

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS HILDA L. SOLIS

MAY 19, 2026

AND LINDSEY P. HORVATH

2026 Election Resiliency and Response

As Los Angeles County prepares for the June 2, 2026 primary and the November 3, 2026 general elections, it must be ready to react quickly to changing legal circumstances on the ground that could alter the administrative and legal landscape for these elections. For example, a ruling in the *Watson v. Republican National Committee* Supreme Court case could invalidate State laws that allow a grace period for ballots postmarked by Election Day, possibly changing the rules of the election with little time to respond. There have been many high-profile cases of ballots being confiscated across the country, and the federal government has also threatened to make arrests or file lawsuits related to election administration¹.

To respond quickly and efficiently on election day should these or any other election threats arise, the County must delineate clear authority to make timely decisions, including providing authority for any potential legal response. This will help to ensure that the County is prepared to react to any realities that impede the delivery of safe, secure, and accessible elections.

¹ <https://www.politico.com/news/2026/04/19/trump-doj-redoubling-election-scrutiny-efforts-00880159>

MOTION

Mitchell _____

Horvath _____

Hahn _____

Barger _____

Solis _____

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WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors suspend Section 22.1 of the Rules of the Board for the limited purpose of considering this motion.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS HEREBY DECLARE it is in the County’s best interest that, in the face of potential federal government interference with the June 2, 2026, and the November 3, 2026, elections and potential federal government action against County employees providing election support, the County of Los Angeles will provide for the defense of Los Angeles County election employees, in accordance with California Government Code Section 995.8, if a County election employee is charged with federal criminal offenses arising from the discharge of their duties administering federal, state, local and special elections through acts or omissions undertaken in good faith, without actual malice, and within the scope of their County employment.

WE, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors authorize County Counsel to initiate, join, participate in, or support litigation, including amicus filings, in support of free and fair elections, including participating in litigation against the federal government for any interference or disruption with the June 2, 2026, and the November 3, 2026, elections.

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