



## Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) Agenda

May 12, 2022

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting

Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4651587042>

Meeting ID: 465 158 7042

1:30 p.m. – 1:40 p.m.

### I. Welcome and Introductions

1:40 p.m. – 1:55 p.m.

### II. Discussion on Senate Bill 1480 (Update)

A. Disability Rights California requested SB 1480 to be included in the VAAC agenda to provide an update on the proposed legislation.

B. [SB 1480](#) would allow people with a “qualifying disability” to return ballots electronically that were voted using a remote accessible vote-by-mail system.

1. The legislation indicates that a “qualifying disability” means a disability that prevents a voter from reading, marking, holding, handling, or manipulating a ballot, including blindness, visual impairment, an intellectual or developmental disability, or impairment in dexterity, such that the voter is unable to return a ballot privately and independently.”

C. SB 1480 would allow people with qualifying disabilities to return their ballots without having to physically sign the return envelopes.

1:55 p.m. – 2:10 p.m.

### III. Overview of SB 504

- A. **SB 504** expands the timeframe that people with disabilities, as well as people living overseas or in the military, can register and vote after the registration deadline.
- B. Previously, state law required people to register to vote in person between 14 days before and through Election Day.
- C. Now, people with disabilities who need to register to vote within 14 days of an Election Day can register online and use a county's AVBM system to vote.
- D. SB 504 does not require people to provide information regarding their disabilities to register.

2:10 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.

### IV. Disability Rights California Setting Priorities for next 1 – 3 years.

- A. DRC invites public input to inform the setting of priorities.
  - 1. [Online survey](#) for people to provide input.
  - 2. Group meetings to discuss goals.
- B. Contact Fred Nisen, DRC's Managing Attorney of its Voting Rights Practice Group, for more information.

2:25 p.m. – 2:35 p.m.

### V. UASI Project Regarding Accessible, Mobile Voting Platforms

- A. The VAAC members who volunteered previously to provide input regarding accessible voting were included in the current UASI project for accessible, mobile voting platforms.
- B. UASI will contact the VAAC members since this is not a project organized by the Department of Elections.
- C. Consideration of VAAC members sharing their experiences with the project.

2:35 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

## **VI. Information on June 7, 2022, Consolidated Statewide Direct Primary Election**

- A. The online versions of the Voter Information Pamphlet have been available since April 25.
- B. The mailing of the Voter Information Pamphlets began on Saturday, April 29.
- C. Vote-by-mail ballots were mailed on May 4 to all voters.
- D. All voters registered by May 23, 2022, will receive ballots in the mail.
- E. After May 23, people can still register and vote and must do so in person either at the City Hall Voting Center, or at a polling place on Election Day.
- F. The Department will organize 588 polling places for Election Day
- G. Between May 9 and Election Day, any voter will be able to use the accessible vote-by-mail system (AVBM) with screen readable ballots compatible with personal devices at [sfelections.org/access](https://sfelections.org/access)
- H. Voters with disabilities can also register and vote using an AVBM system starting May 24.
- I. Voter Information Pamphlets
  1. Most voters have received their voter information pamphlets.
  2. Large print information pamphlets currently available.
  3. Audio versions of information pamphlets are currently available from the Department and the Library's Talking Book and Braille Center.
  4. Accessible digital versions of the information pamphlet are currently available on the Department's website: [sfelections.org/vip](https://sfelections.org/vip).
- J. Accessible In-person Voting
  1. City Hall Voting Center opens May 9, each weekday from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. and is also open the two weekends before Election Day, May 28 and 29; June 4 and 5, from 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
  2. Curbside voting available at the City Hall Voting Center and at polling places upon request.

3. Emergency ballots: The Department can deliver ballots to people who are unable to receive and vote their ballots by Election Day, including those in care facilities or who are homebound.

2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

## **VII. Summary and Next Meeting**

- A. Questions or comments regarding meeting topics
- B. Suggestions for future agenda items.
- C. Schedule for upcoming VAAC meetings.
  1. The next VAAC meetings will occur on the following dates:
    - a. July 14, 2022
    - b. September 15, 2022
    - c. December 8, 2022
  2. The time for all VAAC meetings is from 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.