

February 8, 2021

The Honorable Marc Berman Chair, Assembly Committee on Elections California State Assembly 1020 N Street, Room 365 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 29 (Umberg) Vote by Mail Ballots - SUPPORT

## Dear Chair Berman,

NextGen California is pleased to support SB 29 (Umberg), a bill to mandate that every registered voter be sent a mail-in ballot at least 29 days in advance of an election proclaimed or conducted in 2021. In addition, it requires that every county offer a ballot tracking system.

The November election recorded the highest voter turnout in nearly 70 years, thanks in part to the decision to mail every voter a ballot. NextGen California believes that voting is a fundamental right, and therefore it is incumbent on the state to make voting as convenient and accessible as possible, while protecting the integrity of the election process. California must continue the practice of mailing every registered voter a ballot in 2021 and beyond to ensure that every citizen's voice is heard.

We commend your support on this important legislative measure, and for the above reasons we respectfully request your "aye" vote on SB 29.

Sincerely,

Arnold Sowell

Executive Director, NextGen California