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Governor Jerry Brown Leads Coalition of State Leaders Supporting Alex Padilla for Secretary of State

LOS ANGELES – Tuesday, November 14, 2017 – Today state leaders including Governor Jerry Brown, Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, Attorney General Xavier Becerra, Controller Betty Yee, and State Superintendent Tom Torlakson announced their endorsements of Alex Padilla for Secretary of State. Dozens of legislators as well as the California Legislative Latino Caucus joined them in the announcement:

- Governor Jerry Brown
- Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom
- Attorney General Xavier Becerra
- Controller Betty Yee
- State Superintendent Tom Torlakson
- California Legislative Latino Caucus
- State Senator Ben Allen
- State Senator Toni Atkins
- State Senator Bill Dodd
- State Senator Bob Hertzberg
- State Senator Jerry Hill
- State Senator Ben Hueso
- State Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson
- State Senator Ricardo Lara
- State Senator Connie Leyva
- State Senator Holly Mitchell
- State Senator Bill Monning
- State Senator Richard Roth
- State Senator Henry Stern
- State Senator Bob Wieckowski
- State Senator Scott Wiener
- Speaker of the Assembly Anthony Rendon
- Assemblymember Joaquin Arambula
- Assemblymember Marc Berman
- Assemblymember Raul Bocanegra
- Assemblymember Ian Calderon
- Assemblymember Ed Chau
- Assemblymember David Chiu
- Assemblymember Mike Gipson

- Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez
- Assemblymember Ash Kalra
- Assemblymember Evan Low
- Assemblymember Kevin McCarty
- Assemblymember Kevin Mullin
- Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi
- Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva
- Assemblymember Rudy Salas
- Assemblymember Miguel Santiago
- Assemblymember Reggie Jones Sawyer
- Assemblymember Mark Stone
- Assemblymember Tony Thurmond
- Assemblymember Phil Ting

This announcement follows yesterday's news that Alex Padilla has been endorsed by U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Congressmembers Alan Lowenthal, Ami Bera, Brad Sherman, Eric Swalwell, Jared Huffman, Judy Chu, Julia Brownley, Karen Bass, Lou Correa, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Mark DeSaulnier, Mike Thompson, Nanette Barragan, Norma Torres, Pete Aguilar, Ro Khanna, Salud Carbajal, Ted Lieu, Tony Cardenas and Zoe Lofgren.

"I am proud to have the endorsement of so many of California's finest elected officials," said Padilla. "I have served alongside these great leaders throughout my career – be it on the Los Angeles City Council, as state Senator, or as California's Secretary of State. I have partnered with them to pass countless pieces of legislation, to execute dozens of statewide and local initiatives, and to create plans for California's bright future. I know firsthand how passionately each of them cares about protecting the rights and freedoms afforded to our constituents. I thank them for their support in this race, and look forward to our continued work once I am re-elected as Secretary of State."

Since taking office, Alex Padilla has made remarkable strides in making it more convenient for eligible Californians to register and vote. He has aggressively promoted online voter registration, which resulted in two million new voters added to the rolls since he took office. In 2015, Secretary Padilla sponsored the New Motor Voter Act, which calls for automatic voter registration through the department of Motor Vehicles. Scheduled to launch in April of 2018, this will add millions of eligible Californians to the voter rolls in the coming years. In 2016, Secretary Padilla sponsored the Voters Choice Act which affords California voters more options of where, when, and how to vote through more vote-by-mail, in-person early voting, and a new vote center model that gives voters the option of voting at any location in their county. At least five counties will transition to this new model next year. In 2017, Secretary Padilla launched online pre-registration for 16- and 17-year-olds so that they can vote as soon as they turn 18. Last fall, he certified VoteCal, California's new statewide voter registration database, and secured funding to modernize and launch a new Cal-ACCESS database in 2019 to track campaign financing.

During this past legislative session, Alex sponsored legislation that will move the primary election to March, giving Californians a bigger say in nominating candidates for President.

Alex Padilla has also been on the front lines defending the right to vote against attacks at the national level. He has refused to provide California voters' personal information to the President's Advisory Commission on Election Integrity, which was created by President Trump after falsely claiming massive voter fraud in the 2016 presidential election.

Alex Padilla is the proud son of immigrants. For forty years, his father worked as a short-order cook and his mother cleaned houses. With their hard work as an example, Alex attended local public schools and went on to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) where he graduated with a degree in Mechanical Engineering.

In 1999, at 26, he was elected to the Los Angeles City Council to represent the community where he grew up. In 2001, his colleagues elected him to the first of three terms as Council President, the youngest member and first Latino to serve in this capacity. In 2006, Alex was elected to the California State Senate, where he chaired the Committee on Energy, Utilities and Communications; and the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments. Over the course of eight years he successfully authored legislation on telecommunications, broadband deployment, energy and energy efficiency, grid modernization, education, job creation, environmental protection, food safety, seismic safety, and a host of other issues. In 2015, Alex was sworn in as California Secretary of State. In this role, he is committed to modernizing the office, increasing voter registration and participation, and protecting voting rights. He is also past President of the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), and former member of the MIT Corporation (Board of Trustees). He and his wife Angela live in the San Fernando Valley with their three sons.

For more information about Alex Padilla's re-election to California Secretary of State, visit alex-padilla.com.

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