



DATE: May 19, 2017
TO: California Assembly and Senate
FROM: Carlos Clayton, President, California Association of Professional Employees CC.
RE: SCA 12 (Mendoza)

On behalf of the California Association of Professional Employees (CAPE), I am writing today in strong opposition to SCA 12, which would ask state voters to approve what LA County voters have rejected eight separate times – the expansion of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. SCA 12 would also, if approved by California voters, exclusively require an elected Chief Executive Officer for the County.

We oppose SCA 12 primarily because, if approved by California voters, the measure would result in consolidation of budget power into one office – that of the elected county executive – and a revised budget schedule that would delay appropriation authority and wreak havoc on the delivery of critical County services, and the negotiation and implementation of collective bargaining agreements, vendor contracts, etc.

Also, it would eliminate county residents' ability to make decisions on their own self-governance as established in the charter county system in the California Constitution.

Most importantly, SCA 12 is unnecessary. The County of Los Angeles has a solid and well-documented track record of maintaining a balanced budget that includes prudent labor contracts and has avoided the furloughs and layoffs that working families in nearly every city, county, and state across America – including the State of California – were forced to endure during past recessions.

Thank you for your consideration.