

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

September 12, 2023

AND JANICE HAHN

Proclaiming September 19, 2023 as National Voter Registration Day

The right to vote continues to be threatened throughout the country. More than ever, recognizing this right and eliminating barriers are of the utmost importance. Los Angeles County (County) must continue to ensure there is accurate information and education being provided to Angelenos and safeguard the right to vote. Throughout the years, the County Board of Supervisor (Board) has supported initiatives and measures to protect and expand the right to vote, especially to those who have historically and systematically been disenfranchised.

National Voter Registration Day (NVRD) is a “nonpartisan civic holiday celebrating our democracy”¹ and has been observed since 2012. NVRD has been acknowledged and honored every September when “volunteers and organizations from all over the country”² engage with their neighbors and community members to bring

¹ <https://nationalvoterregistrationday.org/about/>

² Id.

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about awareness of registration opportunities and register as many eligible voters as possible.

This Board has also taken bold action to ensure people who are incarcerated were made aware of their right to vote through the creation of the County's "LA Free the Vote", which emanated from the work of the American Civil Liberties Union's (ACLU) Jails Project's "Unlock the Vote" in 2018.

This important County initiative was made possible through the support of numerous advocacy organizations such as A New Way of Life, Anti-Recidivism Coalition, and many others, in working partnership with the LA Sheriff's Department and the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. This campaign was a shining example of county and community working together to provide valuable resources and abilities to a community that was largely unaware of one of our most important rights—the right to vote.

With each and every NVRD, the County and Board encourages all eligible people to participate in activities to learn more about voting and to participate in our elections.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Proclaim Tuesday, September 19, 2023 as National Voter Registration Day.
2. Direct County Communications to work with all County Departments, including the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk and the Justice, Care, and Opportunities Department's "LA Free the Vote", to highlight and promote their respective voter registration activities, events, and programs on the County websites and social media platforms.

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