



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FAIR POLITICAL PRACTICES COMMISSION
1102 Q Street • Suite 3050 • Sacramento, CA 95811

August 22, 2025

Kate Sanchez

Via email: assemblymember.sanchez@assembly.ca.gov

Re: FPPC Complaint No. COM-08142025-02589; Gavin Newsom

Assemblymember Kate Sanchez,

This letter is in response to the complaint you submitted to the Enforcement Division of the Fair Political Practices Commission regarding the above-named individual. The Commission only has authority to enforce the provisions of the Political Reform Act (the “Act”), found in Government Code sections 81000, *et seq.* While the Act contains prohibitions regarding certain mailings being sent at public expense (Government Code sections 89001-89003), the Act does not otherwise prohibit the use of public funds for campaign activity. Government Code sections 8314 and 54964 contain prohibitions on the use of public funds for campaign activity, but those sections are outside of the Act and the FPPC does not have the legal authority to enforce those sections of the law.

While not prohibited under the Act, when public funds are used for a ballot measure campaign, such activity is subject to the reporting requirements under the Act where certain monetary thresholds are met. However, according to the Act, a ballot “measure” is defined as any constitutional amendment or other proposition which is submitted to a popular vote at an election by action of a legislative body, or which is submitted or is intended to be submitted to a popular vote at an election by initiative, referendum or recall procedure whether or not it qualifies for the ballot; and an amendment or proposition is considered submitted to a popular vote at an election when the legislative body takes the action necessary to submit the proposition to the voters. Here, at the time of the subject activity, it does not appear that the relevant communications are related to any “measure,” as defined by the Act. Therefore, for the foregoing reasons, the Enforcement Division will not pursue an enforcement action in this matter. If you have any questions, please contact Vanessa Greer at (279) 237-5965 or vgreer@fppc.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Christopher B. Burton

Christopher B. Burton
Assistant Chief, Enforcement Division

CBB: vg

cc: Thomas A. Willis o/b/o Gavin Newsom (twillis@olsonremcho.com)