



ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SB 286 HELD ON SUSPENSE, NO PATH FORWARD *Orange County Voters Maintain Control Over Local Elections*

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – On Thursday, August 11, Senate Bill 286 (Min) was held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file, blocking the bill from any successful path forward.

The controversial legislation would have stripped Orange County local control over its elections by forcing the Orange County Board of Education to move the election from the June Primary to the November general election ballot. Besides usurping the local control, SB 286 would have created a new reimbursable state mandate by adding significant workload responsibilities to the Orange County Registrar. This new state mandate would have resulted in hundreds of thousands of dollars in state General Fund expenses every election cycle under the mandate.

“This is a victory for Orange County voters, local control, and commonsense electioneering,” Board Chair Dr. Lisa Sparks said. *“Rather than meddling in local school elections, lawmakers in Sacramento should be focused on solving the many real problems facing our state.”*

The tabling of SB 286 is a significant win for the Orange County Board of Education, whose Charter County status allows the Board or County to adopt a resolution to adjust election dates if needed. The Board has long seen SB 286 as an intrusion into local control of Orange County elections and officially opposed the unwanted and unnecessary legislation.

The Orange County Board of Education provides educational opportunities for Orange County students, promotes student achievement, and offers leadership, services, and resources for Orange County school districts, educators, and the community. The Board consists of five lay members who represent the five trustee areas of the county. Board members are elected for a four-year term by the electors of the trustee area which they represent. From among its members, the Board elects a president and vice president. The Board has a secretary and executive officer, the County Superintendent of Schools, who is elected by the people every four years.