

June 25, 2020

The Honorable Kevin McCarty  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 2136  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Constitutional Amendment 6 (McCarty) Disqualification of Electors -- SUPPORT

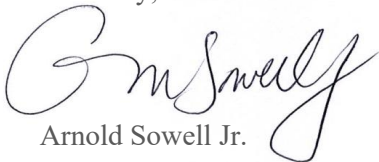
**Dear Assemblymember McCarty,**

NextGen California is pleased to support your ACA 6, a measure that will place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot to restore voting rights upon completion of a prison term (while on parole).

California's disenfranchisement of individuals on parole is part of a legacy of racially discriminatory laws. Not only did California refuse to ratify the 15th Amendment banning racially-based voting restrictions until 1962, but the Golden State even included permanent felony disenfranchisement in its first constitution in 1849. Voting is a fundamental right of citizenship. ACA 6 will amend the California Constitution to ensure that Californians on parole can fully participate in our democracy. Giving people who have been involved in the justice system and returning home from prison access to the ballot sends a powerful message that they are welcomed back into society. NextGen California strongly believes that the strength of our democracy depends on the ability of all of our citizens to participate.

We commend your work on this important legislative measure and for the above reasons strongly support your ACA 6.

Sincerely,



Arnold Sowell Jr.

Executive Director, NextGen California