

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND SHEILA KUEHL

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Implementing Recommendations for Elections

On the June 5th Primary Election, 118,509 names of registered voters were omitted from the printed rosters in precincts across Los Angeles County. After the election, an extensive independent review by IBM Security Services identified software misconfigurations—not a cyberattack—as the root cause of the voter rosters issue.

In its investigation of the omissions, IBM found that formatting changes in the statewide voter database made it incompatible with the software the County uses to generate the printed lists for polling places. IBM also investigated a 21-minute outage of the County’s voter information website, LAVote.net, on the evening of the election after the polls had closed. Once again, it found no evidence of a cyberattack, and attributed the outage to heavy demand on the website.

Given these findings, it is imperative that the election process continues to be closely monitored with additional quality controls put into place before the next election.

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SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
HAHN	_____
BARGER	_____
KUEHL	_____

WE THEREFORE MOVE that the Board of Supervisors, in response to the independent review by IBM Security Systems, instruct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to implement the following:

1. Work with the Secretary of State to update existing software to ensure that the state and local voter databases are compatible;
2. Implement new quality control practices for Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk staff;
3. Resolve deficiencies in the system used to create the printed voter roster; and
4. In consultation with the Internal Services Department, increase capacity and change configurations on LAVote.net to accommodate periods of high demand.

WE FURTHER MOVE that the Board of Supervisor direct the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk to report back to the Board in 30 days.

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JH:mb