



Peace and Freedom Party of California

Legislative Committee

Kevin Akin, Riverside; Mary Lou Finley, San Diego; Dave Kadlecsek, Vice Chair, Santa Clare; Tom Lacey, San Francisco; John Reiger, Sacramento; Maureen Smith, Santa Cruz; Alice Stek, Los Angeles; Bill Storm, Sacramento; C. T. Weber, Chair, Sacramento.

March 30, 2019

Honorable Patricia C. Bates
State Capitol, Room 3048
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

Subject: SB 57 (Bates) California New Motor Voter Registration Program

Oppose

Dear Senator Bates,

I am writing on behalf of Peace and Freedom Party which first qualified for the ballot in California over 50 years ago. We represent poor people, especially those from ghettos and barrios, those without a voice and those without hope. For years, Peace and Freedom Party has advocated for major electoral reforms including lowering the voting age to 18, universal right to vote, same day registration, equal public funding, proportional representation and publicly owned open source paper ballot voting systems. Peace and Freedom Party opposes SB 57 (Bates) because it is a step back from universal registration.

Under current law the Department of Motor Vehicles is required to provide the Secretary of State with certain information from all applicants for drivers' licenses and identification cards, and to report the information to the Secretary of State that the applicants have attested that they meets the voter registration or preregistration requirements. The Secretary of State is then required to preregister those who are 16 to 18 years old and register these people who are 18 years or older, U.S. citizens and not on parole for felonies, to vote, unless a person affirmatively declines to register to vote. SB 57 would instead require a person to affirmatively agree to become registered or preregistered to vote during a transaction with the Department of Motor Vehicles before the Secretary of State registers or preregisters that person.

For these and other reasons, Peace and Freedom Party of California, State Central Committee voted on March 23, 2019, to oppose SB 57. We will do what we can to help pass this bill. If you have any questions regarding this bill, you may contact me at (916) 422-5395 or CTWeberVoters@att.net.

We urge members of the State Senate to vote no on SB 57.

Sincerely,

CT Weber

C. T. Weber
Peace and Freedom Party of California
Legislative Committee Chair