

From: [Andrew Lawson](#)
To: [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Subject: [External] Item 10. Voter ID
Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025 8:45:35 AM

Good afternoon, Honorable Members of the San Diego County Board of Supervisors,

I stand before you to advocate for stronger election integrity by endorsing voter ID requirements, inspired by recent efforts across California. As a charter county, San Diego has the opportunity to lead on this critical issue and restore trust in our elections

Huntington Beach set a powerful precedent in March 2024, when voters approved Measure A, requiring voter ID for municipal elections. In April 2025, a court upheld their charter city's authority, citing the U.S. Supreme Court's *Crawford* decision, which supports voter ID as a constitutional safeguard. Shasta County is following suit, proposing a 2026 voter ID ballot measure to ensure only eligible voters cast ballots. These examples show that local jurisdictions can act, even within California's strict election laws.

Voter ID is a common-sense solution. Thirty-six states already require it, and studies, like those from the Heritage Foundation, show no significant impact on turnout. We show ID for everyday tasks—buying alcohol, boarding planes—yet our elections, the foundation of democracy, lack this basic check. San Diego County can champion this by supporting Supervisor Jim Desmond's proposal and the California Voter ID Initiative for 2026, which includes citizenship verification and provisional ballots to protect access.

While state law, like SB 1174, poses challenges, your endorsement can pressure Sacramento to prioritize security without sacrificing inclusivity. Let's learn from Shasta's resolve and Huntington Beach's success, avoid their legal pitfalls, and make San Diego a model for fair, trusted elections.

Thank you for your leadership.

P.S. I would have spoke yesterday when I took my day off work to attend the meeting but you all changed the meetings agenda at the last minute and doesn't look like you have updated the times to speak on this agenda item.