



CITY OF SANTA MARIA
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ELECTIONEERING

CITY OF SANTA MARIA MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS

To all Candidates and Poll Watchers:

State law permits people to be present at polling places to observe the voting process on Election Day. However, no person may engage in “electioneering” or other election-related conduct within one hundred feet (100 ft.) of a polling place (Elections Code §18370-18372, below).

ARTICLE 7. Electioneering [18370 - 18372] (Article 7 enacted by Stats. 1994, Ch. 920, Sec. 2.)

Section 18370.

(a) A person shall not, on election day, or at any time that a voter may be casting a ballot, within the 100 foot limit specified in subdivision (b), do any of the following:

- (1) Circulate an initiative, referendum, recall, or nomination petition or any other petition.
- (2) Solicit a vote or speak to a voter on the subject of marking the voter’s ballot.
- (3) Place a sign relating to voters’ qualifications or speak to a voter on the subject of the voter’s qualifications except as provided in Section 14240.
- (4) Do any electioneering as defined by Section 319.5.

(b) The activities described in subdivision (a) are prohibited within 100 feet of either of the following:

- (1) The entrance to a building that contains a polling place as defined by Section 338.5, an elections official’s office, or a satellite location specified in Section 3018.
- (2) An outdoor site, including a curbside voting area, at which a voter may cast or drop off a ballot.

(c) A person shall not, on election day, or at any time that a voter may be casting a ballot, do any of the following within the immediate vicinity of a voter in line to cast a ballot or drop off a ballot:

- (1) Solicit a vote.
- (2) Speak to a voter about marking the voter’s ballot.
- (3) Disseminate visible or audible electioneering information.

(d) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 318, Sec. 4. (SB 35) Effective January 1, 2022.)

Section 18371.

(a) No candidate or representative of a candidate, and no proponent, opponent, or representative of a proponent or opponent, of an initiative, referendum, or recall measure, or of a charter amendment, shall solicit the vote of a vote by mail voter, or do any electioneering, while in the residence or in the immediate presence of the voter, and during the time he or she knows the vote by mail voter is voting.

(b) Any person who knowingly violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(c) This section shall not be construed to conflict with any provision of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, nor to preclude electioneering by mail or telephone or in public places, except as prohibited by Section 18370, or by any other provision of law.

(Amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 508, Sec. 113. Effective January 1, 2008.)

Section 18372.

Notice regarding the prohibitions on electioneering set forth in this article shall be provided to the public. The Secretary of State shall promulgate regulations specifying the manner in which such notice shall be provided.

(Added by Stats. 2021, Ch. 318, Sec. 5. (SB 35) Effective January 1, 2022.)