SENATE COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS AND REAPPORTIONMENT
SUSAN SMITH, CHAIR
SENATE BILL NO. 864 (Doe)
as amended in the Senate
April 29, 2010

SUBJECT: Student poll workers

EXISTING LAW:
Existing law requires members of precinct boards (poll workers) to be registered to vote in the precinct in which he or she is assigned or in a precinct in the same general area.

PROPOSED LAW:
This bill would allow students to serve as members of precinct boards whether or not they are registered voters. Student poll workers must be at least 16 years of age and be a student in good standing attending a public or private secondary or post-secondary educational institution. No more than two students may serve at the same precinct. Students must also receive approval from their school board to participate.

COMMENTS:
1. According to the author, this bill is intended to address the problems of low voter turnout among 18-21 year-olds and counties’ difficulties staffing polling places on election day.

POSITIONS:
Sponsor: Author
Support: Secretary of State
California School Boards Association
California Coalition of Hispanic Organizations
California Common Cause

Opposition: Unknown

FISCAL COMMITTEE: No.
FIRST HEARING: May 5, 2010

The analysis includes current law, what the bill does, background information and raises any questions the consultant may have about the bill.