



# CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

## City Council Meeting – Council Member Items Report

To: City Council  
From: Mayor Pat Burns  
Date: October 7, 2025  
Subject: **Adopt Resolution No. 2025-64 in Support of Immediate Action to Ensure a Legally Valid and Transparent 2026 General Election**

### ISSUE STATEMENT

Free and fair elections are the cornerstone of representative democracy, ensuring that government remains accountable to the people it serves. California election law provides the framework that protects voter access, ballot integrity, and transparent administration, but ongoing scrutiny is necessary to maintain public trust. When voters believe their voices are heard and their ballots are secure, confidence in the legitimacy of outcomes grows. Conversely, any perception of unfairness—whether in how votes are cast, counted, or districts are drawn—undermines faith in the process.

A critical component of election integrity is the assurance that voting systems remain transparent, secure, and resistant to manipulation. California has enacted laws aimed at balancing access with accountability, such as requiring voter verification and mandating audits of election results. These safeguards are vital to reassure citizens that elections are conducted with accuracy and fairness. At the same time, the state must guard against measures that unintentionally weaken oversight or create opportunities for errors, as even minor lapses can erode trust in outcomes.

Equally important is the role of the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, which was created to draw legislative and congressional district maps independently of lawmakers. This body was designed to prevent gerrymandering and promote fair representation.

We need to strengthen public confidence and safeguard the principle of free and fair elections by upholding transparent election laws and maintain vigilance over redistricting.

### RECOMMENDED ACTION

Adopt Resolution No. 2025-64, “A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach in Support of Immediate Action to Ensure a Legally Valid and Transparent 2026 General Election.”

### ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

This action is not subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) (the activity will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment) and 15060(c)(3) (the activity is not a project as defined in Section 15378) of the CEQA Guidelines, California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Chapter 3, because it has no potential for resulting in physical change to the environment, directly or indirectly.

### STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL

Non Applicable - Administrative Item

## RESOLUTION NO. 2025-64

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH IN SUPPORT OF IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ENSURE A LEGALLY VALID AND TRANSPARENT 2026 GENERAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, Free and fair elections form the cornerstone of the Republic of the United States. As stated in *Reynolds v. Sims* (377 U.S. 533, 1964), “*the right of suffrage can be denied by a debasement or dilution of the right of a citizen’s vote just as effectively as by wholly prohibiting the free exercise of the franchise.*”; and

Election officials bear the responsibility to ensure elections remain accurate and free from manipulation. In *In re Coy* (127 U.S. 731, 1888), the United States Supreme Court affirmed that election officials must strictly adhere to federal and state laws governing process, defining election misconduct as follows: “*The evil intent consists in disobedience to the law.*”; and

Our constitutional system of representative government relies on four fundamental principles for validity in our elections:

1. **Accurate Voter Rolls:** Election officials must maintain voter registration lists that are current and correct, which includes facilitating the registration of eligible citizens as well as preventing the registration of noncitizens, fictitious names, and ineligible applicants (National Voter Registration Act, 1993).
2. **Eligible Votes Only:** Election officials must only count votes cast by eligible citizen voters (U.S. Constitution, Fourteenth Amendment, Section 2).
3. **Vote Reconciliation:** Election officials must ensure that the number of votes counted matches the number of participating voters.
4. **System Accuracy:** Voting systems must achieve accuracy standards set by Congress by limiting ballot counting errors to no more than one error per 125,000 ballots (Help America Vote Act, 2002). Election officials must substantiate assertions of accurate outcomes with transparent records; and

Unite 4 Freedom conducted an independent audit of the California 2024 General Election and uncovered alarming irregularities:

- 9,539,574 material errors and omissions in the voter registration database.
- 5,588,594 votes improperly counted from these ineligible or uncertain registrants.
- 77,085 excess votes counted beyond the number of voters who participated, with no explanation for their origin.
- 5,588,484 voting violations exceeding the legal error threshold, where only 130 errors were allowed under federal law.

The audit findings indicate severe violations of state and federal election laws and potential fraudulent certification; and

Election accuracy is defined as the ability to capture and report voter selections without error. By definition, only eligible citizens are voters. Election officials violate civil rights, undermine public trust, and jeopardize national security when they certify an election that fails to reach this standard; and

The irregularities in the official records of the 2024 General Election call into question the validity of the election, threatening the guaranteed protection of our natural rights under a republican form of government. This emergency inflicts immeasurable harm upon our families, our way of life, and the fabric of these United States. It raises the specter of false representation in US Congress and state governments – an allegation that election officials are currently unable to disprove,

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach does hereby resolve as follows:

SECTION 1. Immediate action is necessary to ensure a legally valid and transparent 2026 General Election by implementing the following measures:

- a. Infrastructure Compliance: Election officials must ensure that all voting systems meet Federal Information Security Modernization Act (FISMA) standards and maintain compliance throughout the election process; and
- b. Voter Verification: Verify that all voters are legally eligible U.S. citizens before their votes are counted. If a voter's eligibility is in question, their vote must be held as provisional until legally verified; and
- c. Ballot Security: Enforce all issued and counted ballots to comply with robust chain-of-custody protocols to secure ballots from forgery, tampering, coercion, destruction, or injection; and
- d. Accurate Counts: Ensure all voted ballots are received, and every valid ballot is accurately counted, with any material questions resolved through unlawful adjudication procedures and oversight; and
- e. Proven Outcomes: Election officials must investigate and resolve, or if necessary, re-administer any election that cannot be proven accurate and compliant. In every jurisdiction, officials must provide records substantiating election and initiative results to citizens. Additionally, officials must securely store all ballots and operational records – including electronic records – to protect them for auditing purposes from tampering or alteration.

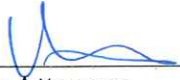
SECTION 2. That the Huntington Beach City Council calls upon the state of California and federal legislators, law enforcement agencies, prosecutors, judges, and election boards to uphold these principals, ensure legal compliance and restore public confidence in our electoral system.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Huntington Beach at a regular meeting thereof held on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2025.

INITIATED AND APPROVED:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Pat Burns

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Pro Tem Casey McKeon

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman Don Kennedy

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman Andrew Gruel

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman Butch Twining

\_\_\_\_\_  
Council woman Gracey Larrea-Van Der Mark

\_\_\_\_\_  
Councilman Chad Williams