DRAFT

California Secretary of State
Voter's Choice Task Force Regular Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 22, 2026, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

1. **Welcome and Call to Order:** Co-Chair Donna Linder called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

   Roll Call

   Task Force members present: Co-Chair Petrina Branch, Co-Chair Donna Linder, Deana Kitamura, Melvin E. Levey, Camilla Chavez, Gabriel Taylor, Ellen Nash, Matt Moreles, Brittany Stonesifer, Dora Rose.

   Task Force members absent: Carrie Cornwell, Art Tinoco, Leslie Hernandez, Bob Page, Ethan Jones, Dean Logan, Jesse Salinas, Evelyn Mendez.

   Declaration of Quorum: Elections staff confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. **Public Comment:** Co-Chair Donna Linder opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were received.

3. **Discussion and Possible Action**: Review of the October 8, 2026, meeting minutes.

   Motion: Dora Rose moved to approve October 8, 2026, meeting minutes. Deanna Kitamura seconded the motion.

   Vote
   Ayes: Co-Chair Petrina Branch, Deana Kitamura, Melvin E. Levey, Ellen Nash, Matt Moreles, Brittany Stonesifer, Dora Rose.
   Noes: None
   Abstentions: Co-Chair Donna Linder, Gabriel Taylor, Camila Chavez.
   Motion carried, 7-0.

4. **Final Review of CSU Sacramento Data Subcommittee Report:** After incorporating the comments provided by Dora Rose since the October 8, 2026 meeting, the Task Force reviewed the revised report and determined it is ready for submission to the Legislature.

   Motion: Matt Moreles moved to approve the finalized draft of the "CSU Sacramento Data Subcommittee Report." Dora Rose seconded the motion.

   Vote

Ayes: Co-Chair Petrina Branch, Co-Chair Donna Linder, Deana Kitamura, Melvin E. Levey, Gabriel Taylor, Camila Chavez, Ellen Nash, Matt Moreles, Brittany Stonesifer, Dora Rose.
Noes: None
Abstentions: None.
Motion carried, 10-0.

Public Comment: Co-Chair Donna Linder opened the floor for public comment on this section of the report. No public comments were received.

5. **First Review of "Ballot Processing Improvements" portion of the Primary 2026 Report:** This draft was not yet received from the subcommittee for Task Force review. This item will be pushed to the next Task Force meeting.

6. **First Review of "Impact of the Voter's Choice Act on Flexibility, Accessibility, and Security" portion of the Primary 2026 Report:** Dora Rose began the discussion by providing three comments, including the following:

First, the word choice "plethora" of vote centers implies something it shouldn't, so Dora Rose provided alternate language.

Second, Dora Rose asked if the university researchers can provide any information about language access and access for voters with disabilities? SOS Elections staff noted that might be outside of the scope of the current contracts, but it can be looked into.

Finally, Dora Rose noted a portion of the report referencing law enforcement that might be outdated for this election and ought to be removed. Matt Moreles suggested revising the language, as there are security reasons that fewer vote center locations solicit. Dora Rose, Matt Moreles, and Donna Linder discussed revised language. On a related note, Dora Rose highlighted possible added language for the end of page 16 regarding added election security and coordination with law enforcement. In the chat, the added language was supported by Brittany Stonesifer, Camila Chavez, and Gabriel Taylor.

Public Comment: Co-Chair Donna Linder opened the floor for public comment on this section of the report. No public comments were received.

7. **Future Agenda Items:** Co-Chair Donna Linder invited Task Force members to propose future agenda items. None were made.

Co-Chair Petrina Branch noted that the next meeting is on November 19, which is the last time the Task Force meets before the report is due to the Legislature. The Task Force does not appear to be on schedule to meet that deadline. Task Force members discussed how to make that possible, including agendizing the scheduling item for next meeting, and subcommittees planning how to prepare their sections in time.

Public Comment: Co-Chair Donna Linder opened the floor for public comment on this section of the report. No public comments were received.

9. **Adjournment:** Co-Chair Donna Linder adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.