California's New Motor Voter Law: How Much Impact, And How Fast?

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California's New Motor Voter Act (AB 1461)

• Strengthens DMV \rightarrow SoS link

- DMV customers who attest eligibility = registered by default
- Eligible customers' information transmitted electronically
- Applies to: new driver's licenses, address updates, possibly renewals
- Key questions
 - How much could the California electorate change?
 - How fast could new registrants be added?
 - How many who <u>can</u> sign up <u>will</u> sign up?



How much could the California electorate change?

- How different are registered voters from eligible but unregistered residents?
- If we registered all the eligible unregistered, how different would California's electorate be?
- How close would that change get us to representing all adults?



Underrepresented groups among registered voters

Inc <\$20K	R					
ino q2010	IX.			Grou	ıp's share of:	
Mover	R			R	Registered	
18-24	R					
Asian	F	2				
Latino		R				
HS Only			R			
FB Parents			R			
0	10%	20%	30%	40%	50%	



Registered and unregistered difference varies, but usually large

	Inc <\$20K	R UR	
			Group's share of:
	Mover	R UR	R Registered UR Unregistered Eligible
	18-24	R UR	
	Asian	R —— UR	
	Latino	R	— UR
	HS Only	R	UR
DDIC	FB Parents	R	UR
PPIC	0	10% 20% 30%	40% 50% 60%

Eligible difference varies, but smaller

PIC

Inc <\$20K	R –E–––– UR	Group's share of:
Mover	R — E — UR	R Registered UR Unregistered Eligible E All Eligible
18-24	R — E — UR	
Asian	R∙E— UR	
Latino	RE	UR
HS Only	R E	UR
FB Parents	RE- 10% 20% 30%	UR 40% 50% 60%

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Eligible population always more similar to total adult population

	Inc <\$20K	r —e			
			Group's share of:		
		R — E — UR	R Registered		
	Mover		UR Unregistered Eligible		
			E All Eligible		
	18-24	r - A E Ur	A All Adults		
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	Asian				
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		0			
	Latino				
	HS Only	REE	∂ −−−−−− UR		
	FB Parents	R E			
* PPIC	г 0	10% 20% 30%	40% 50% 60%		
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How fast could new registrants be added?

How many use DMV each year for...

- ...new driver's license or ID card? ~800,000
- ...address change? ~2.5 million
- ...driver's license renewal? ~5 million
- How many of those people are already registered?
 - ~70%-80% of all eligible are registered...
 - ...but those engaging with DMV are young and/or mobile



How many who can sign up will sign up?

- To be registered under AB 1461...
 - ...attestation of eligibility is required
 - ...agreement to be registered is optional
- "Opt in" versus "opt out" can have powerful effects on participation
- Key considerations:
 - How hard will it be to avoid the eligibility question?
 - How integrated will the registration portion of the form be with the rest of the form?



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