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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**SOLANO
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April 26, 2023

The Honorable Chris Holden
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O St., 5650
Sacramento, CA 95814**RE: OPPOSE, AB 884 (Low) Elections: language accessibility**

Dear Chairman Holden,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write to inform you that we must respectfully oppose AB 884, which would increase the circumstances under which the Secretary of State and county elections officials are required to provide translated election materials and specified language services.

While Solano County agrees elections should be safe, fair, and accessible to all, the county's opposition is out of budgetary concern. According to the 2019 American Community Survey – the research tool that helps the county estimate the number of languages spoken in Solano County – the conservative estimate was that the county would have to increase its translation services to more than 30 different new languages, which would cost the County approximately \$300,000 more per election.

It should be noted that if the county was allocated funding for these legislative changes, they are ready and willing to provide these services. It is the unfunded mandate portion of the bill that Solano County opposes. If the county is not budgeted for these services, then the amount of money it would take to fund them would take away the board's discretion to allocate their resources where they see best fit.

For these reasons, Solano County must respectfully oppose AB 884.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez".

John M. Vasquez, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors**CC:**The Honorable Bill Dodd, Senator
The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, Assemblymember
The Honorable Evan Low, Assemblymember
The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors
Tim Flanagan, Chief Information Officer and Registrar of Voters, Solano County
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners