ability to hold all-mail ballot elections. We believe this is very important not just to our voters but to a city's financial outlook for conducting special elections when cost may otherwise play a factor in a City Council's consideration of whether to conduct a special election. For the benefit of those in our community who strongly embrace the right to vote, implementation of the Voter's Choice Act at the County level will help achieve what is considered a pillar of our society.

As you may well know, Fullerton recently debated filling a City Council vacancy through special election or appointment process, both of which are allowed through State Election Codes. However, the inability to conduct an all-mail ballot election, with its reduced costs and earlier scheduled election date, played a major factor into the ultimate determination of filling the vacancy by appointment rather than holding spending the City's limited resources on a costly election. While many in our community and the Council hold high the right to select representatives through election by our voters, the prospect of waiting eleven months, only to have the winner potentially hold office for less than a year to the next election, was a critical piece in the decision process. Adoption of the Voter's Choice Act Operational Plan Proposal 2019 – 2020 will expand our future choices and help us ensure that our residents have the ultimate right to electing their representatives.

On behalf of the City Council, I appreciate the Board of Supervisor's thoughtful consideration on this item when it comes before you. If you have any questions, please contact me at (714) 738-6311.

Sincerely,

Jesus J. Silva  
Mayor

**THE EDUCATION COMMUNITY**

303 West Commonwealth Avenue, Fullerton, California 92832-1775  
(714) 738-6311 • Fax (714) 738-6758 • [council@ci.fullerton.ca.us](mailto:council@ci.fullerton.ca.us) • [www.cityoffullerton.com](http://www.cityoffullerton.com)