

WEST'S ANNOTATED CALIFORNIA CODES

(as of Jan. 1, 2019)

**ELECTIONS CODE
DIVISION 10. LOCAL, SPECIAL, VACANCY,
AND CONSOLIDATED ELECTIONS**

Excerpt from

PART 4. UNIFORM DISTRICT ELECTION LAW

§ 10515. Appointment to office

(a) If, by 5 p.m. on the 83rd day prior to the day fixed for the general district election: (1) only one person has filed a declaration of candidacy for any elective office to be filled at that election, (2) no one has filed a declaration of candidacy for such an office, (3) in the case of directors to be elected from the district at large, the number of persons who have filed a declaration of candidacy for director at large does not exceed the number of offices of director at large to be filled at that election, or (4) in the case of directors who must reside in a division but be elected at large, the number of candidates for director at large from a division does not exceed the number required to be elected director at large while residing in that division; and if a petition signed by 10 percent of the voters or 50 voters, whichever is the smaller number, in the district or division if elected by division, requesting that the general district election be held has not been presented to the officer conducting the election, he or she shall submit a certificate of these facts to the supervising authority and request that the supervising authority, at a regular or special meeting held prior to the Monday before the first Friday in December in which the election is held, appoint to the office or offices the person or persons, if any, who have filed declarations of candidacy. The supervising authority shall make these appointments.

(b) If no person has filed a declaration of candidacy for any office, the supervising authority shall appoint any person to the office who is qualified on the date when the election would have been held. The person appointed shall qualify and take office and serve exactly as if elected at a general district election for the office.

(c) Where a director must be appointed to represent a division, all or most of which is not within the county governed by the supervising authority, then the board of supervisors of the county within which all or most of that division is located shall be the body to which request for appointment is made and which shall make the appointment.

(Stats. 1994, c. 920 (S.B. 1547), § 2.)

**GOVERNMENT CODE
TITLE 1. GENERAL
DIVISION 4. PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES
CHAPTER 4. RESIGNATIONS AND VACANCIES**

Excerpt from

ARTICLE 1. RESIGNATIONS

§ 1750. Writing required; persons to whom made

Resignations shall be in writing, and made as follows:

* * *

(d) By all officers of a ... special district ... , ... to the clerk of the board of supervisors of their respective counties, unless by the terms of the act under which a district is formed appointment to vacancies is made by other than the board of supervisors, in which case the resignation shall be submitted to the appointing body.

* * *

(Stats. 1943, c. 134, p. 969, § 1750. Amended by Stats. 1951, c. 1553, p. 3537, § 14; Stats. 1959, c. 1307, p. 3579, § 1; Stats. 2012, c. 470 (A.B. 1529), § 24.)

Excerpts from

ARTICLE 2. VACANCIES

§ 1770. Events causing vacancy before expiration of term

An office becomes vacant on the happening of any of the following events before the expiration of the term:

(a) The death of the incumbent.

(b) An adjudication pursuant to a quo warranto proceeding declaring that the incumbent is physically or mentally incapacitated due to disease, illness, or accident, and that there is reasonable cause to believe that the incumbent will not be able to perform the duties of his or her office for the remainder of his or her term. This subdivision shall not apply to offices created by the California Constitution nor to federal or state legislators.

(c)(1) His or her resignation, except as provided in paragraph (2).

(2) In the case of the office of city council member, upon the delivery of a letter of resignation by the resigning council member to the city clerk. The letter of resignation may specify a date on which the resignation will become effective.

(d) His or her removal from office.

(e) His or her ceasing to be an inhabitant of the state, or if the office be local and one for which local residence is required by law, of the district, county, or city for which the officer was chosen or appointed, or within which the duties of his or her office are required to be discharged.

(f) His or her absence from the state without the permission required by law beyond the period allowed by law.

(g) His or her ceasing to discharge the duties of his or her office for the period of three consecutive months, except when prevented by sickness, or when absent from the state with the permission required by law.

(h) His or her conviction of a felony or of any offense involving a violation of his or her official duties. An officer shall be deemed to have been convicted under this subdivision when trial court judgment is entered. For purposes of this subdivision, "trial court judgment" means a judgment by the trial court either sentencing the officer or otherwise upholding and implementing the plea, verdict, or finding.

(i) His or her refusal or neglect to file his or her required oath or bond within the time prescribed.

(j) The decision of a competent tribunal declaring void his or her election or appointment.

(k) The making of an order vacating his or her office or declaring the office vacant when the officer fails to furnish an additional or supplemental bond.

(l) His or her commitment to a hospital or sanitarium by a court of competent jurisdiction as a drug addict, dipsomaniac, inebriate, or stimulant addict; but in that event the office shall not be deemed vacant until the order of commitment has become final.

(m)(1) The incumbent is listed in the Excluded Parties List System and all of the following subparagraphs apply:

(A) The office is one that the incumbent holds ex officio, by virtue of holding another office, or as an appointee.

(B) The appointed or ex officio office is on the governing board of a local agency that is, or may reasonably be expected to be, a participant or principal in a covered transaction, pursuant to federal law.

(C) A federal agency head or designee has not granted the incumbent an exception, in writing, permitting the incumbent to participate in a particular covered transaction in which the local agency is, or may reasonably be expected to be, a participant or principal.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:

(A) “Excluded Parties List System” means the list maintained and disseminated by the federal General Services Administration containing names of, and other information about, persons who are debarred, suspended, disqualified, or otherwise excluded from participating in a covered transaction, pursuant to federal law.

(B) “Local agency” includes, but is not limited to, a county, whether general law or chartered, city, whether general law or chartered, city and county, school district, municipal corporation, district, political subdivision, or any board, commission, or agency of one of these entities.

(C) “Federal law” includes, but is not limited to, federal regulations adopted pursuant to Section 2455 of Public Law 103-355 (108 Stat. 3327), Executive Order No. 11738, Executive Order No. 12549, and Executive Order No. 12689.

(3) This subdivision shall not apply to an elective office.

(Stats. 1943, c. 134, p. 969, § 1770. Amended by Stats. 1943, c. 166, p. 1062; Stats. 1949, c. 1512, p. 2695, § 1, operative Jan. 1, 1952; Stats. 1970, c. 465, p. 921, § 1; Stats. 1971, c. 702, p. 1362, § 1; Stats. 1974, c. 1234, p. 2678, § 1; Stats. 1988, c. 283, § 1; Stats. 1998, c. 931 (S.B. 2139), § 177, eff. Sept. 28, 1998; Stats. 2002, c. 784 (S.B. 1316), § 122; Stats. 2011, c. 543 (A.B. 309), § 2; Stats. 2014, c. 725 (A.B. 1795), § 1, eff. Jan. 1, 2015.)

§ 1778. Vacancy on governing board of special district; appointments

A vacancy in any appointive office on the governing board of a special district shall be filled by appointment by the board of supervisors of the county in which the larger portion of the district is located unless, by the terms of the act under which the district is formed, another method of appointment is expressly provided.

(Added by Stats.1959, c. 1307, p. 3579, § 2. Amended by Stats.1973, c. 934, p. 1728, § 2; Stats.1974, c. 1271, p. 2755, § 1.)

§ 1779. Special districts; filing vacancies on appointed governing boards; failure to fill within 90 days

A vacancy on any appointed governing board of a special district shall be filled by the appointing authority within 90 days immediately subsequent to its occurrence. If no

action is taken for a period of 90 days immediately subsequent to a vacancy on such a board, the board of supervisors of the county in which the larger portion of the district is located shall have authority to fill the vacancy by appointment.

(Added by Stats. 1959, c. 1307, p. 3579, § 3. Amended by Stats. 1973, c. 934, p. 1728, § 3.)

§ 1780. Special districts; vacancies in elective offices of governing board; election dates; term

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a vacancy in any elective office on the governing board of a special district, other than those specified in Section 1781^[1], shall be filled pursuant to this section.

(b) The district shall notify the county elections official of the vacancy no later than 15 days after either the date on which the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later.

(c) The remaining members of the district board may fill the vacancy either by appointment pursuant to subdivision (d) or by calling an election pursuant to subdivision (e).

(d)(1) The remaining members of the district board shall make the appointment pursuant to this subdivision within 60 days after either the date on which the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later. The district shall post a notice of the vacancy in three or more conspicuous places in the district at least 15 days before the district board makes the appointment. The district shall notify the county elections official of the appointment no later than 15 days after the appointment.

(2) If the vacancy occurs in the first half of a term of office and at least 130 days prior to the next general district election, the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold office until the next general district election that is scheduled 130 or more days after the date the district board is notified of the vacancy, and thereafter until the person who is elected at that election to fill the vacancy has been qualified. The person elected to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired balance of the term of office.

(3) If the vacancy occurs in the first half of a term of office, but less than 130 days prior to the next general district election, or if the vacancy occurs in the second half of a term of office, the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall fill the balance of the unexpired term of office.

(e)(1) In lieu of making an appointment the remaining members of the board may within 60 days of the date the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later, call an election to fill the vacancy.

¹ The districts specified in this statute are: school districts, municipal utility districts, and irrigation districts of 500,000 acres or more.

(2) The election called pursuant to this subdivision shall be held on the next established election date provided in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1000) of Division 1 of the Elections Code that is 130 or more days after the date the district board calls the election.

(f)(1) If the vacancy is not filled by the district board by appointment, or if the district board has not called for an election within 60 days of the date the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later, then the city council of the city in which the district is wholly located, or if the district is not wholly located within a city, the board of supervisors of the county representing the larger portion of the district area in which the election to fill the vacancy will be held, may appoint a person to fill the vacancy within 90 days of the date the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later, or the city council or board of supervisors may order the district to call an election to fill the vacancy.

(2) The election called pursuant to this subdivision shall be held on the next established election date provided in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1000) of Division 1 of the Elections Code that is 130 or more days after the date the city council or board of supervisors calls the election.

(g)(1) If within 90 days of the date the district board is notified of the vacancy or the effective date of the vacancy, whichever is later, the remaining members of the district board or the appropriate board of supervisors or city council have not filled the vacancy and no election has been called for, then the district board shall call an election to fill the vacancy.

(2) The election called pursuant to this subdivision shall be held on the next established election date provided in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1000) of Division 1 of the Elections Code that is 130 or more days after the date the district board calls the election.

(h)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, if the number of remaining members of the district board falls below a quorum, then at the request of the district secretary or a remaining member of the district board, the appropriate board of supervisors or the city council shall promptly appoint a person to fill the vacancy, or may call an election to fill the vacancy.

(2) The board of supervisors or the city council shall only fill enough vacancies by appointment or by election to provide the district board with a quorum.

(3) If the vacancy occurs in the first half of a term of office and at least 130 days prior to the next general district election, the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall hold the office until the next general district election that is scheduled 130 or more days after the date the district board is notified of the vacancy, and thereafter until the person who is elected at that election to fill the vacancy has been qualified. The person elected to fill the vacancy shall hold office for the unexpired balance of the term of office.

(4) If the vacancy occurs in the first half of a term of office, but less than 130 days prior to the next general district election, or if the vacancy occurs in the second half of a term of office, the person appointed to fill the vacancy shall fill the balance of the unexpired term of office.

(5) The election called pursuant to this subdivision shall be held on the next established election date provided in Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1000) of Division 1 of the Elections Code that is held 130 or more days after the date the city council or board of supervisors calls the election.

(Added by Stats. 1975, c. 1059, p. 2551, § 1.3. Amended by Stats. 1977, c. 189, p. 708, § 1; Stats. 1977, c. 1205, p. 4074, § 82; Stats. 1978, c. 319, § 1; Stats. 1986, c. 866, § 20; Stats. 1987, c. 1184, § 2; Stats. 1994, c. 923 (S.B. 1546), § 31; Stats. 1999, c. 312 (S.B. 1208), § 27; Stats. 2007, c. 343 (S.B. 144), § 4.)

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