

San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee
Resolution to Oppose Assembly Bill (AB) 1821

WHEREAS, the ACLU and a coalition of transparency advocates strongly oppose California Assembly Bill (AB) 1821, authored by Assemblymember Blanca Pacheco, seeking to overhaul the California Public Records Act (CPRA) by extending agency response deadlines, reducing access to public records; and

WHEREAS, the proposed legislation would allow public agencies to delay records requests it deems “improperly” filed, sue for “malicious” requests and charge up to \$66 an hour to produce government records and has been described as a “virtual horror show of governmental non-transparency”; and

WHEREAS, AB 1821 would create barriers that would chill the public from filing requests, effectively gutting the State’s Open Records Act and violating the spirit of Californians’ constitutional right to government information.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee agrees that governmental agencies should not be overburdened by excessive or AI generated public records requests, yet argues a remedy needs to be found without jeopardizing the public’s ability to access the records to which it is entitled;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the San Mateo County Democratic Central Committee urges State Assemblymember Marc Berman, and State Assemblymember Diane Papan to oppose AB 1821.

Submitted: James Lawrence
Diana Reddy, Chair, Resolutions